

HILLSBORO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES
January 24, 2018

The Hillsboro First United Methodist Church Council met for the first time in 2018 on Wednesday January 24, 2018 at 7:15 with eighteen people in attendance. There in attendance were: Chair Bill Myers, Bobbie Myers, Elaine Weaver, Emily Turner, Mandy Smith, Kelly Smith, Susan McKelvey, Deanna Lawson, Tom Foster, Susan Foster, Pastor Chris Haynes, Terry Gunn, John Dimitri, Bill Guffey, Hope Guffey Amy Willis, Linda Willis and Alex Dunavant. Council Chair Bill Myers called the meeting to order at 7:15 and Pastor Chris Haynes opened the meeting with devotional reading by Francis de Sales. From this reading Pastor Haynes stated that when God created all things he directed all things to bring forth fruit according to its own kind and further commanded Christians to produce the fruits of devotion in accordance with his or her character, station and calling. Sales declared that devotion is to be practiced by all regardless of station and should be adapted based on an individual's strength, duties and occupation True devotion practiced by all at their various stations and occupations perfects and fulfills all things. Pastor Haynes encouraged the council to pursue ways of living to become more Christ-like but reminded us that everyone must find our own ways of to express devotion that are appropriate to us. Pastor Haynes closed with prayer for the work of our council. Chair Bill Myers next summarized the minutes from the last council meeting held on November 30, 2017. Terry Gunn moved that that the minutes be accepted and approved as summarized. John Dimitri seconded the motion and the motion was passed by a vote of the council.

Treasurer Bill Guffey presented the financial summary statement for the period November 30, 2017 - December 31, 2017. The ending balance reported on November 30 was amended with the addition of \$3651.50. This amount reflects to funds needed to cover uncleared 2016 liabilities. The liabilities were carried forward to 2017 from 2016 but the funds to cover these liabilities had not restored to the 2016 balance carried forward to 2017. With the correction we began the report period with a general fund checking account balance of \$67,575.99. \$12,666.00 was received in undesignated offerings, 17,316.47 was received in designated offerings and \$11.01 was earned in interest. Total period expenses including undesignated expenses, designated expenses and tax obligations paid totaled \$39,877.58. A yearend balance of \$57,691.89 was reported. A second report was distributed which reflected the period January 1 - January 24, 2018. \$28,736.17 was received and added to the beginning balance of \$57,691.89 and designated and undesignated expenses totaling \$22,831.54 left a period ending balance of \$63,596.52. One half of 2018 annual apportionments (\$14,159) have been paid as of January 15. This report identified for the council the designated funds that were carried forward to the 2018 general account. It was also reported to the council that \$1409.69 in unspent budgeted funds from the Church and Parsonage maintenance lines was moved to the Emergency and Capital Improvements Fund and carried forward to the 2018 account. Terry Gunn moved that the treasurer's report be approved. The motion was seconded by Kelly Smith and was approved by a vote of the council.

Chairman Myers reported to the council that a proposal for a security system for our sanctuary has been requested of the vendor that installed our new audio/visual system but that nothing has been received as of yet. Kelly Smith reported that he has also sought out a bid from a local source but hasn't as of yet received anything. Chairman Myers reminded that the council that the audio/visual system had been purchased using the Vera Parks bequest and that the security system would also be paid for using these funds. The remainder of the bequest is planned to be invested in the United Methodist Foundation which is a type of money market fund.

Pastor Chris Haynes reported that our church has officially been designated as a storm shelter for the Hillsboro community by the Coffee County Emergency Management office. This is primarily for sheltering people in the event of a tornado and is for short term relief of one to two hours. People displaced by a storm will receive assistance from the Red Cross. Pastor Chris reviewed our responsibilities, procedures and the contents of the emergency shelter kit provided. The kit will be maintained in the downstairs area beneath the stairs.

Hope Guffey reported that the 102 new chairs had been purchased for the fellowship hall all paid for from donations from the congregation. It was discussed that a moveable rack that can store up to 32 chairs would be an ideal way to store chairs not used on a daily basis. Tom Foster made a motion that a moveable storage rack be purchased from the chair fund with any shortage made up from the church general fund. Deanna seconded the motion and a council vote approved the motion.

Tom Foster reported that 16 of the best metal folding chairs had been stored downstairs in the event they are needed. Tom reported that the Trustees plan to meet next week and the disposal of the remaining metals chairs will be discussed and reported back to the council. Amy Willis made a motion that the council grant the Trustees authority to dispose of the chairs in the manner they deemed appropriate. Bobbie Myer seconded this motion and the motion passed a vote of the council without dissent. In other matters Tom Foster reported the following:

- the broken hand rail at the outdoor ram had been repaired
- a locking door knob had been installed on the UMYF room downstairs
- the middle HVAC unit in the church had been repaired
- the Trustees are planning to replace a number of parking curbs in the parking lot on the cemetery side of the church

Elaine Weaver reported that the UM Women had met and officer for 2018 had been installed. Elaine Weaver was installed as president, Donette Porter as vice-president, Terri Willis as secretary and Hope Guffey as Treasurer. Elaine also asked permission to borrow a wheel chair from the church to use for one week.

Kelly Smith reported that a meeting will be held of area pastors and other interested people at the county office building to discuss church security. Kelly and Pastor Haynes plan to attend. Kelly mentioned the possibility of local law enforcement officers doing "walk-throughs" at churches during church meeting times.

Emily Turner reported that the Special Events committee is planning the annual Valentine Banquet this year for February 10th at the Mercantile Restaurant. The banquet will feature a 50's/60's theme and everyone is encouraged to dress in this style. Fun and games are planned. Reservations for the banquet will be accepted beginning this Sunday, January 28th after church.

Terry Gunn reported that the church came very close to breaking even for the year 2017 with regard to church giving versus spending. Terry also asked approval from the council for each individual in his Sunday School Class to purchase a chair for their use to replace the metal folding chairs in their class. Terry also reported that he had expected more of a workshop or seminar including questions, examples and options regarding estate giving to the church.

Pastor Haynes reported the following:

- the PPR committee had met recently and decided to not extend permanent employment to our pianist who was working on a trial basis. We are currently making use of prerecorded music but are looking and hope to find a permanent pianist soon.
- an Ash Wednesday service is planned for February 14 following the Wednesday evening meal
- during Holy Week Stephen's Chapel is planning a Maundy Thursday service and has invited our church be their guests at their service. Pastor Haynes suggested that this was a good way to foster a relationship with another area church.
- March 29th Sunrise service has not been planned yet but our church hosted last year
- Pastor Haynes reported that in 2019 a special session of the General Council of the United Methodist church is planned to deal with the question of sexuality in the church, specifically the sanctioning of same sex marriages and ordination of gay clergy. The session presents implications for the continued current existence of the Methodist Church, A commission has been formed to study efforts to prevent the division of the church. Pastor Haynes and George Brown are considering a congregational meeting at our church to discuss possibilities of how actions by the Methodist Church might impact our local church.

March 21 was announced as the date for the next council meeting.

There being no further business to be brought before the council, Deanna Lawson led in prayer and the council was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Bill Guffey - Recording Secretary