

**Minutes for April 6, 2021
CCUMC Council Meeting**

UMC Mission : Making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. A disciple is one who knows Christ, is growing in Christ, serving Christ and sharing Christ.

CCUMC Mission : A Bible centered community growing our faith and sharing the love of Jesus Christ with our neighbors.

Attending : Keith and Nancy Luscombe, Pastor John Lucy, Marion Sergel, Garnet Olson, Sandy Dam, Martha Burbridge, Marsha Mason, Kevin Hunt, Hannah Darling, Gary Picard, Gaelle McLoud.

Keith Luscombe called the meeting to order at 6:33pm.

Opening Devotions by Nancy Luscombe from the April Newsletter of the West Chelmsford United Methodist Church, by Pastor Mack Hagins.

Nancy Luscombe proposed one correction to the March 2, 2021 minutes. The minutes stated that there was a new Council treasurer, and needed to be corrected to say that there was a new church treasurer. A motion was made by Sandy Dam and seconded by Marsha Mason to accept the minutes once amended. It unanimously passed.

Committee Reports were sent out ahead of the meeting.
Reports and Updates given at the meeting :

Pastor's Report : Pastor John reported that the focus of the past 2 weeks was to plan and lead the Holy Week services and Easter, and he was pleased with the results. Pastor John also reported that he and the SPRC came together to address the church's response to the Right Start Committee's decision on re-opening the church for worship in person. Pastor John said that Holy Conferencing and loving dialogue were emphasized and continuing to be encouraged. Pastor John said that he had sent out an email communicating the re-opening policy once more. Pastor John reported that the guests for the discussion on Human Sexuality were well received.

Treasurer : Martha Burbridge reported that the financial software is up to date. She also reported that the church is spending more than the money coming in, and that money will get tight and over budget. There was no update on the PPP Loan, as there is currently no answer from the bank. It was reported that Donna Kondracki is checking on the loan consistently.

Trustees : Kevin Hunt reported that the trustees report for the conference is completed and has been given to Gary Picard to sign. Gary Picard is the chair of the trustees. Kevin Hunt reported that there would be tree work Saturday morning at the church, including a tree leaning over the altar of the outdoor chapel. Pastor John mentioned a concern about the integrity of the bolts for the church sign, Kevin Hunt to follow up.

SPRC : Garnet Olson reported that Pastor John will be taking a vacation from June 14-June 27, and coverage will be needed.

The Fund Balance Report, otherwise known as the audit, will not be done by the deadline. Pastor John will touch base with the Lay Leadership about selecting a person to do the audit.

A transition report was sent to the DS about how Pastor John is doing.

UMW : Marion Sergel reported that the attendance has been 24-25 women per month. The meetings are going well and are enjoyable.

Ministry Team : Marsha Mason reported that there was no meeting in March. Marsha Mason reported on the Young Adult Bible Study (YABS), and that they are finishing up their study of neighboring. The YABS will then participate in a worship service to share what they've learned. In addition, Jim Black will be doing a YABS group on financial responsibility.

Web Team : Hannah Darling reported that she needs more input from the church regarding the website. Pastor John agreed to ask for more website input in the next weekly church email. There was a discussion about taking down the prayer wall on the website, as it is not being used. It was decided to provide an email link to the church and Marsha Mason for prayer requests instead of the prayer wall. It was also decided to take down the physical prayer wall in the church narthex.

There was also a discussion about the summer picnics. It was decided that the Right Start Team should have input regarding the picnics.

Old Business :

Sunday Worship Broadcast : Pastor John reported that the broadcast of the Sunday worship service is going well. The service is streaming on both YouTube and Facebook. There is a need for some more volunteers to help with the broadcast.

Marion Sergel suggested that the old organ upstairs be moved downstairs into the Fellowship Hall so that people attending meetings or Bible study won't have to sing Acapella. Agreed on unanimously.

Treasurer Business : Martha Burbridge reported that the signature changes for the church bank accounts has successfully been completed. Martha Burbridge and Nancy Hunt can sign on the Charlton City United Methodist Church's savings and checking accounts. Martha Burbridge and Pastor John Lucy can sign on the Charlton City United Methodist Church's discretionary account.

New Business :

Neighborhood Prayer Group : Pastor John reported that the next Neighborhood Prayer Group is scheduled for April 17, 2021. Pastor John reported that there is a good group of people attending.

Finance Chair : Pastor John reported that the Lay Leadership decided not to fill the position of Finance Chair. Pastor John reported that the church will follow a "Everyone is Equal," leadership model for the financial team of the church which is meeting monthly. In addition, the

church has a new Stewardship position filled by Amanda Dam. The Lay Leadership will re-evaluate their decision regarding the Finance Chair in the Fall.

Funeral: Pastor John reported that there was a request for a funeral to be held in the church on Tuesday May 18, 2021 for a member who passed away over the winter. There was also a request for a small funeral collation at the church. Marsha Mason was unsure regarding the collation, and reported that she would refer to the Right Start Team. There was a motion by Sandy Dam, and seconded by Kevin Hunt, to allow for the funeral if the Right Start Team approved as well. The motion passed unanimously.

Posting of Council Minutes : Pastor John and Keith and Nancy Luscombe introduced the idea of posting the church council minutes so that they are available to the people of the church. There was a discussion regarding the best way to do this. It was decided to have one paper copy on the church bulletin board and also to send a copy in the church's weekly email. The minutes shared would be approved by the council. In addition, it was decided to make available all of the reports from church committees when the council minutes are made available to the church.

Technology Grant : Nancy Luscombe introduced that a one-time grant is available from the conference to help with technology. There was a discussion about the benefits of applying for the grant. It was decided that Nancy Luscombe will send the link regarding the grant to Pastor John, Kevin Hunt, and Gary Picard.

Closing :

Joys and Concerns :

Keith Luscombe shared a concern that his wife drove to NY without her license, and hoped that she would make it home safely.

Keith Luscombe shared a joy that he got his second vaccination shot.

Marsha Mason shared a concern regarding her mother-in-law who was in the hospital with heart failure and will hopefully be going to rehab soon. Her name is Mildred Mason, and she is 96 years old.

Kevin Hunt shared a concern regarding a close family friend who has colon cancer and has been put on hospice. Her name is Robin, and she is 57 years old.

Closing Prayer :

Nancy Luscombe closed the meeting with a prayer of her own creation.

Respectfully Submitted : Gaelle McLoud

Next Meeting : Tuesday, May 4, 2021 at 6:30pm on Zoom.