

Hopkins Community Church

Consistory Meeting Minutes

February 15, 2021 at 6:00 PM

Members Present: Pastor Jon, Pastor Jim, Dick Boverhof, Sally Burgess, Kyle Hoffmaster, Dan Kisner, Curt Leep, Joel Eding, Mike Maule, Eric Porter, Tyler VanderSyde.

Members Absent: Troy Clement, Rich Huizinga.

Opening Prayer: Pastor Jon

Devotions/ Meditation: John 15:1-8 (The Vine and the Branches)

Passages were read, dwelling exercise commenced with district partners discussing what they felt the Holy Spirit was saying to them through these verses and then a time of sharing those thoughts together as a Consistory.

Approval of Agenda: Noted to advance the date of the next meeting to March 15, 2021 on agenda. Motion to accept amended agenda was made by Sally B; supported by Dick B; all in favor.

Approval of January 2021 Minutes: Motion to accept minutes made by Sally B; supported by Kyle H; all in favor.

NEW BUSINESS

Vision Implementation Update

We have received a \$5,000 check from our Classis for vision/Kingdom growth. Pastor Jon is considering using some of the funds for a map of the village of Hopkins (large-scale map) and purchasing the contact cards to hand out to the households that are visited as we work to reach each household in Hopkins.

Search Team Update

- The Search Team is in the process of discerning people for the Vision Implementation team. We need a group to move that forward.
- Identifying leadership gaps – web site, admin/ communication needs.

Planning Center Presentation (Pastor Jon and Kathy)

Pastor Jon introduced a communication tool that may be helpful in addressing the various needs within our congregation. Kathy provided some further information and description and was also tasked with following up to the Consistory to give a proposal and timeline for development and if there would be extra work hours involved, etc. Briefly, Planning Center is the company that contains a variety of modules that would enable us to better reach and communicate with our church family and also reach those who might be new to HCC and looking for ways to plug in and how to get involved. There is a mobile app called Church Center that houses these modules and gives users the ability to interact and view various information pertaining to the church and may also serve to function in place of our current website (down the road). Kathy briefly highlighted the components that would be useful to most of the people (Calendar, Sermons, Directory, Media) and the Consistory was very favorable in wanting to proceed with the work that it would involve getting this up and running. Kathy will begin working on this in depth and also enlist assistance from Amanda Reed, a newer church member who has experience with Planning Center from her former church.

Elder/ Deacon/ Consistory Responsibilities

Spent a few minutes reviewing these, ensuring that we are together and on the same page.

Elders: Discipleship Oversight (curriculum), Member Care (compassion, care of people), Pastoral Oversight (mentor and discipleship of the pastor)

Deacons (Acts 6): HELP Fund (benevolence and financial issues), Deacon Response Team (new recommendation for the physical help of people in various capacities)

Deacon Response Team: a process to organize Deacons to be ready with a list of people from our church family who have the needed skills to respond to various community needs that are brought to our attention through the contacts made in the upcoming months. The Deacons would need to assess needs and then contact the people who have that gift or skill to help. This would also tie into the use of our HELP Fund. Both Dan K and Bob L have spoken with Kevin Dewey about getting the men of our church together to do service projects. GEMS will be going next door to the apartments soon with gift baskets and Sally asked if we would have contact cards available that quickly for them to hand out. We need to set up a process of disseminating the information collected and the GEMS would be a pre-run of this process. Deacons were in favor of this recommendation and Mike Maule offered to assist with a spreadsheet set-up and will talk further with Pastor Jon.

Consistory: Budget, Facility Oversight

HCC Funeral Policy

Presented to the Consistory for informational purposes by Pastor Jon. Due to the fact the local funeral home is under renovation and extenuating Covid situation, our church has been utilized for extra funerals over the past year. The funeral home is very much in need of the space we can offer, but has not always reimbursed us for this accordingly. As they are a for-profit business, they charge the families for these services; yet we are the ones providing this for them. Pastor Jon spends a good deal of time assisting with the funerals and our custodian is paid by HCC for the extra work involved in preparing and cleaning the facility each time there is a funeral (with or without visitations and luncheons). We have developed this policy to give to funeral homes who desire the use of our facility to ensure that we are also treated fairly and that compensation is provided for the building use as well as the services we are providing to them and to the families.

OLD BUSINESS

COVID-19 Response Reflection and Continuing Action

Sunday Worship Precautions

- Attendance in person is good, a little up and down in numbers but that is somewhat normal (weather, people going south on vacation, etc)

- **Discipleship Hour (survey follow-up)**

What can we do with the results received? After review and discussion, it was decided that we would work with the teachers we know are in place (3) and focus just on the younger ages. Curriculum would not need to be a big deal or issue at this point with just March-May months for meeting. The next steps will be getting those teachers together, get started and adjust as we go with the number of students in person and the first couple weeks might just be a discernment time for that. Pastor Jon will send out an email communication to the teachers. The goal will be to start in-person Discipleship Hour on Sunday, March 7, 2021.

Coffee Fellowship

- Dick B reports that all is going well with having Coffee Fellowship again after the worship service. People really seem to enjoy having this option returned.

Building Use

- No outside requests have been made by anyone to use our building/ facility in 2021.
- One member request is on the calendar for June 2021 (use of MP Room)

Nursery

- No current schedule of volunteers to staff the nursery on Sundays as of right now
- We have no Nursery Coordinator actively involved at this time
- Do people know the nursery is open and available to be used on Sundays? We could put that information in the church bulletin again.
- Toys are not currently being cleaned/ sanitized by anyone; Lisa does her usual weekly cleaning and wipes down surfaces.

2020 Year-End Recommendations Follow Up

- **\$5,000 requested to be set aside in a Kingdom Growth Fund for vision implementation** (still on hold pending further discussion by the Deacons)
- **Memorial Funds moved to the Kingdom Growth Fund** – consensus is that the Deacons would like to use these funds toward a project of some kind, to be determined. No transfer at this time/ on hold for further discussion by the Deacons.

MINISTRY TEAM REPORTS

Elders' Report

Denominational update: upcoming decisions will be made pending the General Synod in May or June 2021, if they are able to meet. Continue the holding/ waiting pattern for the time being.

Deacon's Report

Rectify Request Follow-Up: There has not been a formal discussion or decision on whether to support them financially or with physical labor support. Curt Leep has talked with Sarah about getting a group of people together to see what needs to be done. This group has gone on week-long mission trips in the past but due to Covid, they are not going out this year and he was going to see if this group might be interested. Tyler V has visited the home that they are working on and there are some needs for painting and flooring.

Executive Team

Meeting took place on February 1; minutes are included with the packet given out tonight to Consistory. They are overseeing a Staff Review and Time/Salary study for all staff of HCC. Kevin was tasked with getting a list together to give to Consistory of 5-10 smaller projects around HCC for building and grounds.

Finance Report

January 2021 financial report included in the packet given to Consistory tonight. Noted that there were 5 Sundays in January and the first Sunday, Pastor Jon was ill and we cancelled services. Giving is slightly down and we asked for a budget in 2021 that is higher than last year. Pastor Jon may offer an overview video to give a year-end report to the congregation and offer encouragement about giving.

Search Team Report

Search Team meeting minutes are included in the packet given to Consistory tonight.

Worship Leader recommendation was brought forth tonight. Some discussion and suggestions offered. The goal is to take the worship leading off Pastor Jon's plate to enable him to focus more fully on outreach objectives. It will be a stand-alone position and not tied with an associate pastor role or job description.

Motion to move on the process/position made by Sally B; supported by Dick B; all in favor.

Property Team

We still need to have a Property Team created. Kevin D is tasked with implementing this.

Worship Team

We are still looking for A/V help. This is badly and urgently needed. Pastor Jon will mention this on Sundays and if anyone has suggestions of who we might contact to ask if they would be willing to learn, please offer suggestions to him anytime. This could be a great role for a high school student and we will train them on the basics and not expect that they would need to be proficient in running everything all at once. Maybe those who are slightly interested are a little intimidated when looking at the sound booth?

Outreach Team

- Blood drive is scheduled for March 9.
- Confirmed that Hopkins will have a "clean up" day in September. Date TBD.
- July 4th celebration may or may not be held, depending on Covid. Pastor Jon mentioned this as something to consider as a possible outreach opportunity for HCC. If the celebration is held, how could HCC be a bigger part of this celebration?

Youth Ministry

Request of funds to be reallocated within the youth ministry budget was received from Cindy Kukor. She would like to be allowed to move a portion of the funds in the SR High budget that is reserved for retreats and use it for the Alaska Mission Trip this summer. There is some concern about not having enough fundraisers and the ability to hold in-person fundraisers that usually generate a good revenue, such as the auction. The Consistory was hesitant to allow the funds to be reallocated considering it is only February and there is a little time yet for fundraising; they also want to encourage Cindy and the SR High youth group to offer more communication to the congregation and others to let them know they are needing financial support. Consensus is that Consistory was comfortable waiting until April or May to revisit this need and request and will do so.

Consistory was fully supportive of allowing the auction to take place on Saturday, April 17, 2021 and will communicate that to Cindy.

Motion made to adjourn meeting: Kyle H.

Motion supported: Sally B.

All in favor.

Meeting adjourned: 9:00 PM

Next Meeting: March 15, 2020 at 6:00 PM

Closing Prayer: Pastor Jim

Minutes submitted by Kathy Westendorp