

# MORROW

MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST

# CHURCH

Church Council Meeting  
Wednesday, January 27, 2021  
7:00 p.m.

## MINUTES

1. Welcome and Check-in
  - a. Attendance: Janice Lynn, Judy Rogers, Mary Sue Price, Dawilla Madsen, Maureen Hurd Hause, Mike Hertl, Andrea Wren-Hardin, Ayo Akinnuoye, Brenda Wheeler Ehlers, Brooks Leonard, Chris Pisciotta, Loren Condon, Holland Jancaitis, Kristen Kush, Melinda Wilkening, Marcia Roebuck, Paula Michelsen, Susan Gracey, Fred Profeta, Krystal Woolston, Bruce Schaefer, Tia Swanson, Daniel Sugarman, Nancy O'Connell, Betsey Gordon, Barbara Illingworth, Paige Guest
  - b. Mary Sue checked in with each person in a get-to-know-each other activity.
  - c. Pastor Janice opened the meeting in a prayer.
2. Approval of Minutes
  - a. Fred Profeta motioned to accept and approve the minutes from the 11/18/20 church council meeting.
  - b. Judy Rogers seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.
3. Senior Pastor's Report
  - a. Worship attendance average for indoor attendance is 35-40
  - b. 225 attend online worship (without multiplier)
  - c. Journey of Hope – Create a Church Council task force to put together a skeleton plan for Morrow Church, following the call to action from GNJ. This would promote racial justice throughout the life of the Church: engage more people of color, study and dialogue in small groups, partner with community organizations such as the South Orange Maplewood Coalition on Race, prioritize diversity in our stipends for music and youth ministries, etc. Resources will be available to us. Send Pastor Janice an email if you want to participate in the task force.

- d. Morrow Visioning – In 2021 we will begin to consider our mission statement and vision statement. Would like to find those within the church to lead strategic planning and marketing.
4. Associate Pastor's Report
- a. Met in January with Education Committee and Chair Jon Simmons and set a goal for 2021 to create full calendar for the year.
  - b. Youth participation has been lower because of Zoom burnout.
  - c. Will begin a birthday card program for youth.
  - d. Did not start Route 45 option for fall, but it is in the works for the spring.
  - e. Small groups – in midst of a survey to get input on what types of groups people would like to see. The goal is to broaden this to see more individuals participate.
  - f. At the process of looking at COP for a summer service experience.
  - g. Opening Committee Report – Our hope would be to start indoor in-person services on Ash Wednesday with all current precautions and then move outdoors weather permitting. The full Church Council agreed with the opening committee recommendations.
  - h. Addendum to Safe Sanctuary Policy - Insurer provided an updated form of reporting of accidents and injuries with minor additions to match what the insurance company needed. [The updated Safe Sanctuary Policy was formally adopted by the Church Council in 2020.]
5. Global and Community Outreach
- a. We committed to purchasing 40 sets of headphones to help out with First Friends.
  - b. Meetings on fourth Sundays on Zoom for the time being; always happy to have others join.

## 6. PPP Loan Tithe Resolution

- a. Some smaller churches in urban areas were denied PPP Loans despite completing full applications. Morrow should donate 10% of our forgiven PPP Loan. This is a Church, not a conference initiative although District Superintendent William Williams would be available to assist in selecting recipient congregations.
- b. Global and Community Outreach will look at options and bring them forward to Church Council. All agreed that the goal should be building relationships.
- c. The consensus following discussion is to finalize the resolution after details are brought forward.
- d. Agree in support of concept. Tabled until February meeting.

## 7. Finance Report

- a. Review of new report structure
  - i. Finished the 2020 budget year with a \$92,000 surplus.
- b. 2021 budget adoption
  - i. The 2021 budget projects a \$39,000 surplus.
  - ii. Anticipated reduction in pledges \$25,000.
  - iii. Pre-school pledge will remain the same.
  - iv. UMW pledge was decreased due to COVID and no Turnover Sale.
  - v. Motion to approve the 2021 Budget as presented made by Fred Profeta. Chris Pisciotta seconded, passed unanimously.
- c. Potential 2021 PPP Loan
  - i. Finance will evaluate and recommend whether to apply for 2<sup>nd</sup> round of PPP.

## 8. SPRC

- a. New bookkeeper (Treasurer) Lorry Ripley has joined the staff.
- b. Job Descriptions - All job descriptions are now up to date.
- c. Staff evaluations – almost complete.
- d. Employee Handbook – in process, but not completed yet; next big project.

## 9. 2021 Stewardship Update

- a. 81 pledges have been received so far. Of these 16 are new pledges, and 23 members have increased their pledges. We have reached 99% of our goal, with total estimates of \$349,085.

10. Board of Trustees
  - a. The board wanted to formally thank Mike Hertl and Paula Michelsen for all their work as they transition off the committee or to new roles.
  - b. The Trust grew more this year than expected, roughly \$130,000, due to good investments, and the Church drawing down less than expected.
  
11. Adjournment
  - a. Brooks Leonard motioned to adjourn the meeting. Judy Rogers seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

2021 Meeting Dates – Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.

February 24

March 24

April 28

May 26

June 23

August 4 (combined July/August meeting)

September 22

October 27

December 1 (combined November/December meeting)