

**NEW MILFORD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING
January 10, 2023
Minutes**

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 pm in the church sanctuary

Pastor Ed: Opening prayer

Steve Kolitz Steve asked that the committee chairs invite their members to the Council meetings. There were two written reports submitted for review prior to the meeting (Finance, Pastor) Reminder that the Council meetings in February and March will be held on Sundays following the church service. (February 12 and March 12). Please spread the word that we need an additional teacher in Sunday School

Pastor Ed: Pastor Ed gave the dates for all the Lenten services. The Easter Sunday services will be at 9:30am and a sunrise service at 6:30 am. A light breakfast will follow the sunrise service with Pastor Ed and Patty Dayton supplying quiche. The priority this year will be the focus on Evangelism. The committee will be meeting on January 23,2023. There are zoom training classes on Evangelism The model for our church to follow in 2023 will be "**Let us be the light that drives out the darkness in the world**". Steve Kolitz will be accompanying youth (not NMUMC) for a mission to help in Puerto Rico.

Jerry Jones: A vote by the Council is required to approve the new **Treasurer** for the Church. The new Treasurer will be **Steve Rittler** who has been on the Finance committee for 4 years. A motion was made by Jerry Jones and seconded by Pastor Ed to put this motion up for vote by the Council. The actual vote was 10 YES and 0 NO. The motion was thus unanimously approved.

The next item requiring Council approval is to update the list of check "signers" in both Union Savings Bank and Webster Bank. The accounts are for the New Milford United Methodist Church, the Education Center and the Church's Memory Garden Committee. The accounts and recommended approvers are as follows:

Union Savings Bank

**General Church Fund: Jerry Jones (Control person) Michael Hopp,
Steve Rittler , Larry Tripp**

Webster Bank

**Education Center Main Account : Jerry Jones(control person), Michael
Hopp, Steve Rittler, Larry Tripp**

Webster Bank

Memory Garden Account Patricia Jacobson(control person), Lynn Singleton

There was a motion made by Jerry Jones and seconded by Marlene Davis, to approve the list of signers for the accounts. The Council then voted on the motion and the result was 10 YES and 0 NO. The motion was passed unanimously.

Jerry Jones, Larry Tripp and Laurie Putnam from the Finance committee recently researched ways to invest our monies to better advantage. There is approximately \$154,000 from the Art Carlson bequest and 5 CDs for a total of \$200,000. After due diligence, the recommendation is to move the \$200,000 at Webster Bank into a brokered CD which currently is earning 3.25%. A motion to move this money to the brokered CD at Webster was made by Jerry Jones and seconded by Michael Hopp. The Council voted 10 YES and 0 NO and the motion was passed unanimously.

Trustees has approximately \$100,000 in an Ameriprise account and they are waiting to hear their proposal for how to better invest the money. A motion was made by Jerry Jones and seconded by Michael Hopp to approve the signers for this account as follows: **Jerry Jones(control) and Larry Tripp**. The Council vote was 10 Yes and 0 NO. Motion approved.

Jerry explained that there are two different parts to our solar program, First is the financial loan and second is a maintenance agreement. We do not own the equipment which is why the company maintains the panels.

A motion was made by Jerry Jones and seconded by Michael Hopp to use \$354,000.24 to pay off our loan for the solar project. The vote was unanimous by the Council for **approval**.

The Education Center is functioning well financially but with new facilities moving into town we are not sure what impact that may have on our Center.

The Council will discuss giving Dimchek additional monies to aid other churches. The email request for funds was distributed to Council members.

Steve Kowitz: Proposed using some of the Art Carlson money to purchase additional black hymnals. This discussion was tabled to the February meeting.

Pastor Ed: Suggestion to have a "**hymn of the month**" which is sung on all four Sundays to help the congregation learn new upbeat hymns.

Marlene Davis: Planning now for a "**Mission Sunday**" to be held in the near future.

Chris Prause: The United Methodist Men will move forward with planning for a Shrove Tuesday pancake supper. This will not be a Men's Club event but rather a church function much like the Harrybrooke Halloween event and the Fall Fair.

The Jingle Bell Run by the Children's Center of New Milford raised \$794 too assist with the cost of the Christmas tree lighting on the town green.

The boy scout troop previously chartered by the NMUMC has found a new sponsor and has signed an agreement to continue to utilize our facilities.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:34 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Harold Jacobson
(Council secretary)