

**Montrose United Methodist Church
Church Council Meeting
October 27, 2025 at 5:15 PM
In Person and Zoom**

Members Present

Roberta Crabtree	Kevin Young
Krista Drake	Nancy Johnson
Janet Carey	Mckenzie Moore
Gary Preslan	John Pavlich
Susan Fortino	Steve Gray
Connie Pittenger	Neil Platzer
Annie Hauck	Kevin Meiners

Annie Hauck opened with a devotion.

Budget Update, Connie Pittenger: Of the \$42,000 received by the church in October, only \$25,600 is for the Operating Budget. Church Renovation funds were \$8,900 while the Unhoused Outreach received close to \$4,000. Other line items received the remaining funds. The church needs approximately \$40,000 each month in the Operating Budget to fully fund the current budget.

Role of Church Council, Krista Drake: According to the UMC, Church Council should be responsible for planning, implementing, and evaluating the church's mission. The three keywords they use are nurture, outreach, and witness – may be helpful for understanding Church Council's role moving forward.

In the last year, sometimes church staff members made decisions and it felt like the cart went before the horse. Church Council should hold our positions sacred on behalf of the church. We're not opposed to fundraising, as it's more likely that the church will be held accountable for court costs and thus the urgency to raise funds. However, Church Council should be the one to make those decisions, and they're all available via Zoom or email any time. Major decisions should go before Church Council, and they just need to be in the mix.

It was suggested to have a meeting with the congregation this coming Sunday to update everyone on the legal situation and fundraising efforts, as well as to assure everyone that legal expenses do not come out of the church's operating budget. John Pavlich emphasized that we need a more structured way of moving forward and identify specific steps.

Financial Update, Kevin Meiners: No change from last year's salary for Rev. Kevin. He made a motion to approve: \$50,898 pastor compensation, and \$113,891.60 total including housing, benefits, etc. Connie Pittenger seconded. The motion passed and moves to church conference on November 10 at 6 p.m. in Baldrige Hall, presented by SPR.

Annie Hauck: She received an email from a church member about a confrontation with an unhoused individual outside of the church. Rev. Kevin said we need more information, we're not sure who he was or what he did, so it's difficult to confront him without details. Roberta Crabtree agreed that there was a need to go out and check before making a report. All church members need to be aware of exits, the location of panic buttons throughout the church, and maybe the church should invite someone in to do a brief safety training.

Rev. Kevin provided an update on personnel and chair nominations. We still don't have any nominations for Lay Leader or Finance Chair, so if anyone has any ideas, let him know.

Nancy Johnson provided a facilities update, saying that solar powered motion lights have been installed on the vinyl fence and trees have been trimmed up.

The meeting closed in prayer.