

**WESLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MINUTES  
January 10, 2005**

The Wesley United Methodist Church Administrative Council met Monday, January 10, 2005 in the Education Building lounge. The meeting was called to order by David Scott, Council Chair, at 5:30 p.m. Pastor Kimberly Willis opened the meeting with prayer. The November 14, 2004 minutes were unanimously approved. The question of whether to meet Feb. 21, 2005 which is the end of a three day weekend was addressed, and it was agreed to meet on that date.

Present: Dick Adams, Pat Carter, Caroline Close, Freda Hamilton, Joshua Huddleston, Lillie Johnson, Barbara Knowlton, Ana Lester, James Lipford, Larry Lonsinger, Jerry Ludeke, Lynette Main, Phil Maxwell, Anne Scott, David Scott, Lisa Strobel, Kimberly Willis.

**Priority Items:**

Jan. 29 UMW Chicken Dinner: Lillie Johnson reported that the United Methodist Women are sponsoring a chicken dinner Jan. 29, 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Proceeds from the dinner will be used to support UMW mission projects. Dinner ticket prices are \$8 for adults and \$3.50 for age 12 and under.

50 Year Anniversary Planning: Anne Scott, Administrative Coordinator, provided a written summary of Wesley's 50 Year Anniversary plans. These have been developed through two planning meetings, and committee chairs are now at work.

Pictorial Directory: Anne Scott announced that Olan Mills Photography will take the church directory pictures April 28, 29 and 30. The Membership/Evangelism Committee will organize the picture process.

2004 Income/Expenses Analysis: Phil Maxwell, Finance Chair, presented a written 2004 financial recapitulation. The analysis shows that church income was approximately \$241,900 and expenses were approximately \$247,000, creating a net shortfall of approximately \$5,000. Also, only 59 per cent of 2004 apportionments were paid.

2005 Budget; Results of Pledge Campaign: Phil Maxwell provided a written summary of 2005 pledges. He explained that there were 99 pledges in 2004; these pledges totaled \$163,557 of which \$158,117 was received. To date there have been 74 pledges made for 2005, totaling \$145,949. Maxwell said that 65 persons pledged in both years, and a comparison of their 2004 and 2005 pledges showed a 7.45 per cent increase. There were 9 new 2005 pledges. He said that 10 families/individuals had moved or passed away and 16 families remain in the church but did not pledge for 2005. A follow up contact will be made with each of these families.

There was a review of the proposed budget for 2005 compared to estimated income, and it was realized that approximately \$20,000 needs to be cut from the proposed budget to meet current expenses. Further cuts need to be made if the church is to increase its apportionments payments. Also, it was agreed that the proposed fundraising budgeted income needs to be reassessed to be sure it is realistic and can be accomplished. After much discussion it was agreed that further work on the budget was needed before it could be approved. It was moved by Dick Adams, seconded by Jerry Ludeke, and unanimously approved that the finance committee contact all committee chairs and request that they reexamine and revise their budgets and that the finance committee take those revised budgets and construct a balanced budget for 2005.

Staff Parish Report/ Draft Policies: Pat Carter, Staff Parish Committee Co-Chair, passed out a draft of the proposed Wesley Personnel Policies for Lay Staff. She asked the council members to review the policies and give changes to her as soon as possible. The policies will be discussed at the February council meeting.

Staff Parish Report/Personnel: Pat Carter explained that the Staff Parish Committee had come to a unanimous decision to eliminate the position of paid Director of Christian Education, a \$20,000 annual budget expense. Carter said that this was a very difficult decision and that much discussion was done by the committee before the decision was made. The committee determined that responsibilities assigned to the position could be assumed by church volunteers. Marilynn Barnes, who holds the position of Director of Christian Education, has been notified of the decision. She is being paid through the month of February. Elimination of the position will remove approximately \$17,500 in costs for the 2005 budget and \$20,000 from future year budgets. A letter explaining this decision will be sent to all church members, and the Staff Parish Committee will determine ways of thanking Marilynn for her years of service, based on what she wishes. Carter explained that Anne Scott will work with the Sunday School and the Vacation Bible School on a volunteer basis. The Education Committee will determine how other aspects of the position will be handled.

Feb. 9 Ash Wednesday Service: Lisa Strobel reported that a 6 p.m. service will be held on Feb. 9, Ash Wednesday. Saturday, Feb. 12, the worship committee will hold a retreat at Carolyn and Larry Lonsinger's house to plan for Lent and the remainder of the year.

Feb. 27 Pancake Breakfast: Anne Scott reported that Bob Pickard will contact the Tuesday Men's Group and organize the Sunday, Feb. 27, pancake breakfast. There are breakfast supplies remaining from the Missions breakfast, and Freda Hamilton and Phil Maxwell, Missions/Social Concerns Committee members, agreed that those supplies can be used for the breakfast.

### **Major Discussion Items:**

Vision 2005 Workshop Outcomes: Pastor Kimberly Willis discussed the ideas that had come out of the Jan. 2 Vision 2005 workshop with First Parish consultant Nancy Eubanks. A written summary of those ideas was presented with the votes that each item received from those who were present.

**Follow Up on Past Priority Items:**

Dec. 12 Caroling and Party: Anne Scott reported that 45 persons participated and five routes were covered. She thanked Jerry Ludeke for hosting the party afterwards.

Welcome Folders: Anne Scott described the new Welcome Folders that are being provided to all church visitors. She said that church cards are being ordered for members to have to give out to people who seem interested in attending a worship service.

Dec. 18 Angel Tree Program: Freda Hamilton, Missions/Social Concerns Chair, said that the church served 29 families with 63 children. There were 15 families that attended the Christmas party. The remainder of the gifts were delivered during the week.

Alternative Giving Program: Freda Hamilton reported that a total of \$2,095 was given to Heifer International, Habitat for Humanity and the Bakersfield Homeless Center.

**Committee Reports:**

Education; Adult; Sunday School; Youth; No reports

Finance: Report already given.

Membership/Evangelism: Report already given.

Memorials: No report.

Missions/Social Concerns: Report already given.

Staff Parish: Caroline Close, Co-Chair, reported that Josiah Huddleston has been formally endorsed by the Staff Parish committee to continue his preparations to enter the ministry. Endorsement by the committee is the first step in the lengthy ministry process.

Trustees: Larry Lonsinger, Trustees Chair, reported that church rekeying will cost \$653. There was discussion as to why rekeying is needed and the extent of what needs to be done. The matter was referred back to Lonsinger and Pastor Kimberly to come up with a plan for what the church needs. Lonsinger reported that two requests have been received to use church facilities. It was moved by Anne Scott, seconded by Ana Lester and unanimously approved that the Chemical Dependency group be allowed to use Room 1. Lonsinger will check to be sure that the Gathering Place is available Saturday, April 24, and if so, it will be rented to a private group recommended by Tom Larwood.

United Methodist Women: Report already given.

Website: No report.

Worship: Report already given.

**Pastor's Report:**

Pastor Kimberly reported that the monthly Taize service is going well. She will be gone from Jan. 24 to Feb. 5 for Stephen Ministry training. Joshua Huddleston and David Atkins will be in the pulpit during the two Sundays that she is absent.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m. The next meeting will be February 21, 2005.  
Submitted by: Anne Scott, Administrative Coordinator

