

Minutes of the Church Guidance Council (CGC)

July 14, 2024

- The meeting was called to order at 12 pm, Jackie Benjamin presiding. Present: Tom Loughlin, Peggy Wilson, Addria Capps, Natasha Stracener, Joe Smith, Rick Finger, Steven Shuman, Jessca Bowles, Jason Bowles, Susan Little, Lynne Reinstadtler, Krista Sipe, John McMillan, Rev. Rob Arters, Rev. Ron Hutchinson (Western Carolina Conference), Rev. Paul Thompson, and Jeanie Welch.
- 2. Rev. Hutchinson led the opening prayer.
- 3. Jackie welcomed Rev. Hutchinson; she collected the surveys that had been previously distributed.
- 4. Rev. Hutchinson led the opening prayer. He discussed four Conference priorities: 1) helping local churches; 2) promoting anti-racism; 3) the health of local church leaders; 4) the future of the church. He stated that having a life with Christ and being more like Jesus are necessary. He listed the following eight characteristics for a vibrant church: 1) a koinonia culture; 2) a intentional discipling culture; 3) an outward focus; 4) a clear and compelling mission, vision, and values; 5) vibrant worship; 6) being innovate and adaptable; 7) faithful pastoral and lay leadership; 8) faithful use of assets. He distributed a more complete outline of the eight characteristics. Discussion followed.
- 5. Jackie asked for prayer concerns.
- 6. The minutes of the June meeting were approved as distributed.
- 7. Pastor's report—Pastor Paul discussed the report (previously distributed), including an intentional discipling culture, how the church could adapt, getting an outside view, and that HUMC needs an outside view and examples of other churches. He reported that they have made a decision for the hiring of a new Preschool director.
- 8. Pastor Paul reported that Rod would compile the survey results.
- 9. Jackie distributed a year-to-date financial report, comparing month by month for 2023 and 2024. Discussion followed, including comparing attendance and giving.
- 10. Jackie reported on the Property Development Team. There have been two meetings and a third meeting will be on Monday regarding rules and regulations and the merits of senior housing and sports ministries. Discussion followed. Pastor Paul stated that the CGC needs to go back to the congregation to discuss any future developments. He also stated that the plans for a coffee house are on hold.
- 11. Jackie discussed the date for the fall retreat. October 5 and October 12 are the suggested dates.
- 12. Addria Capps inquired about replacements for CGC positions; Pastor Paul stated that the Lay Leadership Committee is deciding on replacements.
- 13. Rick Finger inquired about the endowment fund.
- 14. Pastor Paul stated that they are reviewing the staff evaluation forms.
- 15. There was no executive session.
- 16. The next meeting will be on Sunday, August, at 11:30 am.
- 17. Rev. Hutchinson led the closing prayer.
- 18. The meeting was adjourned at 1:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanie Welch, Recording Secretary