

**NEW MILFORD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
**CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING**  
**October 11, 2022**  
**Minutes**

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm in the church sanctuary

**Pastor Ed** Opening prayer

**Steve Kolitz** Fall Fair wrap-up. Preliminary financial report of proceeds distributed. Some charge card issues (Vanco, Venmo, etc.) Jerry reported only 8 congregants are giving electronically. The Boy Scout troop using our church will no longer be chartered by us as the Conference has said it should no longer continue because of liability issues with the Boy Scouts of America. The scouts may continue to use our facilities by using a "facilities usage" form but will no longer be chartered by us. The Council voted unanimously to approve this change to our scouting program. At least one of the two insurance companies that insure Methodist churches has said they will drop coverage for any church which charts a scout troop. The Harrybrooke Halloween scare night is this Friday and we still need several volunteers. The following needs exist. Friday 4, Saturday 7, Friday 3, Saturday 4. The Council was asked to bring fundraising idea to the next Council meeting.

**Marlene Davis:**

As lay leader attended the annual conference meeting which was primarily financial discussion. Apportionments are determined by the amount of money paid to employees of the church not the size of the congregation. The Conference cut 2 million dollars from an 8 million dollar total budget. There is information on the Conference website explaining the budget cuts.

**Roberta Buddle:**

Nothing to report at this time.

**Chris Prause**

Problems with securing Christmas trees for sale this year. Trees on the green will be from Angevine tree farm but the cost has risen from \$25 per tree to \$60 per tree. The trees for sale come from a farm in Pennsylvania but the owner has not responded to the numerous calls made to him. Ralph Williams is trying hard to secure the trees for sale but there is no guarantee currently.

**Pat Tripp:**

Nothing to report from SPR currently. The next meeting will occur on Tuesday of next week and focus on salary adjustments and evaluations.

**Mike Hopp:**

Nothing to report currently.

**Jerry Jones:**

The \$200,000 discussed at the last meeting (\$150,000 from Art Carlson and \$50,000 from Trustees) has been placed as approved in a brokered CD at a 4.05% interest rate. The finance committee is reviewing the Ameriprise account which is currently 80% stock and 20% fixed. They will bring any decision of changing the percentage to the next Council meeting for approval. The current balance, because of the stock market, has gone from \$113,000 to \$106,000. The 2023 preliminary budget will be presented to the Council at their next meeting and then to the Charge Conference on November 13, 2022. There will also be a presentation to the congregation after the December 4, 2022 service.

The Education Center will be contributing to the church's finances but with new child care companies entering New Milford we are not sure how well this will continue.

**Terri Hudak**

Sunday school is doing well and has an average of 6-8 children each Sunday. The children respond well to the stories in the program. Will see about interest in the children playing bells (chimes). Possibly more children can be involved when the parish concept is underway.

**Val Kowitz:**

Evangelism meeting will be held soon.

**Marlene Davis:**

The programs under the missions committee are still operating well. These include the Food Barn, Days for Girls, Hands and Feet, Mozambique among others. A Missions Sunday is being planned, and possibly held after Sunday service with a potluck lunch. The missions committee will decide on whether they will offer items for sale in Advent.

**Pastor Ed:**

Pastor Ed wrote his monthly report to the Council, but it was not received prior to the meeting. It will be included with the draft minutes for the Council to review.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:26 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Harold Jacobson  
(Council secretary)