

**WESLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MINUTES  
August 15, 2005**

The Wesley United Methodist Church Administrative Council met Monday, August 15, 2005 in the Education Building lounge. The meeting was called to order by Nick Strobel, Council Chair, at 5:30 p.m. Strobel explained the time changes in the agenda, providing time allocations for each item. Pastor Kimberly Willis opened the meeting with prayer. The May 16, 2005 minutes were unanimously approved.

Present: Donna Adams, Pat Carter, Caroline Close, Freda Hamilton, Jean Ann Lansche, Tom Larwood, Ana Lester, James Lipford, Marlene Lipford, Larry Lonsinger, Jerry Ludeke, Phil Maxwell, Gia Murillo, Anna Murillo, Bob Pickard, Dwight Reynolds, Stella Rous, Anne Scott, David Scott, Nick Strobel, Kimberly Willis.

**Priority Items:**

Fall Worship Service Time: Anna Murillo, Worship Chair, reported that the Worship Committee unanimously recommended that one worship service be continued through the year. The Sunday School would be held 9 to 10:15 a.m., and the worship service would be at 10:30 a.m. She gave reasons for this recommendation that included: Pastor Kimberly will be out of the pulpit because of surgery and this will make it easier to obtain guest preachers; it will enable Pastor Kimberly to teach classes during the Sunday School hour; it combines two small groups of worshipers into one large congregation; it will encourage all people to attend the Sunday church lunches; and it will foster greater fellowship and friendships as people from the two services get to know each other. A motion that Wesley offer one Sunday worship service at 10:30 a.m. for the next year was moved by David Scott, seconded by Freda Hamilton and unanimously approved. It was agreed that Administrative Council will review the item in a year. The one service and new time will be publicized in the Outlook and through the Telephone Tree callers.

Pastor Arrangements for Post Surgery: Pastor Kimberly explained that everything is arranged for her surgery and for the weeks following. The replacement pastors/speakers are as follows: Aug. 28, Pat Carter and David Scott reporting on Annual Conference; Sept. 4, David Atkins; Sept. 11, Nick Strobel; Sept. 18, Gabriela Perla; Sept. 25, the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Service, Vickie Healy; Oct 2, Pastor Kimberly returns to the pulpit. She explained that Pastor Madi Elsea from Trinity UMC will be on call, and the Stephen Ministers will assist with hospital and home visits. Barbara Knowlton and Anne Scott will coordinate post surgery food and other support for Pastor Kimberly.

Vacation Church School: Anne Scott, Administrative Coordinator, reported that Vacation Church School began today with 59 children enrolled. This is a joint project with Trinity UMC. There are approximately 25 adults helping and everything ran smoothly. David Hanley came with his white cockatoo and some insects. Wednesday the children will go to CALM, and carpools have been arranged to transport them. Because the staff wrote the curriculum and food has been donated, costs are under the \$650 amount that was budgeted.

Sunday School: Anne Scott said that all of the teachers from last year are returning to teach Sunday School. She is reorganizing the classes as follows: 2 and 3 years; 4 years and kindergarten; 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grades; 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grades; 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades. She will meet with the senior high students to determine what type of class they would like. The reorganization is because there are very few or no 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students. Last spring there were Sundays when teachers had no students. She does not want that to happen this year. Cokesbury has provided free United Methodist curricula for each class this fall. Using United Methodist curricula is a goal of the Education Committee, and teachers will combine the curricula with activities that they want to continue. The children will meet for worship in Room 4.

Adult Sunday School Classes: Stella Rous, Education Committee Co-Chair, said that the Education Committee hoped to offer three adult classes at a time. The classes would be four to six weeks in length. She said that the committee members are contacting people to see if they would teach/lead a class, and the classes will be publicized through the Outlook.

Disciple Studies: Caroline Close and David Scott reported that they will serve as coordinators for the Wednesday night study group. The curriculum this year will be Christian Believers, a study of church doctrines and history and how they relate to scripture. Sept. 7 will be an orientation meeting, and the actual class begins Sept. 14. Size will be limited to 13 participants. Caroline said that she would like to see a Disciple 1 class started. It was pointed out that there are now short term Disciple classes that could be offered.

Thursday Morning Study: Stella Rous explained that the Thursday Morning Study Group will resume when its leader Barbara Dethlefsen returns in late September.

50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration: Anne Scott said that there will be a 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Committee meeting Sunday, August 28, following the worship service. Prior to that day she will contact each of the chairs and review their progress. Purpose of the meeting will be to share what is happening and answer any questions or concerns.

Need for Bazaar Chair: Sharon Woods, Finance Chair, said that there is no bazaar chair to date but that she will begin contacting people.

### **Major Discussion Items:**

The June Council Retreat: Nick Strobel, Administrative Council Chair, presented a written report from the June council retreat. There were 10 council members present. They discussed why they originally came to Wesley and why they continue to come. They listed nurture, outreach and witness activities that Wesley does and then listed wishes that they had regarding Wesley's future activities. They selected three items for council discussion: discontinuing the fireworks fundraiser after July 2005; discontinuing or moving the date of the Celebration Dinner and how to lighten the November/December heavy schedule of church activities.

2005-06 Church Calendar: Because the retreat discussion items involved the 2005-06 calendar, a draft of the calendar was presented. After discussion, it was agreed that the Celebration Dinner would not be held this year as it would be anti-climatic after the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration weekend in September. The Celebration Dinner is organized by the Finance Committee, and Sharon Woods said she would discuss with the committee what they wanted to recommend for future years. Having the Greening of the Church occur during the worship service was proposed by Pastor Kimberly and referred to the worship committee which sponsors that event. Council members will review the calendar and come to the September meeting prepared to discuss and adopt a calendar for the 2005-06 year.

Fireworks Booth: There was considerable discussion about whether or not to continue to sell fireworks as a church fundraiser. Bob Pickard, fireworks chair, explained why he believes it is a good fundraiser that can be completed in four days. It was agreed that it was a good fundraiser, but concerns were voiced about the ethics of a church promoting fireworks. The dangers of fireworks were described. Bob explained that this month he must reserve a spot for next year by buying a license. It was agreed that he should go ahead and buy the license which gives Wesley the right to sell. Council members asked for more time to reflect on whether or not Wesley should have a booth. Pat Carter moved, Caroline Close seconded and it was unanimously approved that the issue be tabled until the September meeting.

**Follow Up on Past Priority Items:**

Rummage Sale: Phil Maxwell reported for Julia Maxwell, Rummage Chair. The sale netted approximately \$3,000.

Church Audit: The church audit has been completed, and Pastor Kimberly has received the report. The auditor will meet with the finance committee, and an audit report summary will be presented to Administrative Council after that meeting.

**Committee Reports:**

Education:

Adult: Report already presented.

Sunday School: Report already presented.

Youth: The youth group meetings average five students. They plan to do a fundraiser for the youth conference event.

Finance: Sharon Woods, Finance Chair, said that the Finance Committee has not met this summer but she plans to hold monthly meetings. The first task will be to plan the pledge campaign.

Membership/Evangelism: Anne Scott, reporting for Barbara Knowlton, said that the July 2 neighborhood ice cream social and fireworks show attracted approximately 350 people. It went smoothly, and everyone seemed to have a good time. Although only one sheriff's reserve deputy showed up and she stayed only briefly, there were no incidents. It was

agreed that we must have security and will need to talk with the sheriff's department on how to guarantee it if we have a neighborhood party next year.

Memorials: Have not met this summer.

Missions/Social Concerns: Have not met this summer.

Staff Parish: Pat Carter, Staff Parish Chair, explained that Anne Scott had requested that a second adult be hired to staff the nursery on Sunday morning. This is needed both because Wesley policies call for two adults in a classroom and because there may be an emergency with one child that requires the teacher's total attention. That leaves the other children without adult supervision. A motion to hire a second adult attendant in the nursery was moved by Pat Carter, seconded by Anne Scott, and approved unanimously. The second person will be hired immediately. Attendants will be on duty from 8:45 a.m. until the last child is picked up after Sunday worship. Anne requested that each be paid \$25 a Sunday; that way they work as long as needed, and no time cards need to be kept. Sharon Woods asked how to budget the increased amount. It was pointed out that costs for both the Sunday School and Vacation Church School have been significantly reduced this year, and the funds from these savings can be used for this expense.

Trustees: Larry Lonsinger, Chair, reported that the cooler in Oglesby Hall has been replaced. Wesley's lawn service has changed ownership, and Larry needs to know what people think about the upkeep of the grounds. David Scott said that he had observed the lawn service last week, and he thought that they did a thorough job.

United Methodist Women: No report.

Web Site: Nick Strobel, Webmaster, asked for people to continue to send items to go on the website.

Worship: Anne Murillo, Worship Chair, explained that graduates will be recognized and children and Sunday School teachers blessed this Sunday. The 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary worship service has been planned, and an October retreat for committee members scheduled.

**Pastor's Report:**

Pastor Kimberly said that she was pleased with the amount of school supplies donated for the Homeless Shelter. She would like to do a "Season Opener" meal during which she would explain what the church seasons mean. When the calendar is put together, she requested that there be no church meetings or activities during Holy Week so that it may be a week of contemplation and prayer.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m. The next meeting will be Sept. 19.

Submitted by:

Anne Scott, Administrative Coordinator

