

WESLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MINUTES

Jan. 22, 2007

The Wesley United Methodist Church Administrative Council met Monday, Jan. 22, 2007 in the Education Building lounge. Nick Strobel, Council Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Pastor Kimberly Willis opened the meeting with a prayer. Nick reviewed the minutes of the November meeting, and the minutes were approved unanimously.

Administrative Council members present: Corky Blain, Caroline Close, Freda Hamilton, Barbara Knowlton, JeanAnn Lansche, Carolyn Lonsinger, Larry Lonsinger, Diane O'Dell, Anne Scott, David Scott, Nick Strobel, Kimberly Willis, Sharyn Woods.

Priority Items:

Pastor Coverage During January/February: Pastor Kimberly and Diane O'Dell, Staff Parish Chair, reported that pastoral coverage has been arranged for the five weeks that Pastor Kimberly will be out after her ankle surgery. Preaching/speaking at the Sunday service will be: Mack Phillips, Jan. 28; David Atkins, Feb. 4; Hank Webb, Feb. 11; Phil Maxwell, Feb. 18; and Rose Lester, Feb. 25. Nick Strobel will give the pastoral prayer each Sunday. The Stephen Ministers will cover hospital visits. Susan Foster, pastor of St. Marks Methodist Church, will be on call for persons with serious concerns.

UMW Dinner: Barbara Knowlton, UMW president, explained that the United Methodist Women's annual fundraising dinner will be held Saturday, Feb. 10, starting at 4:30 p.m. in The Gathering Place. Tickets are priced at \$8 adult and \$4 children. Larry Lonsinger, Trustees chair, pointed out that the dishwasher has not been fixed. The women plan to use paper goods for the dinner so that they don't need to use the dishwasher.

Winter/Spring Activities: Anne Scott, Administrative Coordinator, reviewed the upcoming activities that have been approved on the church calendar. She will contact Bob Pickard to arrange for a pancake breakfast in March, and she will work with the youth to put on a baked potato lunch. Sharyn Woods, Finance chair, will contact Julia Maxwell to see if she will chair the Dinner Auction again this spring. Sharyn said that if Julia is not able to chair the event, she will do so. The date for the dinner/auction will be left up to the chair. Nick Strobel said that Terry Gonzales has set the annual church Dodger trip for Saturday, July 7.

Major Discussion Items:

Pledge Drive Results: Sharyn Woods, Finance chair, reported that approximately \$153,000 has been pledged for 2007. This is \$12,000 less than what was pledged in 2006. In addition, there has been \$6,600 pledged for apportionments. Because the church has reduced its paid staff, apportionments have gone down for 2007. Sharyn said that the combination of pledges, non-pledged and apportionments for 2007 should result in approximately the same income as was given in 2006.

2007 Church Budget: Sharyn Woods passed out copies of the proposed 2007 church budget that the Finance Committee had approved. Nick Strobel had put the budget on a spreadsheet that showed the 2006 budget, the actual 2006 expenditures, and the proposed 2007 budget. Sharyn explained each item on the spreadsheet. The proposed budget totals \$225,097 and would have a deficit of \$1,197. Carolyn Lonsinger moved and Freda Hamilton seconded a motion that the 2007 church budget be approved as presented. This motion was unanimously passed.

Christmas Offering Designation: While establishing the 2007 budget, the Finance Committee considered whether the Christmas offering should go to the General Fund or for mission outreach. Sharyn Woods explained that the proposed budget had the Christmas offering going into the General Fund. She presented information related to how the budget may be changed. The written explanation is as follows: “Book of Discipline, paragraph 259.4. According to the above paragraph, after the budget of the local church has been approved, additional appropriations or changes in the budget must be approved by the Administrative Council. Six additional special offerings will be honored as requested by the United Methodist Church district. Any additional appropriations not in the budget must be brought before the Administrative Council for approval. Christmas Offering: If the Administrative Council sees in November that we are running significantly in the black, we can convert the Christmas Offering from an income item to a special offering. The special offering designees would be decided by Ad Council, upon recommendation from the Missions Committee or suggestions from the Bishop, in the November Ad Council.”

Follow Up on Past Priority Items:

Caroling: Anne Scott reported that the December caroling went very well. She thanked JeanAnn Lansche for working with the youth to decorate the cookie plates that were given to the shutins.

Christmas Mission Activities: Pastor Kimberly, reporting for the Missions Committee, said that all the activities were well received. The Christmas Party to honor the Angel Tree recipients got a great turnout. This was because Phil and Julia Maxwell called all the families to remind them during the week prior to the party. The party was organized so that the gifts were given out at the end as the families left The Gathering Place. She praised the various craft activities that were provided for the children. Wesley members helped the Salvation Army to pack 200 food boxes to be distributed to families. Caroline Close asked if Wesley had given out any Christmas baskets to members in need, and no one knew of any baskets given out. She suggested that next year the church try to determine if any families had need of baskets.

Christmas Services: Carolyn Lonsinger, Worship chair, said that the Christmas services went very smoothly and were well received.

Committee Reports:

Education: JeanAnn Lansche, Education co-chair, explained that the Education

Committee members had discussed how to ensure that the Youth Group had ongoing adult leadership, realizing that Pastor Kimberly is currently providing that leadership. The committee has suggested that in future a paid youth leader may be the best solution to provide ongoing leadership for the group. JeanAnn also explained that Anne Scott again will lead the August Vacation Church School. The theme will be mission outreach and the Scriptures will be drawn from the New Testament describing the actions of Jesus. Sunday School: Anne Scott said that the Sunday School continues to run smoothly, but she wishes that more children were coming. Stella Rous currently is teaching the senior high class. Bibles will be given out this spring to the children in grades 2 through 5, the class that JeanAnn Lansche and Sherry Setser teach. Anne asked Pastor Kimberly to select the Sunday when the Bibles will be given out.

Youth: Pastor Kimberly said that the youth group members are writing a youth creed. She is having the parents complete an emergency contact form for each youth. She and Anne Scott described the mission outreach projects that the youth hope to accomplish. During the time that Pastor Kimberly is out following surgery, other Methodist pastors will provide leadership with the youth group to assist Hank Webb.

Adult Studies: Anne Scott explained that Barbara Dethlefson has selected a Lenten Studies book, and Lenten study classes will be held Thursday and Sunday mornings.

Finance: Report already presented.

Membership/Evangelism: No report.

Memorials: No report.

Missions/Social Concerns: No report.

Staff Parish: Diane O'Dell, Staff Parish chair, explained that the contract for Joy Wang, church pianist, has been extended to the end of the school year. She plans to go away to college in the fall so the church needs to begin to look for a new organist or pianist. Joy is uncertain about whether she will be available this summer. Anne Scott reported that Margaret Grant has donated her piano to the church, and she has had it moved to Room 2 in the Education Building. A decision needs to be made on what to do with the piano that has been in that room.

Trustees: Larry Lonsinger, Trustees chair, reported that during the recent freeze a valve separated on the pipe on the sanctuary roof and water soaked through the roof to the patio outside the north entrance. He had the pipe repaired and will check the area periodically to make sure there is no permanent damage to the building. There are valve problems that need to be fixed on the coolers, and he will follow up on this. Larry explained that the trees in the front yard of the parsonage have been pruned. The trees in the back still need pruning but this will cost \$750. There was discussion about how the trees have been neglected and need immediate attention. Carolyn Lonsinger moved, Anne Scott seconded, and it was unanimously approved that the back yard parsonage trees be trimmed, using the same company that did the trees in the front yard. Pastor Kimberly explained that she laid down material on the steps leading up to the altar. This had been

suggested to assist people in seeing the steps. Larry will monitor how this works.

United Methodist Women: Barbara Knowlton explained that the group has shifted its meeting place from The Gathering Place to the Education Building lounge and believes that this will lower utilities costs.

Web Site: Nick Strobel, Webmaster, said that he is posting all church information that is sent to him. Sharyn Woods asked how the website is being financed, and Nick said that he is paying the monthly \$20 charge. He was thanked for this contribution.

Worship: Carolyn Lonsinger, Worship chair, said that because of Pastor Kimberly's surgery, there will not be a worship retreat to plan Lent and Easter activities. The activities this year will be the same as were done last year. Susan Foster will lead the Ash Wednesday service.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Kimberly reported that this month she had to complete a comprehensive report with "tables" listing all types of church information for 2006. The report must be turned in to the conference. She has done much pastoral counseling, "being present to people".

The meeting was adjourned at 6:59 p.m.
Submitted by: Anne Scott

The next Administrative Council meeting will be Feb. 26, 2007..