

Hopkins Community Church
Consistory Meeting Minutes
January 17, 2022 at 6:30 PM

Opening Prayer: Pastor Jon

Roll Call

Present: Pastor Jon VanderWall, Pastor Caleb Nykamp, Pastor Jim Harrison, Dick Boverhof, Jim Fredricks, Kyle Hoffmaster, Dan Kisner, Curt Leep, Troy Clement, Rich Huizinga, Dan Laarman, Jason Reed, Tyler VanderSyde, Kathy Westendorp

Absent: Rich Huizinga, Mike Maule

Guest: Joel Eding

Devotions: **Matthew 9:35-38** (read by Pastor Jon followed by reflection)

Dwelling Exercise: **Luke 10:1-11** (read by Jim F, Jim H then proceed to dwelling exercise with district partners)
Pastor Caleb closed in prayer following the dwelling exercise.

Approval of Agenda: Motion to approve agenda made by Curt L; supported by Jim F; no discussion, all in favor.

Approval of December 2021 Minutes: Motion to accept minutes made by Curt L; supported by Jim F; all in favor.

MINISTRY REPORTS

Vision Update: Vision 2022 sees us going back out to the village of Hopkins, asking two questions plus having intentional evangelistic conversations. Our three-year goal is that 50% of our congregation will be able to have a Gospel conversation with anyone, anytime, anywhere... so, we need to do some equipping!

Elders Report:

Deacon's Report:

Executive Team:

Financial Report:

Property Team:

Hospitality Team:

Children's Discipleship:

Adult Discipleship:

Worship Team:

Outreach:

Youth Ministry:

OLD BUSINESS

Joel Eding: Joel came to the January meeting after he had been unable to attend the final meeting of his term as Deacon in December 2021. He wished to ask a few questions of the Consistory and took the opportunity to share his concerns that HCC does not have a policy to address social media use within HCC, which he had brought up in past meetings. He offered encouragement and suggestions for the new deacons as well, especially surrounding the use of the HELP Fund, and was thanked by all for his years of service and work as Deacon.

NEW BUSINESS

ARC Transition Update: We have a receipt from the SWMI Classis that they have received our letter, but they are not ready to respond yet. We have begun the process with credit given for our 4th quarter dues paid out to the RCA in 2021. ARC has also received our paperwork.

Evangelism Workshop: HCC will have the opportunity to participate in a workshop on Saturday, March 26 from 9AM – 12 Noon at HCC, presented by Jim Halstead of "Go and Tell Ministries". He will also preach at HCC on Sunday, March 27. More information will be made available soon for us to review the workshop information, a possible small group series for 7 weeks, etc. Suggestion was offered that we ought to be praying into this and that it will help equip our congregation. Leaders (elders, deacons, pastors) should be stepping up and show up on March 26 for the workshop as well.

Information about ARC: Printed material has been made available at church. What else are we able to do or should we be doing to make information accessible? Kathy has posted the ARC website link on the church app.

It was suggested that we let the congregation know we are in a waiting period at this time, too. Pastors will do a brief ARC announcement on Sunday morning and give a reminder that this process will take about 3-6 months.

Two formal things still coming:

- 1) Classis will have an official meeting with the Consistory, absent the pastors, to take an official vote.
- 2) Official congregational meeting to solidify this vote by our members.

Debt Freedom Campaign Information Communication: update given by Pastor Jon and Kathy W as to the progress with the pledge drive and monies that have been coming in. Pastor Jon outlined that there are several fundraising ideas being floated, such as a very large church garage sale in May.

Received in January to date: \$11,888.52

Received in 2021: \$35,100.00

Paid out to the loan in 2022: \$38,000 principal only payment; \$5,400 January regular loan payment

Pledge cards and forms received: 8

District Assignments and Expectations: see the handout sheet with elder/deacon district assignments.

A reminder was given to all elders and deacons to reach out and touch base with those in their district. District partners should work on ways to communicate with their district families. The elders did work on identifying some "inactive" families/members of HCC in their earlier meeting tonight and the pastors will work on a way to reach out to those who have not been coming. We want to truly be intentional and communicate concern and care.

Year End Financials: an update was given by Kathy W. on the 2021 year-end financial report along with a review of all the current fund balances. Part of our financial housekeeping at the start of each year is that we need to take the General Fund operating balance back down to \$60,000 which will also effectively zero out any "surplus funds" sitting in the General Fund. Current General Fund balance as of 12/31/2021 was \$83,046.17. This means we need to reallocate \$23,046.17.

Recommendations

- 1) Tithe \$2,000 of this to the HELP Fund (10%)
- 2) Move remaining funds (\$21,046.17) to the surplus designated fund

Motion made by Dan L and supported by Jason R to move \$2,000 to the HELP Fund.
No discussion; all in favor.

Motion made by Jim F and supported by Troy C to move the remainder to the surplus designated fund. No discussion; all in favor.

The surplus designated fund will now have approximately \$42,000. The question asked of all consistory members is to discern how we ought to be using these funds. Assignment: pray about this and Pastor Jon will follow up by email in a couple weeks. Please write your ideas down and be ready to discuss at the February meeting. As for other possible suggestions, Kevin D has a working list of projects and perhaps Jason V may have some wish-list sound/tech things to enhance worship. Pray about the best way that these funds might be used.

Round table opportunity was given to all for any further comments or items to bring up for discussion.

Reminders about upcoming events:

- Mini-Golf event the last Saturday of January
- Profession of Faith class/adult mentor kick-off coming up on February 6 after the worship service.
- There will be a Pastries with the Pastor the last Sunday in February (new member/partner class)
- Red Cross blood drive on Tuesday, March 8

Motion to Adjourn: Kyle H; supported by Jim F; all in favor.

Meeting adjourned: 8:48 PM

Next Meeting: February 21, 2022 at 6:30 PM

Closing Prayer: Pastor Jim

Minutes submitted by Kathy Westendorp