

**First United Methodist Church of Frankfort Kentucky**

**CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES**

**March 28, 2022**

**Call to Order** – Philip Sturgill – Chair

**Opening Prayer** – Tonya Kenner

**Reading of previous minutes & approval** – Sabrina James, Recording Secretary

Paul Mauer made a motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting, second from Emily Powell

**WORK TEAM REPORTS AND STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATES:**

• **Board of Trustee – Paul Mauer filled in for Joe Meyer**

- Repair to Wesley Center roof have been completed and performed under warranty at cost to the church.
- Gutters damaged during ice storm have been repaired.
- April 2 is the new date for the church yard clean-up day.
- Jana and Joe will be meeting with Meyer Maintenance with the expectation of renewing the contract for their services that expires March 31.
- Cat Fish Alley is still needing some sort of recording/monitoring for safety issues.
- There is an update/upgrade to the fire alarm system for Todd House. Current system has no call out to fire department in case of fire during unmanned hours. Johnson controls has provided a cost to replace panel in Todd House for approximately \$7,000. Trustees are exploring alternative options.

• **Finance Team – Holly Brunson**

- Giving is down. Lower levels of giving are common and expected this time of year but compared to the same period last year, we are down around 6%.
- The finance team is looking at ways to increase giving of its current members
- To date the church has received government support for the Wesley Day School of over \$600,000. This money, which has been given quarterly will be ending in September 2023. This does put some financial stress on the Wesley day school, however with the possibility of opening up more rooms and becoming at full capacity by that time in September 2023 the hope is we will be prepared for that.

• **Staff Parish Relations – Eric Kennedy**

- With the upcoming appointment of the new minister being presented by Eric to the church we look forward to hearing more about this new placement.
- With Jamie out due to illness Tonya Richard and Jack have done an amazing job of stepping up and filling in where it has been needed. The Staff Parish relations team would like to extend an extra thank you to those folks who have been stepping in and helping out in Jamie's absence.
- Due to the current staffing situation, the 8:30 service has been put on hold. Eric made the announcement at the service.
- It has also been acknowledged that several of the folks who have been displaced from the 830 service are now attending other services.

• **Strategic Planning - Abbie Meyer**

- The timeline for the strategic planning committee was presented to the group this evening. Philip Sturgill acknowledged the aggressiveness of this timeline but appreciated and valued everything that does need to be done in these next few months.

- Shelly Mauer spoke in length about how the committee has been trying to get surveys out to the church with a deadline of April 1 for everyone completing these. The hope is to present the data and the goals on this survey to the church in some form.
- In the meantime they are working on all the low hanging fruit (Small easy to make change task that have been presented to them) such as increasing signage and visual awareness of what our church is doing through the website as well as through visuals such as yard signs in front of the church and library and courthouse.
- Currently they had a 48% return rate on the surveys which is outstanding compared to previous years or statistical return of surveys.
- Greg Hardison asked what the plan was to reach those with a survey who are potentially not inside the walls of our church.
- But he also acknowledge the understanding that to get folks in our folks currently within the church community need to be reaching outside of that so we start within and then reach out with time.
- Philip Sturgill suggested we look inwards first and then move to others.
- Tonya Kenner said we look at the census report for the community of Frankfort and she's going to pass on that information to this planning team.
- Emily Powell suggested that we increase the quality of the experience of our current folks to have others come in and potentially share their experiences and those who have been gone for a little while maybe this is the opportunity to bring them back in.
- Tonya Kenner offered up the information that we have been in a declining time with our numbers for several years now and it hasn't been strictly the pandemic.
- Paul Mauer pointed out that we do need to work to get our members who have not been back to church since we shut our doors in 2020.