

# MORROW

MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST

# CHURCH

Church Council Meeting  
Wednesday, May 25, 2022  
7:00 p.m.  
MINUTES

1. Opening Prayer & Welcome
  - a. Attendance: Janice Sutton Lynn, Brenda Wheeler Ehlers, Ayo Akinnuoye, Krystal Woolston Mary Sue Sweeney Price, Holland Jancaitis, Judy Rogers, Brooks Leonard, Loren Condon, Mike Hertl, SuJung Shin, Erin Peek, Barbara Illingworth, Dawilla Madsen, Kristen Kush, Fred Profeta, Marcia Roebuck, Chris Pisciotta, Tim Roebuck
  - b. Pastor Janice opened the church council meeting in a word of prayer.
  
2. Senior Pastor's Report
  - a. Pastor Janice asked what it means to be a disciple and there was a discussion among members about their beliefs.
  - b. Pastor Janice will be working as a circuit elder.
  - c. Pastor Janice shared we have a new financial secretary – Manny Padhu
  - d. Pastor Janice shared how Andrea Wren-Hardin gave a great presentation on Ida Recovery and the work A Future With Hope is doing. Morrow Church will be giving \$1000.
  - e. Pathways to Strategic Planning
    - i. Pastor Janice will work with The Mark in Montclair with Kay Dubuisson to do pathways.
    - ii. After the work is complete with The Mark, Kay Dubuisson will come and work with Morrow in the fall.
  
3. Associate Pastor's Report
  - a. Pastor Brenda gave an update on summer programming for youth:
    - i. We will be hosting a peace with nature camp for pre-school students and have 14 students currently enrolled.
    - ii. We have 10 students going to COP June 26-July 2.
    - iii. We currently have 30 students in MMTC
    - iv. We have 26 students registered for passport to peace, a new program we will be doing that focuses on different places in the world and how they find peace. We need to promote this camp more; we're hoping to reach 50 students

- v. We have 7 Confirmands to be confirmed June 5th, and 12 students that will be celebrated during the education celebration on June 12th with scholarships.
- vi. We had a confirmation retreat and JYF camping trip, which were both successful.
- vii. Senior high was not able to do their pilgrimage in the spring due to rising COVID cases, so will be doing that for the November break. This will be an eco-justice pilgrimage through Puerto Rico

4. Report on 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference of GNJ

- a. Annual Conference started with an address from Bishop Schol. There was a service of remembrance for all those who passed this year, a service of passage for all appointments, and a ordination and commissioning service for those advancing through ordination or commissioning. Important legislation passed included a Call to Discernment, Budgets for the annual conference, approval of the BSA settlement, and equitable compensation. There were some pieces of legislation that were proposed but did not pass including the integrity of the conference book, and support for the protocol of reconciliation and grace through separation.

5. Memorial Preschool Report

- a. The preschool is currently getting ready for their end of year.

6. Music Report

- a. We have a great group of kids participating in all of the youth and kids choirs
- b. We will have extra singers on education Sunday for the celebration
- c. We will have bell ringers ring on Father's Day June 19th

7. Global and Community Outreach

- a. All of our missions are currently ongoing
- b. Mission Sundays have been working well and have been pretty successful. We're working towards filling up the calendar and planning for the upcoming year. We're hoping for 7 speakers throughout the year in an active and interactive way
- c. PPP Loan and Tithe Resolution
  - i. Submitted by Andrea Wren Hardin and approved in community and global outreach.
  - ii. **Resolution on Tithing of Morrow's PPP Loan**

- 1. Whereas Morrow Church applied for and received a second draw Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loan of \$129,381, \$73,474 of which went directly

for Morrow Church staff and operations in 2021;  
and

2. Whereas Morrow Church applied for and received full forgiveness of the PPP loan in the amount of \$129,381 in 2021; and
3. Whereas Bishop Schol of our Greater New Jersey (GNJ) annual conference encouraged congregations that received PPP loans to consider tithing that loan to support those churches in GNJ that did not receive the loan; and
4. Whereas at GNJ's Annual Conference held on October 5-6, 2020, the conference voted to approve The Journey of Hope Plan that seeks to eliminate racial and economic inequities and injustices in churches across our conference; and
5. Whereas several GNJ Annual Conference churches in communities of color applied for and did not receive PPP loans; and
6. Whereas the pandemic continues to negatively impact many churches' ability to operate, especially those in communities of color that are lacking financial resources and/or reserves.
7. Now, therefore, be it Resolved that Morrow Church donates ten percent of its portion of the forgiven second draw PPP loan, \$7,400, to a congregation of color in our conference that did not receive PPP loans chosen by our district superintendent, Rev. William Williams with the congregation chosen having complete autonomy in using the tithe.

iii.

1. Mary Sue Sweeney Price moved to accept the resolution as submitted.
2. Fred Profeta seconded the motion, and it was **unanimously approved.**

8. Finance Report

- a. We're currently up in pledges and funding in comparison to last year.
- b. Our oil costs have increased significantly over the last year; our costs have just about doubled from last year to this year and we are above budget

9. SPRC Report

- a. We are currently working on GNJ clergy appraisals due at the end of June

10. Stewardship Report

- a. We have exceeded our goal of pledges

- b. We will be calling meetings to plan for next year with the hope to have all communications and design crafted by the fall
11. Membership Report
- a. We held two sessions with the new members about Morrow and Methodism. Thank you to Mike and Pastor Janice for stopping in and talking with these groups
  - b. We welcomed 4 new members on May 22<sup>nd</sup>
  - c. A few weeks ago, on May 8, 2022, we received a new baptism.
  - d. We currently have 561 members.
12. Trustee Report
- a. Trust funds are taking a hit; we've lost over \$700,000.
  - b. We are currently reaching out and assembling a performance committee and will have more to report on that next month.
  - c. House and grounds:
    - i. The Chapel repair is complete and services are being held in there
    - ii. AC units will be replaced on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor and new AC units will be installed on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor
  - d. Scholarships are done being decided and we are currently under budget.
  - e. We have awarded a graduate scholarship this year; all will be named on July 12<sup>th</sup>
  - f. The BSA settlement is still awaiting action from the trial judge. Both sides have vowed to appeal the decision.
13. United Methodist Women
- a. We are starting the collection for the turnover sale soon.
  - b. United Methodist Women now have a new name: United Women in Faith; this name will be used in all future agendas.
  - c. The UMW Assembly happened this past weekend and was done in person and with a virtual option. There were 1200 participants online and 1700-2000 participants in person.
14. New Business
- a. Krystal is asking for volunteers for anyone who could potentially assist in setting up a picnic event for our district on June 4, 2022 10:30am-1:00pm.
15. Adjourn
- a. Brooks Leonard motioned to close the meeting. Fred Profeta seconded the motion, and it was **unanimously approved**.
  - b. Pastor Brenda closed us in a word of prayer.

2022 Church Council Meeting Dates  
Wednesdays **by ZOOM** at 7:00 p.m.

# MORROW

MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST

# CHURCH

Church Conference Meeting

Wednesday, June 1, 2022

7:00 p.m.

## MINUTES

### 1. Attendance

- a. Janice Sutton Lynn, Brenda Wheeler Ehlers, Krystal Woolston, Holland Jancaitis, Bruce Schafer, Brooks Leonard, Barbara Illingworth, Maureen Hurd Hause, Mary Sue Price, Daniel Sugarman

### 2. Charge Conference

- a. Called together at 7:05pm
- b. Mary Sue Sweeney motioned to approve the updated housing exclusion for Janice Sutton Lynn as written.
- c. Krystal Woolston seconded the motion.
- d. The motion was unanimously passed.

### 3. Closing

- a. Pastor Janice closed the meeting in prayer.

Charge conference ended at 7:16PM.

