

Governing Council Meeting Summary – May 21, 2018

The Governing Council met on Monday, May 21, 2018 in the Fellowship Hall, with the following members present: Nick Cecava (Chair), Carolyn Scheible (Lay Leader), April Shaffer (Secretary), Robin Orchard, Sonya Durrwachter, Dennis DeReese, Mick Machen, Judy Macek, Chad Burkhart, Geno Sharp, Kelly Whatley, and Pastor Jason Fry (Senior Pastor). Also present was Pastor Rebekah Rochte (Associate Pastor). Here is a summary of the meeting (minutes are posted online).

After a devotional on “Breakthrough Prayer” by Pastor Jason, the members of the Council spent approximately 15 minutes “prayer walking” throughout the buildings. Minutes of the February 3rd and April 29 (called) meetings were reviewed and approved. The Council received an update of the Teen Parent Daycare proposal and timeline along with a draft agreement. This is a project still in development. The Council reviewed the budget report and update on Trustee issues, and went into Executive Session for a staff update.

The Governing Council then finalized the Guiding Principles of our new simplified structure developed at the February meeting and approved them (The entire document can be found online at ccgrace.org under Governing Council). The main focus of this meeting was to refine the Mission, Vision and Goals. The adopted mission statement is a variation of the mission statement of the United Methodist Church, based on Jesus’ Great Commission in Matthew 28:18-20: *“Grace United Methodist Church exists for this purpose: to **make new disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.**”*

The vision statement adopted is:

*“We will pursue this mission strategically by envisioning Grace UMC as ‘**A Place to Connect**’: **Connect with God** through passionate, transformative worship, and intentional discipleship efforts that help people grow in their faith journey as followers of Jesus Christ; **Connect with each other** not only through worship, but also through small group communities in which people support and help each other as they encounter Christ, grow as disciples, and discover how God is calling them to serve and share their faith with others. **Connect with the world** through compassionate service and faith-sharing ministries in our surrounding community and the farthest reaches of the world.*

The 2018 Goals are clustered around these three movements of the vision:

Connect with God: *inaugurate a prayer ministry, develop an intentional discipleship pathway.*

Connect with Each Other: *Increase the number of small groups, increase the percentage of worshippers connected to small groups by 5%, increase the percentage of worshippers involved in hands-on ministry by 5%.*

Connect with the World: *Increase the percentage of worshipers participating in mission/outreach projects or trips by 5%.*

The next meeting of the Governing Council will be on Saturday, August 11 at 8:30 am (tentative start time). The pastors are working on a congregational survey to be distributed and completed sometime prior to this meeting. The Governing Council will review the results and consider a presentation of data and information about Grace’s surrounding community.