

**WESLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
**ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MINUTES**  
**April 21, 2009**

The Wesley United Methodist Church Administrative Council met Tuesday, April 21, 2009 in the Education Building lounge. Nick Strobel, Council Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Pastor Pam Fine opened the meeting with a prayer. The minutes of the March 2009 meeting were reviewed and two corrections were made: The recorders disbanded after Easter Sunday and will not play during Music Sunday, May 17; and Re Think the Church is an outreach program and not a membership program. The minutes then were unanimously approved.

Administrative Council members present: Louise Clay, Pam Fine, Freda Hamilton, Barbara Knowlton, James Lipford, Jerry Ludeke, Gay Lynne Natho, Diane O'Dell, Anne Scott, David Scott, Ruth Shivers, Nick Strobel.

**Major Discussion Item:**

Food Ministry:

Wednesday Night Dinners: Pastor Pam reported that the first Wednesday night dinner was held last Wednesday, April 15. Approximately 60 people attended, and everything went smoothly. The good will offering of \$118 paid all the bills. This Wednesday Louise Clay will chair the dinner, and macaroni and cheese will be served.

Angel Food Ministry: James Lipford showed a video describing the Angel Food Ministry. He explained that Wesley would be a host site, picking up food from Compassion Christian Church which is the distribution center. He explained that Wesley would need volunteers in the office to take orders during the first part of each month. Various concerns such as the problem of the frozen food thawing in the heat, setting up a phone extension for the program and setting up a computer were discussed. James agreed to coordinate the establishment of the program at Wesley. Pastor Pam said that Jerry Smith has volunteered to use his truck to transport the food each month. Anne Scott said she would be a liaison to the high schools to get student volunteers who could do this as part of their service project commitments. Anne Scott moved, and Louise Clay seconded the motion to go ahead with the application process to become a host church for the Angel Food Ministry. The motion was unanimously approved.

**Priority Discussion Items:**

Tuesday Brown Bag Lunches With Pastor: Pastor Pam said that she plans to hold Tuesday brown bag lunches for the next four weeks. The purpose is to bring people together to talk about what is going on in the world and in their lives. This will serve as a stimulus for her development of sermons.

New People Get Together With Pastor: Pastor Pam explained that she plans to meet

monthly following Sunday worship with new church attendees. This will give people an opportunity to ask questions about Wesley, get acquainted with Pastor Pam and tour the campus. Finger foods will be provided.

Sunday, April 26, Education Recognition: Pastor Pam explained that Sunday, April 26, will be Education Recognition Sunday. High school graduating seniors will be recognized, third grade children and above will receive Bibles, the Sunday School teachers will be recognized, and Jean Ann Lansche will be honored for her many years of work with the children. Jean Ann will be moving from Bakersfield.

Sunday, May 3, Lunch: Anne Scott, Administrative Coordinator, described the Sunday, May 3, lunch planned to raise money to support missionary Katherine Parker. Cambodian scarves will be sold, and a free will offering will be taken. A total of \$800 needs to be raised to complete Wesley's 2009 covenant commitment for Katherine.

May 9-10 30 Hour Famine Retreat: Pastor Pam reported that it is doubtful that the 30 hour famine retreat for youth will be held. With the four Hanel youth no longer in the church, there are few youth who might attend and none have shown interest.

June 6-7 Youth Choir Visit: Pastor Pam and Anne Scott reported that a youth choir from Albany Georgia United Methodist Church will perform during the June 7 worship service. Housing will be needed Saturday, June 6. A sign up list for volunteers to house the choir members and chaperones will be posted.

### **Follow Up on Past Priority Items**

Easter Activities: It was reported that the Easter egg brunch and hunt both went well, and all the eggs were found.

### **Committee Reports:**

#### Education:

Sunday School: Anne Scott explained that the 9 a.m. Sunday School will end May 17. The narthex program will use the One Room Sunday School materials during the summer.

Adult Studies: Pastor Pam is teaching the third segment of Living the Questions on Wednesday night in the Education Building lounge.

Finance: David Scott, Finance chair, reported that pledges are current, and the church finances are currently balanced.

Membership: Louise Clay, Membership co-chair, reported that the committee will meet Thursday to work on revising the church brochure and making the narthex more inviting.

Memorials: Pastor Pam reported that the Memorials committee has approved buying nine round tables for use in The Gathering Place.

Missions/Social Concerns: Report already given.

Staff Parish: Jerry Ludeke, Staff Parish chair, said that the committee will meet Thursday. She reported that choir director Margaret Grant has announced that she will be taking a sabbatical, and the church will need to find a replacement for her.

Trustees: Pastor Pam explained that the Kern Extension Society will meet next Monday, and Wesley's request for a \$15,500 air conditioning grant for The Gathering Place will be on the agenda.

United Methodist Women: Barbara Knowlton, UMW president, announced that the UMW May 21 general meeting will have as speaker the new Salvation Army co-major Carole Abella. Everyone is invited to the salad lunch to hear Major Abella.

Web Site: Nick Strobel, web master, reported that he has added sermons by Pastor Pam and David Atkins to the website.

Worship: Report already given

Pastor's Report: Pastor Pam reviewed her activities since the last meeting. She said that there currently is much movement within Wesley and cited as examples, the recorders disbanding, Margaret Grant stepping down as choir director, Jean Ann Lansche moving away, the Hanel family changing churches, Donnel Lester leaving the Stephen Ministers, the Wednesday night dinners starting and the approval to go forward with the Angel Food Ministry. She asked: Is God's spirit moving within Wesley? Do we want to re-look at how we do church? Pastor Pam said that it is important not to take this movement for granted. She believes that it is time for serious introspection as to how Wesley should move. Pastor Pam ended her report with a prayer.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Submitted by: Anne Scott

The next Administrative Council meeting will be May 19, 2009.