

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF SAN DIEGO

CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

May 12, 2018

Members Present: Dana Hook, Brooke Collins, Simon Mayeski, Jason Tucker, Courtenay Pearson, Lynn Caruso, Les Smith, Kristina Ormond, Jean Service, Rick Snyder, Ryan Reppe, Lynette Williamson, Bill Joyce, John Hermann, Karl Backus, Linda Hawk.

Non-members Present: Rev. Craig Brown, Rev. Dr. John Fanestil, Rev. Melissa Spence, Bill Stephenson, Sandy Whitaker, Holly Watt, Phillip Matlon, Suja Wong, Bonnie Schwartz, Chris Murphy, Stephanie Scroggins, Troy Hebblethwaite, Lembi Saarmann.

Meeting Called to order 8:20am

Devotional & Opening Prayer – Rev. Craig Brown

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the Feb meeting were distributed for review. Ryan Reppe motioned for approval with corrections, Jason Tucker seconded, it was voted and approved.

DreamScape 2020 Planning – Dana Hook

Congregational Input – Rev. Spence shared positive response from seven sharing circles. Lynn shared additions made by the leadership meeting. Rev. Spence shared about the document recording suggestions about living out the dreamscape. Ryan Reppe motioned to approve the Dreamscape 2020 document, Lynn Caruso seconded. Karl motioned to amend the first bullet under compassion to put a period after “congregational care” and remove the rest of the sentence so it will now read: “Create a robust culture of congregational care.” Brooke Collins seconded, it was discussed, voted, and approved with two opposed. The motion to approve the Dreamscape 2020 document with amendment was voted and approved with one opposed.

Action by Council of Bishops & “A Way Forward” – Rev. Brown

Rev. Brown shared about the recommendations of the council of bishops. Courtenay Pearson motioned that the Council vote to support full inclusion including same-sex marriage at First Church of San Diego, as one of the first steps in phasing in a strategic initiative and a goal of “worship, devotion, compassion, and justice”, Ryan Reppe seconded. After discussion, Ryan Reppe motioned to amend the original motion to include “United Methodist”, Jason Tucker seconded, it was voted and approved. Lynn Caruso motioned to include “and welcoming pastors and pastoral candidates regardless of sexual orientation or gender presentation”, Kristina Ormond seconded, it was voted and approved. The amended motion is that the Council vote to support full inclusion, including same-sex marriage and welcoming pastors and pastoral candidates regardless of sexual orientation or gender presentation at First United Methodist Church of San Diego as one of the first steps in phasing in a strategic initiative and a goal of “worship, devotion, compassion, and justice”. It was voted and approved with one abstention.

Revision to Guiding Principles – Rev. Dr. Fanestil

Rev. Dr. Fanestil recommended changes to the First Church Guiding Principles Document to bring it into alignment with the DreamScape 2020 document if the Church Conference votes to approve the DreamScape 2020 document. Council discussed and recommended additional edits and changes. Ryan Reppe motioned to approve the revised Guiding Principles Document to bring before the Church Conference, Jean Service seconded, it was voted and approved.

Bridging the Gap Campaign – Rick Snyder & Jason Tucker

Jason reported that the campaign has brought in 121 gifts totaling \$78,376 so far.

Ocean Beach & Water's Edge Progress – Simon Mayeski

Several events and regular activities are happening. Children's ministry is evolving. Ministries include Rachel's House, clothing for vets, a clean San Diego, and small groups. Grand Opening on March 18th went very well drawing approx. 120 people for worship and a meal. Looking into being a Shalom Zone with the leadership of member Michael Christiansen.

Administrative Updates

Pastor-Parish Relations Committee – Dana Hook for Craig Wollitz Reported that in their last meeting Rev. Brown announced his departure and the District Superintendent Rev. Farley was in attendance to guide the committee in discussion. A final decision on the organist will be made by May 23rd.

Finance Committee – Chairperson Rick Snyder that the budget is coming into alignment, but realistically this is only because of the added income of the bridging of the gap campaign.

Trustees – Chairperson Jean Service reported that the chain gang is averaging 44 hours a week saving the church on maintenance costs. A chain gang for the OB campus is starting. Electric carts for shuttling people from the lower parking lots up to the upper level buildings is being tested.

Future Meeting Dates –

***SUNDAY, JUNE 10th, 2018 – 12:00pm
ALL CHURCH CONFERENCE

Saturday, Sep 15th, 2018 – 8:00-12:00pm
Saturday, Dec 1st, 2018 – 8:00-12:00pm

New Business –

- Rev. Dr. Fanestil asked that the council think relationally and encourage conversation about the council's decision regarding full inclusion instead of solely referring congregants to the pastors.
- Les Smith recommended that the agenda and minutes regarding the water's edge ocean beach updates be renamed "Campus Updates".

Closed in prayer and Adjourned at 11:25am

Respectfully Submitted, Brooke Collins, Secretary