

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES (On Zoom + in person)
May 1, 2023

Members present: **Rev. Ruth Merriam, Dwight Cooper (chairperson), Gene Anastasio, Kitty Cogley, Patsy Tessier, Judy Meserve, Vicki Record, Phil Garwood, Pam Mitchel, Rusty Greenleaf, and Sandy Batten**

Joys and Concerns were shared.

The Secretary's report from March 27, 2023, was approved as presented.

Ministry Reports:

Sunday School: No report

Trustees: At their last meeting the Trustee Committee met with their financial planner. Overall, the church finances are in good shape. The front left pew has been removed creating more space up front which has been very helpful. There was a letter received from the estate of Lois Church advising that a \$5,000 bequest had been made. (Per Gene, these funds have been received and placed in the Memorial account). Rusty received a call from a neighbor of the church complaining (again) about the leaves and debris on his property. The church is not at fault. There has been no update from Verizon.

Lay Leader / Staff Parish Relations Committee: The announcement has been that the new pastor for the River Churches will be Angela Rotherham, currently serving Wayne United Methodist Church. Patsy attended a transition workshop Saturday and would like to get a group together to help with the transition in July. News of the assistant leader will be announced by DS Tully tomorrow, 5/2.

Stewardship & Finance: There was no meeting in April. The May Basket fundraiser raised \$811. Our thanks to Jaye, Patti, and Paula for coordinating.

Worship Committee: On May 7th Pastor Ruth will be doing two different sermons for HAUMC and Randolph UMC.
On 5/14 there will be a Mother's Day sermon with Cindy Malcolm
5/21 HAUMC will have a congregants choice sermon.
5/29 is Pentecost – please wear red.
6/4 will be observed as Memorial Sunday
6/11 will be the baptism of Addie Chadbourne. This will be Ruth's last sermon at HAUMC.
6/18 will feature Dick doing a Father's Day sermon.
6/25 TBD

UM Women/ United Women in Faith: The planned potluck supper scheduled for 4/24 was cancelled. It will be rescheduled.

UM Men: There was no meeting in April, the next meeting will be held 5/13 at 8am at Dave's Diner.

Caring Team: The team continues to reach out to members of the church. On 5/9 a group will revisit the Alzheimer Unit in Gardiner. Their mission for April was the Chrysalis Place and \$995 was collected. They also continue to send out cards and make calls. The mission for May is Camp Mechawana.

Pastor's Report: Ruth has spoken with the new Rivers Churches pastor, Reverend Angela Rotherham. She is looking forward to the change. Ruth believes she is a good administrator. Rev. Rotherman will live in the Green Street parsonage. This will be a two-year commitment.

Community Suppers: Deferred to Old Business

Financial Reports

Gene reported there was \$14,200 in the General Fund to start the year. There is currently \$14,400 in the General Fund.

Benevolence: There is \$1,385.52 in the Benevolence Fund.

Old Business:

Community Suppers This discussion was a continuation from the last meeting. In March, Kay, Jaye, Patti, and Darleen were helping at the supper and there was an incident that upset the workers. Pam was unaware of any current problems at the suppers. She stated the suppers started through the GAMA and the Disciple Bible studies in 2005 or 2006. Initially, the suppers were only held on the 4th Sunday of every month (when food stamps ran out). They were intended for those people who were food insecure, but open to everyone. There were large numbers of people attending at first, but then the numbers dwindled, especially during COVID. Now there are between 5/6 people to 15 with more takeouts. Pam believes the unpleasant incidences are few and far between. The suppers are still filling a need in the community. If HAUMC decided to withdraw from doing the suppers, it was place a burden on the other participating churches.

** Ruth will bring this subject up for discussion at the next GAMA meeting.

Deferred until next Admin Council meeting.

New Business:

- 1. Emergency Planning Committee:** This committee was formed to discuss gun safety. DS Tully suggested the committee include representatives from all the River Churches. Phil would like to keep meeting until the new committee gets organized.
- 2. New Faces in church:** Pastor Ruth asked about the new faces seen in worship. Committee members responded some were old members returning, but a few were new.
- 3. Chrysalis Place:** Gene suggested, in addition to the \$925 collected for the April Caring, an additional \$575 be added to that amount for a total of \$1500 to be donated

*A motion was made, seconded, and approved to donate \$1500 from the General Fund to the Chrysalis Place.

Next meeting tentatively scheduled for May 22, 2023, at 6:30pm