

Tualatin United Methodist Church
Ministry Team Minutes
February 5, 2024

Meeting opened at 6:00 pm with prayer by Amy. Attending were: Amy Overton-Harris, Chellie Martinazzi, Rachel Elliott, Karen Walker, Selinda Smith, Sherris Harrell, Tami Weitman and Wes Tanac. Wes served as acting chairperson. Sherris volunteered to take minutes.

SPRC – Tami reported that their next meeting will be February 26th. The committee recently had a 90-day review with Devan and all reports were excellent. He indicated that he is willing to continue in his position through the summer following his senior year (2026). In December, the committee completed a new pastoral form requesting that Amy continue to serve as pastor for another year.

Trustees – Annual smoke alarm/control panel/ Alarm horns were inspected January 10th with no problems found. Tentative projects include replacing gutters but due to high cost, a fund raiser would be needed and the project is on hold for now. A new furnace is also being considered as one of the two old Koch Hall furnaces is not working. Cost is approximately \$5,375 and furnace guy said it would be cheaper to install in late spring summer. Jason will discuss these projects with Finance and they will be discussed at next Trustee meeting. Carpets have been cleaned. Loose pews are being worked on. Lighting in upper parking lot has been increased. Trustees have completed a document with the City giving the police more authority to monitor our parking lot for those in violation of the No Trespassing Signs.

Finance – Wes reported that 2023 began with \$10,000 in reserves and an additional \$11,000 was added by year end. \$12,000 is being transferred to the 2024 budget. The 2024 budget shows \$186,982 total revenue. Included are projections from 21 pledge units and 20 regular contributors. Total expenses budgeted are \$185,425.52. Ministry team voted unanimously to accept this budget. January 2024 figures are very close to budget.

Mission – Wes reported the following for 2023:

UMCOR – Donations of \$12,688

Tualatin Schoolhouse Pantry – donations included canned food, hygiene supplies and \$876

Community Transitional School – donations included school supplies, 56 coats, scarves, hats and \$675.

Ecumenical Mission Organization - \$1,376 Afghanistan relief

Hilltop Community Garden – Fresh produce donated to Tualatin Schoolhouse Pantry on a weekly basis from April through October. \$750 has been donated to help prepare and produce this abundance.

Family Promise – Donations in 3 major ways. 12 family units in our congregation provided food for 15-20 families 8 times in 2023. 5 family units helped fill food orders at A Bridge to Home 11 times in 2023.

Donated \$1,376 for numerous Family Promise's projects.

Mission plans for 2024 include purchasing food for Family Promise and assisting at the pantry. During Lent, we will collect hygiene products and canned food for the Schoolhouse Pantry.

Garden – Will not be using the large growing areas and will not be supplying produce for Schoolhouse Pantry so are looking for new ideas. Will continue to rent boxes to individuals and anticipate that some of the large space will be converted to rentals.

Worship – Planning Ash Wednesday service. Sanctuary Arts committee reported that they will be ordering palms for Palm Sunday and spring flowers for the altar on Easter.

Other – Website remodel has hit a stumbling block. Wes will do some looking to see if he can be of any assistance. There is \$5,000 available for this remodel and the Ministry Team authorized the use of this money to assist in hiring a professional and possible to provide training for Sara on management of the website.

Larry McClure sent an email asking about plans for looking ahead and setting goals. Discussion followed on how to get congregation back to regular attendance. Comments included relevant music, theology and sustaining mission work. Other Methodist churches in our area indicate that Covid basically obliterated families and kids from attendance. Discussed reaching out to congregation with a theme such as “We are here to serve others. Come join us as we serve.” We might list the mission projects done in 2023 and ask for suggestions of other mission project ideas. Could also ask for suggestions on how to reach out to all ages in our community with a goal of bringing them to an active role in our congregation. A portion of this letter could provide space for comments with a request to send their suggestions to the church. No firm decision made at this time.

Next meeting – Monday, April 8th at 6:00 p.m.

Amy closed the meeting with prayer.

Sherrie Harrell, Secretary pro tem