

NEW MILFORD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING
August 8, 2023
Minutes

The Church Council meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm in the church sanctuary.

Pastor Ed: Prayer

Steve Kolitz

Continued discussion regarding fund raising activities. No one volunteered to act as the coordinator for the Fall Fair, thus it is not being planned. Other possible activities might include a tag sale, Christmas cookie sale, Bread and Soup sale, or crafts.

Pastor Ed:

Will provide a recap of the **annual** conference at a service soon. The **Church** conference will be held on September 24, 2023, and reports from the following committees are required for that conference: Trustees, SPRRC, Finance, Nominations. The meeting will be held in conjunction with the churches in our Parish. This year there will be **ONE** parish not two as was the case last year.

Marlene Davis

The Hands and Feet project is the only mission still to be presented to the congregation. Inquired if the Ed Center was doing exit interviews now and was told they had done 2. Inquired if the 7th Day Adventists have a new contract with the church yet. They do and there needs to be a two way connection to schedule events.

Jerry Jones:

The church is very near its projected budget for FY 23. We continue to contribute to a "major maintenance" fund which now has \$41,000. This seems like a lot but is actually small since the new parking lot paving was estimated at about \$120,000.

The electricity from the solar panels is less than anticipated. We now generate 8 or 9 months of electric credits but pay for electricity for 3 or 4 months.

The Ed Center director resigned effective September 24, 2023 and is moving away. SPR is currently doing a search for a new director and experience as a preschool director is mandatory. Nicole Mailman, the current assistant director, is filling in until a new director is found. Staff are all aware and parents of the children will receive a letter tomorrow advising them of the change.

Mike Hopp:

No calls have been returned from Christmas tree growers, consequently, there will be no sale of trees again this year. Next year may be a possibility.

The church now has a new HVAC contract and will handle all the maintenance needs for the church and Education Center.

Zack Caldwell has completed about 75% of the new trail near the Chapel in the Pines. He will ask for more help from other scouts to complete the project.

Some have complained of issues with the door locks, but all seem to be functioning properly.

Let Trustees know of any issues that need to be addressed.

The new clothes bin located near the Chapel in the Pines netted the church \$58 the first month and \$14 last month.

There was a zoom meeting with the District Superintendent and the Conference Trustees regarding the cell tower. We have letters of support from the mayor and others, however they are asking for more information first. Verizon completed a 600 page site survey and continues to work with us. The estimated payment to the church is \$30,000 annually.

Chris Prause:

The United Methodist Men will not be meeting until September. The kickoff meeting will be held at the home of Harold Jacobson.

Pat Tripp

Nothing to report

Marlene Davis

Nothing to report

Martha McMahon

Pastor Ed's sabbatical will be for the month of September.

Steve Rittler:

Thanked Jerry Jones for all his work as the financial committee chairman and the great preparation for their last Finance meeting.

Terri Hudak

Will have a picnic at her home for Sunday school children and their parents and grandparents on Saturday August 26th.

Val Kolitz:

There will be family game nights coming soon. A Blessing of the Animals is to occur in October. A book club or knitting club are possibilities for the future.

Mary Prause

Nothing to report

Doreen Shea

Continues to make home visits and calls and send birthday cards to congregants.

Pastor Ed:

There will be a cookout after the final Chapel in the Pines service on August 27. The Men's Club will cook hamburgers and hot dogs and congregants are asked to bring a side dish. Rally Day for the church will be held on September 3, 2023.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:14 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Harold Jacobson
(Council secretary)