

**HILLSBORO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
**CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES**  
**March 15, 2017**

The Hillsboro First United Methodist Church Council met on Wednesday March 15, 2017 at 7:15. In attendance were Chair Bill Myers, Larry McKelvey, Tom Foster, Susan Foster, Pastor Chris Haynes, John Dimitri, Garry Carter, Terry Gunn, Mandy Smith, Kelly Smith, Alex Dunavant, Susan McKelvey, Hope Guffey and Bill Guffey. Council Chair Bill Myers called the meeting to order and asked Pastor Chris Haynes for an opening devotion. Pastor Haynes led a devotion based on *St. Patrick's Breastplate* which is a popular prayer attributed to St. Patrick of Ireland. This prayer reflects the spirit with which St. Patrick brought our faith to Ireland. As an opening prayer the entire council read aloud this prayer.

Following the opening prayer, Council Chair Bill Myers summarized the minutes from the last meeting on January 25<sup>th</sup>. Larry McKelvey moved that the minutes be approved as summarized. Deanna Lawson seconded the motion and the motion passed with a vote of the council.

Bill Guffey presented a Treasurer's report for the period January 1, 2017 – March 14, 2017. A summary of the period showed a beginning balance of \$34,131.59. Period income from all sources totaled \$48,646.77. Period expenses including unpaid employer tax obligations totaled \$51,935.20 leaving an ending checkbook balance of \$30,843.16 of which \$21,047.48 is maintained in designed account funds. Also noted was the fact that \$13,134.50 (one half of the church's 2017 apportionments) was paid in January. A spreadsheet illustrating how the 2016 ending balance was closed and carried forward to the 2017 beginning balance especially noting designated funds, was also presented to the council. A \$2 error in the carry forward of one of the uncleared 2016 checks was noted. Deanna Lawson made a motion that the Treasurer's report be approved with the correction to the 2016 closing spreadsheet. Alex Dunavant seconded the motion and the motion passed with a vote of the council.

Larry McKelvey reported that our Scout troop each year "feeds the Farm Bureau" at the Farm Bureau but will do so this year in our fellowship hall on April 8<sup>th</sup> since the Farm Bureau building is undergoing renovation. This year 11-12 scouts participated in the annual "Scouting for Food" event which took place during the period. A roadside cleanup day was held in which 15-16 scouts participated in. Larry also reported that Jared Willis will receive his Eagle Scout award in a ceremony on Sunday, March 19<sup>th</sup> at 5:00. Everyone is invited to attend.

Susan McKelvey reported that the UM Women have been collecting for and assembling UMCOR health kits and have 20 to this point but expect five additional kits will be received. The health kits will be delivered to the upcoming "A Day Apart" meeting. Susan also reported that she has ordered VBS materials already and by doing so this early had received a discount. Susan and Ashley Weaver plan

to write an article to be put in the bulletin and newsletter requesting commitments for help with this year's VBS.

The annual Easter egg hunt is planned for Good Friday, April 14<sup>th</sup> at 2:00. The congregation is encouraged to be here to help and provide candy for plastic eggs. Susan reported that the children's Wednesday night program continues with nine children each week and that the children will present the program "Back to the Creek Bank" on Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup>.

Deanna Lawson reported that she has begun a new Tuesday morning book study which centers on a Max Lucado book about prayer. The book study will not meet for the next two weeks but will resume on April 4<sup>th</sup>.

Tom Foster reported that a church wide cleanup day will take place this Saturday, March 18<sup>th</sup> beginning at 9:00. Tom also reported that an issue exists with the ladies restroom floor. Tiles are coming up because the underlying hardwood flooring is cupping. A contractor is being sought out to take care of the problem.

John Dimitri reported that the UM Men ministry continues to have strong attendance. John also reported that the UM Men's annual soup and chili luncheon raised \$1127 for the men's annual support of community charities.

Mandy Smith reported that the annual Warmth in Winter event was well attended by 11 youth and 5 adults at Opryland Hotel. Mandy reported that the Wednesday evening youth program has as many as 16 on some weeks. The youth is preparing a "Shadow Play" to be presented on Good Friday evening, April 14<sup>th</sup>.

Alex Dunavant representing the UMYF echoed much of what Mandy Smith said about the recent Warmth in Winter and added that our youth worked hard at this event but had a good time. Alex also reported that 3000 total youth attended the event and that next year the event will be held in February instead of January.

A brief discussion was held about the kitchen dishwasher and how cleaner is renewed and supplied. Tom Foster will talk with Stuart Myers to determine.

Larry McKelvey started a discussion regarding the use of large screen televisions instead of long range projectors for the church sanctuary. Bill Myers concluded from the discussion that enough interest exists in acquiring some form of display system in the sanctuary that he will put together a committee to continue the exploration of possibilities and costs.

Garry Carter reported that Sunday School is continues doing well. The K1 class taught by Bobbie Myers will be acquiring new books soon. New materials are being ordered for the toddler class taught by Ashley Weaver. The Seekers class is starting a new book titled "The Difference Makers".

Pastor Chris Haynes reported that the Policy committee recently met and has decided to draft an all inclusive "safe sanctuary" policy which will address adult coverage for all children's activities.

Holy week begins April 9<sup>th</sup> with Palm Sunday. A Maundy Thursday event is being planned which will include a fellowship meal. April 16<sup>th</sup> a community sunrise service will be hosted by our church at 7:00 AM with the Rev. Ben Eschenfelder preaching. We will want to provide some type of breakfast or refreshment following the service.

Pastor Haynes also reported that the conference will soon be paired down from 7 to 5 districts. All districts will be renamed for rivers and experience some shuffling. Our church will remain in the same district and will be renamed the Stones River District. Max Mayo will be our new District Superintendent.

Bill Myers and Pastor Chris Haynes initiated a discussion about matters touched on last council meeting regarding congregation estate planning as it pertains to bequests to the church and also establishment of funds that individuals can contribute to for special unbudgeted purposes such as a projection system, a digital road sign and family life center. Pastor Haynes reported that he has communicated with Phil Jameson in the conference about these matters and had been informed that Mr. Jameson would be happy to help the church work through the planning aspects of both of these matters. Pastor Haynes indicated that he would pursue planning a visit by Mr. Jameson to our church to discuss these matters and how the conference may be of assistance.

There being no further business, Larry McKelvey dismissed the council with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bill Guffey - Recording Secretary