

**NORTHWEST HILLS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
March 17, 2015**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Pastor Charlie Baskin; Associate Pastor Audrey Spencer; Neill Gruver, Board Chair; Les Broomall; Ken Moyer; Gary Johnson; Daniel Dietz; Carol Wratten; Jean Leonard; Millie Shimfessel; Ron Bruney; Harold Cline; Clyde Barre

MEMBERS ABSENT: Greg Gitcho, Joseph Hello, and Elliott Moulton

RECORDING

SECRETARY: Gary Johnson

1. Opening prayer

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. The opening prayer was given by Charlie Baskin .

2. Minutes from February meeting were reviewed and approved.

Charlie Baskin moved for approval and Jean Leonard seconded.

3. Review and discussion of Ideal Impact possible energy audit of the Church

Ron Bruney led the discussion. The representatives from Ideal Impact are scheduled to perform an energy audit on March 24 in order to determine if NWHUMC is a good candidate for their energy savings program. If we are, they will make a proposal to make improvements to improve our use of energy. Ideal Impact works with churches to make this cost savings improvements and as a payback, would share in our energy savings for up to four years.

4. Trustee Issues – Ron Bruney

Ron stated that there is severe rotting on the fascia on the Family Life Center and on the passageway to the choir area. We will need to make a survey to see what repairs are needed.

Ken Moyer added that in the stage lighting area, one-third of the lights are out (10 lights). Their replacement was estimated to cost \$300 and a lift would be needed to replace them. The rental of the lift was estimated to cost \$300. In addition, a new dimmer control for the stage lighting is estimated to cost \$600. Regarding the Choir Room lighting, some of these lights also need to be replaced.

Clyde Barre added that the Trustees will need to schedule a workday. He stated that the front doors to the Narthex are a mess and that he has been working on them. Also, there is a drainage problem at the choir door entrance.

5. Finance issues – Les Broomall

Les shared that My Friends House and the Church are doing well. All of the accounts have been reconciled and the February financials were reviewed and approved. Payment of the Apportionment Benevolences levy for 2015 will be delayed but as discussed earlier, we hope to be able to fund it later in the year. There was a discussion regarding how close we are to funding the Benevolences and it was determined that we are within \$34,000.

6. Stewardship – Les Broomall

Les provided the pledge status report. Since the annual budget was approved at the February Board meeting, another \$8,000 in pledges have been received. At week 18, the pledges total \$831,040. Pledges for 2014 totaled \$796,637.

Average pledges are \$4,748.80 (up)

Percent of previous year: 104.3%

7. SPRC—Jean Leonard

There was a question regarding Alex and his additional ministry with the Church. The hours he will be putting into this extra ministry will not be as an employee.

8. UMM Update – Ken Moyer

Ken stated the Wednesday Men's Prayer Breakfast continues to meet with an average attendance of 18. On March 26, the UMM will provide a meal for the women of the church. He provided a tentative menu. He is coordinating with Audrey.

The Golf Tournament is May 9 with a fish fry and dessert auction afterwards. Ken stated that he would like a sign-up section on the NWHUMC web page. He will check with Fran.

9. UMW update – Millie Shimfessel

Millie reminded that on April 25, the UMM is sponsoring lunch for the folks working on the Habitat build. They are expecting 45-50 people. She shared that about an interesting program titled "Texas Impact on Water Issues." There is an opportunity for the training of monitors as "Water Captains." On April 14 Amanda will do a program. Lunch for staff will be on May 12, and in August they will be cooking meals for the Care Team. On March 23 there is to be a Special Day of Giving.

10. Youth Program– Daniel Dietz

Daniel provided a report on the Mid-Winter Retreat held in February. Ten youths attended along with four adults. Ryan Etheridge also attended. The total in attendance was 15. There is a summer mission trip to San Antonio and a ministry fund raiser dinner scheduled for April. Neill mentioned restricted funds for youth missions that should be available to them. They will look into how the youth can tap into this resource.

11. Communications—Audrey Spencer

Fran is still working on the web site and the Compass publication will need to be integrated into the web. Hardcopies of the Compass brochure will be available for Easter. There was no Easter mail out planned for this. This would have cost \$1,200. For Easter Sunday, there will be a sunrise service on the plaza followed by breakfast. It is at 7:00.

12. Evangelism and Discipleship Task Group—Charlie Baskin

Charlie discussed the "Compass" (he had a copy of it). It will be interactive on the website. It will give an idea of the discipleship path. He discussed the contents of the Compass such as upcoming sermon series and topics being covered in Sunday School classes. It also contains information about "Coffee with the Pastors" and "A Closer Look" (on two Sundays) during the Sunday School hour. The first week covers the United Methodist Church and the second covers NWHUMC. This is followed by "Starting Point" where attendees share where they are on their spiritual journey and we attempt to connect them to a ministry or resources in the church. The "Compass" will be printed "in house" and updated during the year so that it is always up to date.

Charlie shared what is coming Up: "Navigate" is in April and July for those not familiar with the Bible. The "Explore God" series of studies begin in July. There will also be an upcoming class on "Taking an Inventory of Spiritual Gifts."

13. Other issues-Charlie Baskin

Charlie also discussed upcoming events in the Church including:

-5th Sunday in March. There will be snacks, some visuals and Charlie will give a church update.

-Seder supper on April 2. There will be a signup sheet for assistance in cooking and setup.

Charlie also shared about two new groups that have formed: A college group is meeting with 2-4 attendees and the Young Adults led by Alex and Lindsey had their first meeting with 8 attending.

Charlie reported on a Department of Agriculture Meals Audit of My Friends House. There were several issues but the main problem involved paperwork documentation of the kids and families being covered under the program. There were over 100 record keeping exceptions and 75 were repeats. It also involved confusion on the applications regarding the start dates for kids under the program. The due date for resolution of the audit issues is April 10. Hope (the Assistant Director) will now be in control of this program for My Friends House.

14. Closing prayer by Audrey Spencer. Meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

(The next Board Meeting is scheduled for April 21 at 7 PM.)