

Prospect United Methodist Church
Church Council Meeting Minutes
February 23, 2023

Present: Pastor Lee, Kathy Dube, Carla Heister, Tim Kraus, Lynn Limeburner, Jackie Palance, Sue Powers, Beth Provost, Carol Rivard, Sue Thayer, Matti Verzino, Jill Wilson, Christa Zaldivar,

I. Opening meditation – Pastor Lee, Upper Room, Thoughts on church and community

II. Approval of January Council minutes.

III. New Business

- To streamline future council meetings, it is requested that committee reports be submitted electronically prior to the scheduled council meeting. Only issues that require action will be discussed.
- **Trustees** – Carol. Re: Oil tank. The oil presently in the old tank will be removed and put in two new 330-gallon tanks, housed in the garage. The old tank must be removed, and we are working with the State to remediate.
- **Faith in Action** – Carla. Rockwell Park Summer Fest will be August 19th. Booth space is free, and we should be there! A thought is to make pocket prayer shawls to hand out.
- **Maintenance of Sessions Hall.** Tables and floor are not being cleaned after use. It was determined that the group assigned for hosting Sunday social hour (or any special event) will be also responsible for clean-up (tables washed, floor swept). Sue Powers will post a reminder note on the refrigerator door.
- **Missionary** – Jill. PUMC's missionary, Helen Camarce, will be highlighted in a one-hour Zoom presentation on Thursday, April 6th. All church members are encouraged to tune in. The link will be available in the next Tower. Could we utilize the Parish/Council structure to get Helen some publicity? Also, Hannah Reasoner of NYAC, a Columbia-based missionary, is available to give a presentation during the week of March 21-28. We could invite her to our church to speak.
- **Finance** – Tim. All bills paid, except for apportionment (which will be taken care of soon).

IV. Pastor's Report.

- On February 19th PUMC welcomed two new members to our church.
- There will be an upcoming Lenten bible study.
- PUMC youth will be assembling health kits and asking for church members to contribute items to their project. It would be helpful to have an assembled kit for display. Don Orcutt could give a Children's Message regarding this.
- Church Council will not meet in March due to Lenten activities. The next scheduled meeting is April 20th.

V. Other – Cooperative Parish Ministry

- Tim talked about a video clip discussion between Bishop Bickerton and Rev. Dalton regarding what the cooperative parish ministry is and what it means to NYAC. It is thought it will become the new model of ministry in NYAC, with more emphasis on cooperative ministry. Some people will not get on board, and others will get on board at their own rate. Some new concepts could be difficult to accept, such as cooperative parish budgets instead of individual church budgets, and appointees to parishes, not individual churches. It will involve coming together to understand how each church's gifts can be shared.

Conversely, we can't lose sight that PUMC is blessed to have a multi-use building (as opposed to going out into the world as Christians). PUMC serves as an integral part of the community, providing multiple opportunities for outreach and service. As such, it is vital that our legacy be preserved and maintained.

IV, Adjourning Prayer – Pastor Lee

Next meeting April 20th