

Administrative Council Minutes

October 19, 2022

PRESENT: Sharon Meier, Wendy Hopkins, Pastor Deb Parkison, Julie Potter, Thaine Hopkins, Bill Mather, Linda Olson, Barb Ryon, Dale Ryon, Larry Perkins, Kaye Van Genderen, Dwight Van Genderen, Connie Dallenbach, Deb Hertz, and Autumm Brazel.

Dwight called the meeting to order and Pastor Deb opened with prayer. The minutes of the September meeting were reviewed and approved as written.

Trustees: Bill reported that the concrete at the back west door had been completed and the garage door at the parsonage has been replaced. The back west door sags so Don Hertz has ground down on the bottom metal strip to get the door to shut for now. Don Hertz has contacted Northwest Glass for a quote on replacing the door and we are currently waiting on a bid. Linda reported that she recently painted the step of the concrete yellow for safety reasons.

SPPRC: Autumm read a report submitted by Amanda Gustafson which stated that SPRC met on October 4th to discuss wages. We made a motion to give a 5% raise to Pastor, Autumm and Linda. This was then passed on to Finance for approval. Amanda will be conducting the parsonage inspection next week.

Missions: Deb reported that Ingathering will be held on November 5th and the missions committee will meet on October 23rd to assemble the kits for Ingathering. Deb asked Pastor Deb about having the items blessed the Sunday before Ingathering during the worship service. Pastor Deb said she will ask Karen Berg-Currier to perform the blessing since Karen will be filling the pulpit that morning.

Worship: Connie reported that she will be playing for the Christmas Eve services and Kaye will be playing for the Christmas Day service. Hanging of the Greens will be Sunday, November 20 so the church is decorated in time for Advent. Kaye reported that the Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service will be at the Lutheran church at 7:00 p.m. on November 20th.

Connie reported that for the Christmas Eve services, our church will carry the Christ candle to the Lutheran church and the Lutheran Church will carry it to the First Christian Church and First Christian will carry it back again to our church before our 11 p.m. service so that the candle may be used in all Christmas Eve services at the churches.

Pastor Deb reported that for our Christmas Day worship service we have little smokies, pastries, hot cocoa, etc. in fellowship hall.

Laurens Area Youth Group: Autumm reported that youth group meeting for October 23rd has been cancelled. Anyone who would like to participate in the Trunk or Treat event should contact Angie Christenson and be at the church by 4:30 p.m. to decorate a table.

United Methodist Women: Julie reported they are working on Bazaar stuff and officers for next year.

Endowment: Dwight reported that the last statement he has for the Siddall Music Endowment Fund is from August 31 with a balance of \$183,534.31. Doc reported that our Siddall Music Fund checking account has a balance of \$14,100. We have recently booked and paid deposit for Blackwood Quartet to perform on September 23, 2023. Doc reported the balance on the Youth Endowment Fund is \$2,668.30.

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Pastor's Report: Pastor asked permission to have an Open House here at the church as the parsonage is not handicap accessible. Open House will be held here at the church on Sunday, December 11 after the worship service. Pastor Deb will invite Varina UMC to join us for the Open House.

Pastor Deb reported that her shoulder surgery is scheduled for November 1st, but she will be here on Sunday, November 6 to preach. Pastor asked permission to not attend the Charge Conference this year due to preaching on that Sunday morning and she will be on pain medication.

New Business: Pastor Deb reported that people have been asking about Global Methodist Church. She had handouts that contained information on disaffiliation. Paperwork would have to be turned in by December 31, 2022 for disaffiliate effective date of June 30, 2023. Paperwork would have to be turned in by June 30, 2023 for disaffiliation effective date of December 31, 2023. For disaffiliation a church needs a vote of 66% plus one to disaffiliate. Pastor Deb reported that to disaffiliate churches have to pay 2 years apportionments plus another year and if churches want to keep their church property they have to pay a percentage of past pastor's pensions for years 1998, 2004, 2010, 2016, and 2022. Kaye stated there needs to be no decision that has to be made until General Conference. Much discussion was held.

Pastor Deb has scheduled a meeting/discussion for our church members to attend regarding UMC/Global Methodists on Saturday, November 12, 2022 @ 1 p.m. here at the church. She has scheduled someone from UMC and someone from Global Methodist to be here at the same time for discussion and questions. The individual attending on behalf of Global Methodist requests payment for gas mileage as he is traveling from Muscatine. Thaine made a motion to pay his mileage, seconded by Julie. All ayes, carried the motion.

The next item on the agenda was going over our Mission & Ministry Plan for 2023.

Treasurer: Thaine reported that our giving for this past week was good. We have had money come in for the parsonage garage door. Thaine stated that he is concerned where our church will be financially from now to the end of the year with increasing expenses, etc. Thaine stated that he had recently inquired information from Community State Bank about borrowing money in the amount of \$10,000. Thaine requested there be a motion made granting him authority to borrow money for the church if we need it. Julie Potter made a motion to authorize Thaine Hopkins to request a loan if needed, seconded by Linda Olson. All ayes, carried the motion.

Thaine reported that the SPRC recommended a 5% increase in salaries for the pastor, secretary and custodian. The Finance Committee recently met with only 2 members of the committee, Bonnie Finnestad and Thaine Hopkins and Pastor Deb in attendance. Bonnie suggested presenting the Administrative Council with the options of a 5%, 4% or 3% increase in salaries across the board. A 5% increase in salaries would calculate out to be \$5,315 increase to the budget, 4% would be \$4,253 increase to the budget and 3% would be \$3,189 increase to the budget. Julie Potter made a motion to increase salaries 5% across the board, seconded by Connie. All ayes, carried the motion.

Administrative Council Pro-Tem Secretary,
Autumm Brazel