

MORROW
MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH
Church Council Meeting
Wednesday, October 27, 2021
7:00 p.m.

MINUTES

1. Opening Prayer & Welcome

- a. Pastor Janice opened the meeting in a word of prayer.
- b. Attendance: Janice Sutton Lynn, Brenda Wheeler Ehlers, Holland Jancaitis, Mary Sue Price, Krystal Woolston, Marcia Roebuck, Dawilla Madsen, Melinda Wilkening, Paula Michelsen, Maureen Hurd Hause, Barbara Illingworth, Loren Condon, Andrea Wren-Hardin, Brooks Leonard, Kristen Kush, Cynthia Hicks, Bruce Schafer, Chris Pisciotta, Dorothy Wetzal, Tia Swanson, Fred Profeta, Judy Rogers, Betsey Knowles, Jon Simmons

2. Approval of Minutes of Church Council

- a. Judy Rogers motioned to approve the minutes as submitted.
- b. Brooks Leonard seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

3. Senior Pastor's Report

- a. We have 25 people across three different groups studying the book *White Fragility* as part of Morrow Church's Journey of Hope.
- b. As suggested at September meeting, we propose expanding role of membership, evangelizing and discipleship programs, especially focusing on new member experiences
- c. Attendance is a little down for Morrow Church.
- d. All Saints Day is on November 7th – please send the photo, name, and relationship to you if you'd like to have someone remembered in this service.
- e. We will return to ushers passing the plate and collecting donations as part of Sunday worship
- f. We will also bring back bulletins.

4. Associate Pastor's Report

- a. Programs with youth are up and coming for the fall.
- b. Last week was our first off-campus JYF event and it went extremely well.

- c. Maggie is working hard on Sunday school, sending out individual and group emails every week to outreach to all students in all ways possible.
- d. We are currently working to develop small groups for Advent
- e. Advent by Candlelight will be in-person and on zoom

5. Morrow Memorial Preschool Report

- a. The Halloween parade is coming up Thursday and Friday.
- b. The Preschool will partner with Morrow Church for the Thanksgiving basket collection
- c. Mike Hertl and Barbara Illingworth helped to put together the free little library
- d. Registration takes place November 11 & 12, with an open house for new students on November 13
- e. Attendance is a little low, but we are hopeful for an increase.

6. Music Report

- a. Some attendance is down for adult groups.
- b. Harmonium Chorale Choir sang in the sanctuary on Sunday and had a great experience.
- c. East Orange HS chamber choir was selected to sing in Boston in January; they sold Krispy Kreme donuts after the concert to help pay for their bus charters. Holland would like Morrow to think of ways we can support them.

7. Global and Community Outreach

- a. We propose the Church Trust support the Sierra Leone Project as a match.
- b. There was a discussion over supporting the project and where funding would be allocated from.
- c. Bruce Schafer moved to allocate \$30,000 from the 2021 operating budget from the Trust buffer and Krystal Woolston seconded the motion; 20 voted yes with 1 abstention
- d. Dorothy is working with refugees and detainees through Welcome Home Jersey City; we will gauge interest from the Church for helping and then form a committee to support.

8. Finance Report

- a. Finances look healthy.
- b. PPP loan was forgiven and was recognized as income in September
- c. A budget for 2022 will be ready to submit to the Council at the next meeting in December

- d. The Finance Committee recommends once again tithing from the PPP loan.

9. SPRC Report

- a. Hailey Kim has started as our office administrator
- b. Evaluations are currently happening between the support teams and each staff member.
- c. The SPRC proposed cost of living increases for all staff and provided a cost analysis.
- d. The Council moved into executive session: Maureen Hurd Hause made a motion for a 4 percent COLA increase; Barbara Illingworth seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

10. Stewardship Report

- a. The stewardship campaign is going well- we're currently at 40 percent of our 2022 financial goal

11. Membership Report

- a. Nothing to report at this time

12. Board of Trustees Report

- a. The board of trustees has met twice since our last Church Council meeting
 - i. We've replaced side walks
 - ii. We've planted some new trees
 - iii. We've had water damage and are hoping to paint before the holidays
 - iv. There is mold in the chapel due to flooding
 - v. Looking to fix walls and carpets due to the water damage
- b. We should have the sanctuary ready for Christmas
- c. Re the damage done via the car accident; we have requested coverage from our insurer (Geico) and once received, will put that funding into the Trust for repair
- d. Trustees voted not to renew Morrow sponsorship of the boy scout troop; however we are working with them to allow them to use our space, under the auspices of an outside sponsor.

13. United Methodist Women

- a. The UMW hosted a meeting and planned the UMW budget. After all costs have been paid, the UMW will clear just about \$65,000 from the Turnover Sale; \$30,000 of that will be designated to Morrow Church.

- b. The UMW will send out dates for next year's Turnover Sale and have decided to push back the starting dates a week
14. **GNJ 2021 Adjourned Annual Conference Session**
- a. The Greater New Jersey Annual Conference is moving to create two regions right now.
 - b. GNJAC underbilled for clergy healthcare consistently for years, and as such will result in an increase in shared billings.
15. **New Business**
- a. The Church Council will need to prepare to send thoughts about meeting in person or on zoom
 - b. Possible date change for next meeting to Wednesday, December 8
16. **Adjournment**
- a. Brooks Leonard motioned to adjourn the meeting.
 - b. Krystal Woolston seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.
 - c. Pastor Janice closed the meeting in a word of prayer.

2021 Meetings – Wednesdays **by ZOOM** at 7:00 p.m.

~~January 27~~

~~February 24~~

~~March 24~~

~~April 28~~

~~May 26~~

~~June 23~~

~~August 4~~

~~Wednesday, September 8~~

~~Morrow Church Conference – Saturday, October 9~~

~~October 27~~

December 8 (combined November/December meeting)