

**Prospect United Methodist Church  
Church Council Meeting Minutes  
June 17, 2021**

**Present:** Pastor Lee, Jeanette Baker, Lynn Limeburner, Carla Heister, Jackie Palance, Beth Provost, Mary Rogers, Matti Verzino, Chris Wilson, Christa Zaldivar

**Excused:** Luisa Gladu

I. **Opening Devotion:** Jeanette – Considerations of gratitude and thankfulness. Remember to thank the Lord for your blessings.

II. **Approval of May minutes** – Motion made and seconded.

III. **Pastor's Report**

- Pastor Lee attended meetings of Scholarship, Worship, Finance and SPRC committees
- Pastor and Ohyeun served lunch for Brian's Angels
- Conducted a four-session confirmation class.
- Pastor's vacation July 25 – August 1<sup>st</sup>.

IV. **Report on 2021 Virtual Annual Conference – Carla**

- The conference proceedings are available for viewing at NYAC.com.
- The message was to “step out of the comfort of our ark through restoration, reconciliation and resurrection”,
- Carla – “You can see the breadth of Methodism in our conference”.

V. **Committee Updates**

Trustees - Chris

- Trustees continue to work with the telecommunications--Have changed service at parsonage from commercial (VIA COMCAST) to residential to save \$ but preserve current service. Have had a hard-wired internet service installed in the Sanctuary. We ended up using Frontier since we could not get COMCAST to perform the work and conversion. We continue to troubleshoot some phone connectivity issues that have arisen over the last 2 weeks. A great deal of thanks is due Beth Provost for helping the Trustees in meeting fire alarm service contractor and Frontier.
- We renewed the memorandum of understanding with Brian's Angels for another Year. We raised the rental donation on the current space due to elevated electricity and hot water costs because of their operation (Addition of hot water because of shower). Also agreed to allow usage of room 100-101 for small meetings with the proviso that the room will not have any storage of equipment or fixtures and the room will be returned to its current status by 4 pm each day. The room will also be available on Sundays from 11-3 pm. We have selected a contractor to replace the gutters on the parsonage. Fascia boards will be replaced where rotted. We replaced the microwave in parsonage which failed. We thank Bill Thibodeau and Jerry Rivard for helping with the parsonage repairs.
- We are in process of securing an electrician to repair lights in the lower rear hallway adjacent to the dining room. The electrician will also fix the timer on the light overlooking the handicap parking lot. We will also ask for repair to lights outside external doorway of the Dining Room Kitchen.
- Trustees did provide \$20K to Tim Krauss and Treasurer for operational expenses. This was an agreement the Trustees had to help pay for apportionments in year 2020. The Treasurer did not need the \$ in 2020, so it was held off until 2021. The trustees informed the Treasurer that they are unable to continue to provide the financial assistance going forward to help with apportionments because of the reduction of unrestricted funds in the financial portfolio.
- Trustees continue to monitor the portfolio. The portfolio is performing well and appears to remain balanced appropriately. We obtain growth but also provide dividends and interest to assist the church with its ongoing operational expenses (approximately 21K).

Worship – Matti

- Acolyte duty will be performed by lay leaders through summer. Christa will make a youth schedule beginning in the fall.
- Ushers – We need to ask people to volunteer to serve as ushers beginning in the fall. Kathy Dube will be asked to include this in The Tower.
- Pastoral coverage needed for Sunday July 25 and August 1<sup>st</sup>. Matti will look to fill July 25 slot, and Jeanette will cover August 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Beginning July 4<sup>th</sup> there will be one Sunday summer service offered, at 9:00 am.

Reopening Committee– Jeanette.

- Sanctuary singing, congregate communion and coffee hour/food sharing will be banned until further notice. The Reopening Committee will meet in July and again in the fall to reassess.

Middle Agers – Luisa

- Relay for Life will be on Saturday, August 28<sup>th</sup>, at Norton Park in Plainville from 4:00 pm to 9:00 pm. We can't do our Bakery to raise funds so we're hoping we'll still get some donations towards our team. The theme is Lights, Camera, Action take Two. We decided to bring our Pirate Ship for a "Pirates of the Caribbean" theme, and possibly charge \$1.00 for pictures to raise money.
- As far as a fundraiser for the church, we are hoping that guidelines will open up so we can do our Breakfast with Santa December 11th.

Finance – Beth

- We're holding our own!

**VI. New Business**

Fund Raiser – Carla

- An idea to consider to raise funds – There is a company that operates a fund-raising program involving orders for coffee, tea, cocoa etc. We would participate by placing an order, and in return we would earn 40% of the proceeds. If this is feasible, more details will follow.

Financial Secretary – Jackie

Jackie is stepping down from her long-held position of Financial Secretary, and, therefore, a new secretary will be needed. The new secretary will need to train ASAP, and this position cannot be shared. The time commitment is at least two hours per week. **Applicants need good bookkeeping skills and must be trusted to keep all job-related matters confidential.** Recommendations should come from Finance Committee and Council members, and if anyone has suggestions for a replacement, please contact a committee member.

Job duties are as follows:

- Input pledges October through January
- Ordering and distributing pledge envelopes
- Input data into VANCO website for checking accounts
- Input data into PowerChurch
- Receive and dispense mailed-in checks into proper accounts
- Prepare and distribute statements

**VII. Adjourn – Closing prayer by Pastor Lee**

**COUNCIL WILL NOT MEET IN JULY**