

**HILLSBORO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES  
March 21, 2018**

The Hillsboro First United Methodist Church Council met on Wednesday March 21, 2018 at 7:15 with ten people in attendance. There in attendance were: Chair Bill Myers, Susan McKelvey, Deanna Lawson, Tom Foster, Susan Foster, Pastor Chris Haynes, John Dimitri, Bill Guffey, Hope Guffey and Alex Dunavant. Council Chair Bill Myers called the meeting to order at 7:15 and Pastor Chris Haynes opened the meeting with devotion based on a reading from the book *Speaking of Sin: The Lost Language of Salvation* by Barbara Brown Taylor. This reading focused on Repentance and the tradition of Christian Worship which encourages heightened penitence during the season of Lent. Historically new converts were prepared for baptism on during Easter and those separated from the church by sin were invited back. During Lent those who accepted the invitation would join the congregation in the work of self-examination and repentance. Pastor Haynes suggested that we all reflect on what we do during the season of Lent. All life comes from God and his promises endure even through difficult times. 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 January 23, 2018. Amendments were suggested and recorded. Tom Foster moved that that the minutes be accepted and approved as summarized and amended. Susan McKelvey 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 A second report was distributed which reflected the period January 24, 2018 - March 20, 2018. The period began with a reported general fund balance of \$66,961.66. Offerings and income from all sources for the reporting period totaled \$27,504.41. Designated and undesignated expenses for the period totaled \$24,139.27 leaving a period ending balance of \$66,961.66. The current balance in the miscellaneous budget category was explained and itemized and a handout showing funds available in all our designated fund categories was distributed. No budgetary anomalies were noted for the period. Deanna Lawson moved that the treasurer's report be approved. The motion was seconded by John Dimitri and approved by a vote of the council.

Hope Guffey reported that the Library committee had in an orderly manner, re-shelved all the books that had been removed to accommodate painting in the library and hall areas. The committee is considering posting and publicizing checkout procedures for books. Also planned is a labeling system for the shelves. It was also suggested that an announcement be made about the availability of books, tapes and videos that have been retired from the library. These are available for the taking to anyone who is interested.

Hope also reported that she and Jane Hamby had recently attended a UM Women mission study in Tullahoma and that Donette Porter had attended the UMW "A

Day Apart." Hope reported that the UM Women had sent \$200 to the UMW District Treasurer to help fund UMCOR health kits. Hope also reported that the UM Women will prepare food to serve to the MTSU Wesley center in Murfreesboro on April 12th.

Tom Foster reported that the Trustees had held a church and grounds cleanup day which had been well attended. Twenty-seven people helped clean and spruce up the church and grounds. Tom also reported that all the old folding chairs had been moved downstairs. The Trustees had decided that anyone interested in the old chairs should take what they want and make donations in the amount of their choosing to the church for the chairs. Tom also reported that the Trustees are working on a light in the parsonage which may end up requiring purchase of a new light fixture.

Susan McKelvey reported that she would like to contact the church's lawn care provider to have them postpone mowing until after the upcoming Easter egg hunt on Good Friday. There was some discussion regarding alternate plans in case of rain on this day. Suggestions were offered including postponement and also the planning of an indoor program which would not include hiding eggs inside the church building. Ultimately the decision rests with Susan as Children's coordinator. Susan also reported that bibles had been provided by the Gideon's for distribution to attendees of the Easter egg hunt.

Susan also reported that a very successful first VBS planning meeting had been held and all worker positions had been assigned. The next VBS meeting will be held on April 25 in preparation for the June 2 VBS day.

Alex Dunavant reported that the UMYF is working on program to present during the Good Friday Tenebrae service. The program will not be a shadow service as in the past. This year's program will include an interactive communion service.

John Dimitri reported that the UM Men continue to have strong attendance at their monthly breakfast meetings. John reported that the soup and chili luncheon which serves as the UMM's annual fundraiser had raised around \$1400 and that the group will use these funds for their benevolences throughout the year.

Bill Myers reported that a community Easter cantata made up of individuals from area churches including several from our church will be held at the Trinity Baptist church this Thursday and Friday, March 22 and 23.

The following calendar dates were noted by Pastor Haynes and Chair Bill Myers:

- This Saturday March 24 a church security meeting will be held at the county administrative plaza. A discussion will focus on how to maintain safe churches

- March 29, A Maundy Thursday service will be held at Stephen's Chapel UMC at 7:00. Our church has been invited to this service.
- April 1, community Easter sunrise service will be held at 7:00 am at the Asbury UMC
- April 4 UM Women meeting
- April 8 UM Men breakfast meeting
- April 15 Gideon Sunday with Gary Walker speaking
- April 18 Vision committee next meeting
- May 16 next council meeting
- June 3 church picnic at Croft pavilion
- April 22 conversation about the work being done by the Way Forward commission by George Brown and Pastor Chris. This will take place either after the morning worship or during Sunday School time. This discussion will also include the upcoming merger between the middle Tennessee and West Tennessee conferences
- April 28, 8:00-12:00 A suicide prevention conference will be presented by the Suicide Prevention Coalition at Stephens Chapel UMC

Pastor Haynes reported that this past Monday, March 19 the church was first opened as a storm safe area with four people seeking shelter here at our church. Pastor Haynes also reported that discussions have begun on how best to honor our only high school senior graduation this year, Colton Swanson.

Bill Myers suggested that has a topic for discussion we begin considering the establishment of a scholarship fund to assist high school graduates planning to attend higher education.

There being no further business to be brought before the council, Pastor Haynes dismissed the council with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bill Guffey - Recording Secretary