Community United Methodist Church
CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
March 12, 2025

Members Attending: Evie Burke, Nate Burke, Sarah Cline, Rich Fleming, Sally Hines, Katie Lapham, Emily Les, Mark Norman, Deacon Sharon Rice, Pat Steinhaus, Pastor Jacob Tipitansig-Wolverton, Amanda Zigterman, Dale Zimmerman.

Deacon Sharon Rice opened the meeting at 7:00 pm with a devotion and a prayer. Members offered "God Up Moments", including a thank you to Amy Hollander for serving as the Contemporary Worship Director for 18 months and doing a great job.

The minutes for the January 8th and February 5th meetings were both approved.

Pastor Jacob announced that Pat Steinhaus had been asked to serve as a member at large on the Finance Committee for a 3-year term. Pat's nomination was unanimously approved by the board.

FINANCE: Carol Craig reported that we are in a strong position as compared to the budget and the prior year. Receipts are $183,000 at the end of February which is almost $14,000 ahead of budget and $17,000 ahead of the prior year. Expenses year to date are $126,000 which is almost $2,000 less than budget and flat compared to the prior year. Most of the variance is a timing issue. Our building expenses, which include utilities are a little higher than budget and we will watch that. Net income is $57,000 which is ahead of budget by $14,000. We are fortunate that a large number of our parishioners remit a generous portion of their pledges in the first half of the year. We currently have 4 months of cash coverage.

The Treasurer's Report was approved.

SPRC – Pastor Jacob reported for Zach Zigterman that a new Director of Contemporary Worship has been hired and he is a wonderful addition. Most employees received a cost-of-living increase this year.

TRUSTEES: Nate Burke said they are working on doing legwork on the large projects we hope to undertake. The HVAC committee is figuring out where to place equipment so they can get estimates. Sunday at noon they are planning to do a walk-around. Nate and Al Brunsting have been the driving force and have put in over 40 hours with the contractors.

LAY LEADERS: Emily Les (Formation) said there will be an "Easter Egg Eggstravaganza" for the kids on the Saturday before Easter with crafts, games and an egg hunt.

Amanda Zigterman (Outreach) The Diversity committee reported 50 people attended the Multicultural Dinner. The Pride Parade is Sun., June 8th. The Hunger Commission reported about 400 lunches were distributed in 2024. We met the goal and delivered over 800 lbs. of food to Loaves and Fishes. Fifty people participated in Feed the Need in March. The seed drive is coming up. Marketing is working on flyers for the Center St. Closet. Missions collected blankets for PADS and provided meals for Hesed House. The Center Street Closet is now open to anyone in need by appointment. A group from Kids Above All visited the closet. A future mission trip is under discussion. In addition, Amanda is reviewing a draft website and looking for opportunities to build community with Hope UMC and North Central College.

Katie Lapham (Worship) Katie met with Pastor Jacob to discuss the vision for worship. She is working on coordinating the welcoming and hospitality teams.

Sarah Cline reported that she and Erika Hollander would like to set up a Bowling Night with North Central students this summer.

PASTOR JACOB: There are 3 new members classes coming up on 3/23, 3/30 and 4/6. Palm Sunday will be a jam-packed day with one service at 10 am followed by a 30 minute all church conference. The District Superintendent will be here. A presentation will take place covering everything that has been researched followed by a vote on whether to go forward with a 3-year capital campaign. A church wide luncheon will follow the meeting. Church members will be invited to bring desserts. Hope UMC has been invited to attend the luncheon. The “Transforming for Tomorrow” campaign will be asking for 1.3 to 1.4 million dollars for the HVAC system, the tuckpointing, some window replacements, finishing the room on the second floor, and other high impact projects including carpet and paint.

Attendance at the Contemporary Worship Service was in the high 70’s last Sunday. Pastor Jacob announced he has been approved for commissioning and is also the Worship Chair of the upcoming conference to be held on June 9th at the Schaumburg Convention Center.

Deacon Sharon thanked Nate Burke and Mark Norman for their help at the Pancake Dinner which raised $800 for the youth mission trip. Sixty-one people attended.

Pastor Jacob reported that because we are a welcoming, affirming church we have received some negative anonymous phone calls, voicemails, and Google reviews. He asked members to post 5-star Google reviews for our church and announced that the rainbow flags have been taken down outside for now.

Pastor Jacob closed the meeting with a prayer at 7:44 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sally Hines
Recording Secretary