

St. Matthew's United Methodist Church
Church Council

Mission

To make disciples of Jesus Christ

Vision

To be a welcoming community where all God's Children may find meaning and purpose in Jesus Christ.

Values

Love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control

Council Minutes

25 April 2018

Attendees

Neil Hough, Sr. Pastor

Amy Chan, Chair

John Alexander, Vice Chair

Darold Plate, Member at Large

Sandy Plate, Member at Large

Jim King, Member at Large

Brad Oswald, Trustees

Andrew Gay, Children's Council

Grace Han, Assoc Pastor

Bill Moberly, Assoc Pastor

Louisa Gerber, WDS Chair

Lyle Minder, Lay Delegate to Annual Conference

Susan Ericksen, Member at Large

Beth Lanthier, Lay Delegate to Annual Conference

Angela Culberston, Chair SPRC

Bruce Thomas, UMM

Mike Fee, Youth Ministry

Charlie Oppenheim, Member at Large

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Herb Hopwood, Legacy

Christine Nelson, Worship Committee

Chris Ligon, Discipleship Committee

Amanda Hill, UMW Co-President

Ann Donnelly, UMW Co-President

Keith Robertory, Member at Large

Carolyn Andrukonis, Lay Leader

Opening -- Neil

Membership to Discipleship Discussion -- Grace

Grace discussed the book. She attended Phil Maynard's presentation on the book which provided a positive contextual framework. The path established by Wesley's discipling plan was used to start Methodism yet we seemed to have gotten away from that. The book pulls people back to an intentional path to discipleship.

The path class was set to help give members a launching point for the more intentional. The discipleship committee is looking to build more around life groups. A "life group" is four things done together: study scripture, serve, break bread and be in fellowship together.

Neil: Are we being too interested for what happens in church instead of what is happening in the life of the members? What would happen if the congregation thought more clearly about what God wants us to do as individuals and how to be in the life of individuals? Do ministries create disciples, or do disciples create ministries? The book can help us get to a common language on how to talk about ministry and disciples.

Approval of February Minutes -- Amy

Approved.

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Featured Committee: UMW, Amanda -- Ann

125 members in five circles. Circles meet once a month. Some have offshoots, like book clubs, that meet more often. The five groups get together for craft fair, UMW Sunday, Tea and Christmas. The groups do fellowship, bible study and service. Each group does as what matches their members the best. Information on the UMW was provided last week during UMW Sunday as an insert.

Legacy Committee: Legacy Wall -- Herb

Legacy was previously known as Endowment. The name change reflects the focus on legacy, and confusion about what endowments are. A section of wall in the information hall will be designated to honor people who give to the legacy program. The Legacy fund is not a budget balancing program, nor is it in place of stewardship. There are named funds to support specific programs. Funds are in stocks and bonds to get a 4% distribution; the money is not kept in certificates of deposit.

NLI Update -- John, Neil, Amy

Vision Alignment Team has met about three times this year. Reggie Tuck met with the team to help them focus. Themes for the mission are being discussed. "Relationships" is one theme that is sticking. Relationships with each other, Jesus, and so on.

Refer to Neil's posted highlights for more information about the NLI.

Communication. Different church members have different information needs. Some want to know everything; others just want to come and worship. There is a need to handle the communication on what people are interested in receiving.

A discussion occurred about the methods to share information and ways people on the council want to receive information. There is a range of what people want to hear. There is also a range of decisions' importance (or lack thereof) where not everyone needs/wants to be involved.

A list of key decisions should be published so members can watch for issues and have a way to provide feedback.

Comments from the Pastor -- Neil

Wednesday on the Lawn. One falls on July 4th. No group has yet volunteered to host.

Celebrate the increase banquet. Received a certificate as St Matthews paid 100% of the apportionments. Received a certificate of achievement for increasing our professions of faith. The "vital signs" numbers reported to the district are in the highlights.

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Neil emphasized that the NLI outcomes should be tied to the congregation and God's will for the church; not an individual person or pastor. It needs to continue long term.

Grace will be moving on and her first Sunday at Trinity UMC will be in 1 July 2018.

Nickie Morano Howard, a 2014 graduate of Westley seminary. She comes from a UM Church in Falls Church, and is the daughter of a UM pastor in Texas who is still active. Her first Sunday will be 1 July 2018.

"Saint Matthews UMC" can be found now in Amazon Smile. A percentage of spend in Amazon will be sent to St Matthews UMC.

Reports

- Finance -- see highlights.
- SPRC -- Angela

The Director of Connection ministry has been interviewed and Jennifer Ligon has been selected. She will start in May.

- Trustees -- Brad
- See highlights.

The red van is dead. There is no budget to replace it.

The sidewalk in the front of the church is going to be replaced. There will be disruptions when the work is done.

The roof needs to be replaced due to storm damage.

- See other highlights
- Open Forum

No other comments

Joy & Concerns

Shared.

Closing Prayer

Prayed.

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