

**Hopkins Community Church**  
**Consistory Meeting Minutes**  
**May 16, 2022 at 6:30 PM**

**Opening Prayer:** Pastor Jon

**Roll Call**

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

**Absent:** Pastor Caleb, Jason Reed, Mike Maule

**Devotions: Psalm 27** (read by Pastor Jim, and each person read a couple verses around the room)

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

**Approval of March 2022 Minutes:** Motion to accept minutes made by Curt L; supported by Dan L; all in favor.

**Note:** there was no Consistory meeting held in April 2022.

**MINISTRY REPORTS**

**Vision Update**

**Vision Progress – 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter** (no handout for this meeting)

**Go & Tell Evangelism Workshop**

The video of the workshop is still being viewed.

**Spring Sale**

We raised \$9,500 for the Debt Freedom Campaign!

**Hopkins Community Cleanup on May 21**

Planning to push hard for volunteers the next few days

**Campaign For Christ**

About 66 people are signed up for the summer. Bob Laar will host a launch meeting on Sunday, May 22 and pair people up into groups.

**Elder's Report (Kyle H):** Pastor Jon will have the next few weeks off from preaching (baby #4 due), Pastor Jim will be caring for Beth following hip replacement surgery in June, and Pastor Caleb will be off around the end of July (baby #2). Request for baptism by Nick Sefranek. He is married to Grace, and they have two children. Baptism request and approval for Samuel Hoffmaster, son of Kyle and Stephanie for Sunday, May 29.

**Deacon's Report:** discussion on leadership roles as Deacons; discussion about renewing assistance for families who wish to send their children to a Christian summer camp. Deacons agreed to provide up to 50% of the total cost of camp up to \$200 maximum per child, per year. Discussion around a support need for a church member and it was agreed that we could use up to \$1,000 from the HELP Fund for this. Dan L made a motion to provide this help; Rich H. supported motion; no discussion and all in favor. Rich H. to reach out to the church member to see about the need and how we can best help.

**Finance Report (Kathy):** walked through the April 2022 financial report and highlighted where the building fund balance currently stands at \$195,430.96. Weekly giving average is a little lower than anticipated; given the current economic situation, it is understandable, and we are grateful for all our faithful givers! Kathy has been providing a monthly financial update in the bulletin as well as posting the reports on our website and they are available in the church app for deacons/Consistory members.

**Worship Team (update on Faith R):** Faith will be attending GRCC in the fall and is staying local. She will likely stay in her role with HCC for now.

**Outreach Team:** July 4<sup>th</sup> is our next big outreach event. Planning on the worship service in the park to follow the breakfast. There will possibly be a float in the parade with more details to come in June.

**Youth Ministry:** Senior Sunday is May 22. There are three seniors, Hopkids will be singing, and Pastor Caleb will also use the opportunity to thank all our volunteers.

## OLD BUSINESS

### **Kitchen Management**

- No update currently.

### **Policy Updates**

- **Social Media Policy** – questioned Consistory whether there are any further reflections or thoughts on this policy? Planning to hone this document a bit by August; does not need to be part of our by-laws; however, we should still vote on use of this guide. Motion made by Jim F to approve this guide to hand to all our church leaders at the beginning of the season (August meeting). Supported by Tyler V; no discussion, all in favor.

**Personnel Team** – noted by Dick B that a Personnel Team still needs to be created and developed.

## NEW BUSINESS

### **Denominational Transition**

**Special Classis Meeting** – May 24 in Kalamazoo (need 1 Elder and possibly Pastor Jon)  
This is the meeting where the Classis will vote whether to release us from the RCA.

### **For Approval:**

**Transfer Agreement** – has been signed by Kyle H.

Motion made to accept the transfer agreement by Kyle H; supported by Jim F; all in favor.

**RCA Petition Affidavit** – Kyle H will need to sign with notary (Mary Swainston).

Motion made to approve the RCA Petition Affidavit by Dan L; supported by Tyler V; all in favor.

**SWMI Classis Assessment Payout Affidavit** – motion made to accept the payout affidavit by Jim F; supported by Dick B; all in favor.

**Notice of Denominational Transfer** – Pastor Jon to post this once we are released from the RCA.  
Motion to approve the notice of denominational transfer by Kyle H; supported by Dan L; all in favor.

**Articles of Incorporation** – revision is in tonight's packet; cannot approve until we are released from the RCA; all should read this over and note Article V amendments/addendum. Pastor Jon to send this over to the ARC's legal counsel to look it over.

### **A.R.C./ The Alliance Transition:**

**Rural Church Network** – Pastor Jon to send out a link to the Consistory about this concept and ask them to do a little homework on this. There are currently six (6) networks in existence. We will need to be in a network (think: Classis) and we have about six months to figure that out.

**HUB** – can be interdenominational churches, and HCC will join a group of churches that are geographically aligned. Possibly a HUB with churches from Allegan County, etc.

**Leadership Documents** – Alliance just released these documents and HCC will need to re-sign pastoral contracts for Pastor Jon, Pastor Caleb, and Pastor Jim due to the fact once we have officially left the RCA, those pastoral contracts are considered void. We will need to review the contracts and issue new ones. Pastor Jon will send links and information on this for our June meeting.

### **Consistory Visibility on Sundays**

With a noticeable increase in new people and new faces at HCC, returning members on Sundays, etc. the question was asked how do people know who the Consistory is? How to identify those people on any given Sunday? Discussion on this led to the suggestion that the members could wear name tags on bright-colored lanyards to help them stand out, and the information on the name tag would simply be their name and role with HCC such as Elder, Deacon, Pastor. Kathy will get to work on this. A reminder was brought up that we should be looking for those new faces on Sundays and make the effort to introduce ourselves.

### **Rethinking Church**

Hold off on this discussion until our June meeting. Encourage Elders and Deacons to keep thinking on this and discussing with one another at their meetings.

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

**Meeting adjourned: 8:19 PM**

**Next Meeting: June 20, 2022 at 6:30 PM**

**Closing Prayer: Pastor Jim**

Minutes submitted by Kathy Westendorp