**HUNTERSVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH (HUMC)**

Minutes of the meeting of the Church Guidance Council (CGC)

July 16, 2023

1. The meeting was called to order at 12 pm, John McCann presiding. Present: Jackie Benjamin, Rod Arters, Natasha Stracener, Rick Finger, Betsy Burnell, Bill Riley, Charmaine Stokes, John McMillan, Steve Gilbert, Chris Smith, DK Iannarino, Addria Capps, Rev. Paul Thompson and Jeanie Welch.
2. Spiritual formation thoughts were offered by John McCann, Jackie Benjamin and Natasha Stracener. Natasha will be awarded the Erskine Bowles Award at Winston-Salem State University on July 25. This award recognizes employees whose accomplishments are consistent with the goals of the University of NC and its public service mission.
3. The minutes of the June 4 meeting were approved as distributed. Steve Gilbert made the motion, which was seconded by Chris Smith.
4. Old business:
   1. Pastor Paul discussed the charette on land use development. The charette will begin on Saturday and will set priorities for future land use. Pastor Paul met with Huntersville town officials to discuss potential issues, including zoning and watershed. He also mentioned the prayer walks on Sundays. He also mentioned interior changes, including making the Fellowship Hall a coffee ministry and replacing the floors;
   2. An update of the work teams was distributed. The following work teams are now “green:”  
      Community Events, Congregational Care, Parsonage, Security, Stewardship and Giving, Student Ministry, Technology Policy, Vision/Mission, Worship Arts, Finance and Endowment, Budget, Personnel Handbook, Right Here, Safe Sanctuary, and Staff and Employee Evaluation;
   3. Student Ministry—Rod Arters reported that they are joining with other churches for events and reported on the need for a dedicated space;
   4. The Lay Leadership and Nominations Committee (LLNC) is getting more ministry partners;
   5. Security update—Rod Arters distributed the security review by Joe Graham. Suggestions include fencing in some areas, better lighting, cameras, IDs for staff, having a uniformed officer during Sunday services and reducing points of entry. Discussion followed, including prioritizing the suggestions with having a uniformed officer as number one;
   6. Bill and Sylvia Riley are co-chairs of the Stewardship and Giving work team. Bill reported that the work team is in place. Discussion followed, including making this a year-round effort.
   7. The possibility of a town hall and CGC retreat was discussed:
      1. Having a town hall/celebration in January and making a video for the congregation;
      2. The CGC planning retreat, including involving new members, should be held before the budget is finalized. September 16 from 9 am – 2 pm off-site was agreed upon. Juliann Davan was suggested as retreat leader and having a guest speaker. Before the meeting CGC members should submit their “big rocks” and the work teams should send brief reports by September 9. A regular CGC meeting was scheduled for September 10 which will be Homecoming Sunday with one service at 10 am and a potluck lunch afterward. The meeting will begin at 12:30.
   8. The next CGC meeting will be on Sunday, August 6, at 6 pm.
   9. Work team update—Jackie Benjamin discussed the workflow for the teams. Pastor Paul stated that the LLNC can designate a work team for a defined need, designate a leader, and have an HUMC staff member and CGC member assigned. The CGC member acts as a monitor and liaison between the work team and the CGC. Discussion followed on who can initiate a work team. Jackie has a form for work teams. The CGC and LLNC can work on a celebration of the work teams for December or January.
5. Communication plan—John McCann discussed having a video on community events.
6. Increasing giving by 10% was discussed. John McCann would like to get an update on actual giving for this year.
7. Paying our full apportionment was discussed. Pastor Paul would like to pay our full apportionment of $56,000. Discussion followed, including having the Stewardship and Giving Work Team work on this and putting it on the CGC agenda.
8. Other business--Pastor Paul presented ideas on branding, including using blue as the primary color and displayed ideas for a new logo. He asked for feedback. Jackie Benjamin suggested having a member of the congregation with a marketing background to assist.
9. Pastor Paul led the closing prayer.
10. The next meetings are August 6, 6:00 pm and September 10, 12:30 pm.
11. The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanie Welch,

Secretary