

**WESLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
**ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MINUTES**  
**April 17, 2006**

The Wesley United Methodist Church Administrative Council met Monday, April 17, 2006 in the Education Building lounge. The meeting was called to order by Nick Strobel, Council Chair, at 5:30 p.m. Nick opened the meeting with a prayer. The March minutes were approved with two corrections. (1) Second page, "May 6 Retreat" item, second sentence: A couple of purposes of the retreat were discussed: explore ways to get more people involved with doing both Christian education and worship and how to serve the needs of the families in terms of worship service and Sunday School. (2) Back page, "Finance" item: insert between second and third sentences: Of those 88 who pledged, there was about a \$30,000 increase from last year. Donna Adams motioned that the minutes be approved, Stella Rous seconded, and there was unanimous approval.

Administrative Council members present: Donna Adams, Marv Davisson, Freda Hamilton, Jean Ann Lansche, James Lipford, Phil Maxwell, Anna Murillo, Stella Rous, Nick Strobel. Council visitors: Jennifer Armantrout, Sherrie Atkins, Julia Maxwell.

**Priority Items:**

Report on Pastor Kimberly's progress from surgery: Pastor Kimberly reported that it is great to be back. If she is not at the church, people will find her at home as she continues to recover. She may not be able to make a lot of meetings for the next six weeks as she continues to regain strength. There have been good reports from the physical therapist and doctor. She goes to physical therapy twice a week. The brace has caused mechanical problems with walking and pain, but the pain is not from the surgery or joints.

April 30 Bells Concert: Sherry Atkins explained that the concert will be at 7:00 p.m. and is a benefit to raise money for the Bell Festival in San Francisco. There will be articles in the Outlook for promotion. There will be duets and trios, and Heidi Mensink will be there to play with the group and perform an organ solo.

May Retreat: Nick Strobel updated the plans for the May 20 retreat to be held from 9 to 12 noon at Jean Ann Lansche's home. It will include the Education, Membership/Evangelism and Worship committee members and other interested persons. Sunday School parents will be invited. The purpose is for the committees to review if they are serving the needs of families in worship and education and how services may be improved. Anne Scott will be asked to contact the Sunday School parents.

New Plants Funding: Freda Hamilton, Landscape Chair, said that "she never ceases to be amazed" regarding the donations for buying lilites for Easter Sunday and that she collected \$315 for shrubs and mulch. With this amount she was able to buy more than the 12 shrubs originally planned.

Endowment Committee Proposal: Marvin Davisson, Endowment Committee member, informed the council that this committee has been meeting and discussing how to

encourage members to give. The United Methodist Foundation has advised that \$4,000 to \$10,000 needs to be raised so that a fund earning good interest rates may be established through the Foundation. Phil Maxwell moved that the Endowment Committee begin a campaign to raise \$6,000; this was seconded by Anna Murillo and unanimously approved. The purpose of the Endowment Fund will be explained periodically during the year.

**Major Discussion Item:** No item to be discussed.

**Follow Up on Past Priority Items:**

Dinner/Auction Results: Julia Maxwell reported that the auction grossed a little over \$11,000. Expenses were \$1,587 with the net a little less than \$9,500. This was less than last year's income, and discussion was held regarding suggestions for next year. It was noted that 108 persons attended, using 14 tables, and this is the maximum that can be served in The Gathering Place space. All of the persons attending were church members or friends. Julia said that the auction items needed to be upscaled to attract higher bids. One of the surprise items was the book about Buck Owens that went for \$75. It was suggested that people be surveyed to find out what they would bid for at the auction.

Lent, Easter Week Activities: Anna Murillo, Worship chair, said that all services were held, and it was a very special Holy Week. John Rous and Stan Moore have said that they will no longer be able to get the small tree fronds for Palm Sunday so a new source will need to be found. The youth were great at the Good Friday Service and will repeat their performance at a future service. The Easter Sunday decorations and lilies were beautiful, and the brunch that was served outside was very good. It was recommended that the Worship Committee draw in more people to help next year.

March 27 Initiative Forum: Phil Maxwell, Missions chair, gave a summary of the March 27 Initiative Forum that was held at Wesley. There were only the Maxwells, Scotts, and two others who attended. There were representatives from the Cultural Relationship Institute and the Kern Taxpayers Association. If passed, the initiative would tax smokers an additional \$2.60 a pack over the current 80 cents. The money first would go to pay the First Five program the dollars that it would be losing if the initiative passed. One billion would go to emergency rooms for pay for costs, 300 million would go for medical care for poor children, and other monies would go for such items as cancer research. It would be administered by the Department of Health. Phil stated that members may circulate petitions as individuals but that there appears to be little interest in the church officially adopting this as a project. Pastor Kimberly has copies of the initiative and petitions

**Committee Reports:**

Education: Stella Rous, Education Committee Co-Chair, reported that the One Room Sunday School curriculum materials will be used again this summer. Adult classes are winding down. Margaret Grant and Anne Scott are doing a good job of carrying over from Sunday School to church with the children learning the songs and Lord's Prayer, etc.

Endowment Fund: Report already given.

Finance: Phil Maxwell pointed out that in the monthly report the line 200 under Other General for \$5,699 was a refund from conference that Terry Gonzales had paid twice. Currently, we have more income than expenses.

Membership/Evangelism: No report

Memorials: Donna Adams, Memorials chair, said that there has been no action. There is \$20,000 in the building memorials fund for a music room and \$7,400 in general. There was some discussion that the Worship Committee may approach the Memorials Committee for funds to add visual displays.

Missions/Social Concerns: Report already given.

Staff Parish: The committee currently is without a chair, and the Nominations Committee will be searching for one. Internal staff evaluations are running late, however, the pastor evaluation was done in Dec/Jan. It has been the practice to apply the cost of living increases received from District in the pay raises.

Trustees: Pastor Kimberly reported for Larry Lonsinger. The parsonage has rats, and an exterminator has been called. The original roof still is on the parsonage and needs repair along with the patio. This can be done for \$11,000. While the roof is being repaired, Pastor Kimberly will need to live elsewhere. Larry has contacted San Joaquin Bank about a possible loan on the parsonage, appraised at between \$340,000 and \$360,000. An \$11,000 loan at 9.75 over five years would be \$232.37 a month and over 10 years would be \$143.85 per month. The Methodist church has a credit union so Pastor Kimberly will check into that for a loan rate. Other possibilities include an internal loan with church members, borrowing from the Memorials Building fund, and checking with First United Methodist Church to see if they would loan the money.

United Methodist Women: Jennifer Armantrout, reporting for UMW, said that three members went to a retreat at Echo north of Oakhurst, and Jennifer presented information at the last UMW meeting.

Web Site: Nick Strobel, Webmaster, said that Wesley is still listed first for a UMC in Bakersfield. The Sunday sermons are in the archives along with other neat things.

Worship: Anna Murillo, Worship chair, reported that the committee had not met but their next meeting will be May 1. They need to find a new source for altar flowers. They will contact the people who did the flowers for the auction. They are looking into a video display that will incorporate graphics and play DVDs that have been received but cannot be shown because the church doesn't have the equipment. There was a \$4,000 donation last year and a \$6,000 donation this year. These could be used to record sermons for shut-ins. Nick and Scott Pipkin will follow up.

The meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will be May 15, 2006.  
Submitted by: Jean Ann Lansche

