

**WESLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MINUTES
January 14, 2008**

The Wesley United Methodist Church Administrative Council met Monday, January 14, 2008 in the Education Building lounge. Nick Strobel, Council Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m., and Pastor Pam Fine opened the meeting with a prayer. Nick reviewed the minutes of the December 10, 2007 meeting, and the minutes were approved unanimously. The Administrative Council agenda was approved with several additions.

Administrative Council members present: Barbara Dethlefsen, Evelyn Elliott, Pam Fine, Sharyn Ford, Barbara Knowlton, Tom Larwood, James Lipford, Marlene Lipford, Carolyn Lonsinger, Larry Lonsinger, Gay Lynne Natho, Diane O'Dell, Stella Rous, Anne Scott, David Scott, Nick Strobel. Visitors: Jennifer Armantrout, Sherry Atkins, Rose Lester.

Priority Items:

Jan. 26 Clergy Consultation: Pastor Pam Fine explained that the Jan. 26 clergy consultation will be a discussion time, not decision making. She plans to announce the topic ahead. Phil Maxwell will barbeque chicken, and people will sign up to bring salad, dessert or bread. The dinner will be at 5 p.m., and discussion will be 6 to 7:30 p.m.

January Completion Project: Pastor Pam said that the Completion Project began last week with four participants and will go for five weeks. People may still join the group. She explained that each participant got a booklet with a variety of topics such as Finances, Household Repairs, Medical, etc. They listed items that they wanted to complete and will meet weekly with a buddy to discuss how they are doing.

Study Groups (Future of Church): Pastor Pam passed out the list of study groups and explained that each group will begin this week. Groups meet Wednesday night, Thursday morning, Thursday night and Sunday morning. The groups will come together Saturday, March 15, for a closing dinner and sharing of what they have learned and discussed.

Missionary Support: Pastor Pam reported that the Missions Committee was recommending that Wesley's 2008 General Fund budget include \$2,500 to support missionary Katherine Parker. This will mean that a relationship will be developed between Wesley and Katherine to include emails, letters and visits when she is home.

Spiritually Themed Art Exhibit: Rose Lester, on behalf of Anna Murillo and herself, proposed that the church present a spiritually themed art exhibit this spring. Exhibitors would show art work and photographs that reflected God. It was tentatively agreed that the exhibit would be presented April 20 with a reception following the worship service. This is the week when Earth Day occurs, and the exhibit may tie into that event. Rose also discussed presenting a series of art experiences for people.

Lending Out Furniture: Gay Lynne Natho asked if the church lent out the tables and chairs from The Gathering Place. She belongs to the Quota Club which is sponsoring an event where they need additional tables and chairs. It was explained that the Trustees have a policy not to lend items out for non-church functions. This policy includes organizations outside the church AND church members.

Tree Trimming: Larry Lonsinger, Trustees chair, explained that a campus tree had to be pruned after a limb broke off. He decided that it would be prudent to trim all of the trees and has a bid of \$1,800 to do this. This item is included in the 2008 budget.

Major Discussion Item:

2008 Budget Adoption: Sharyn Woods, Finance chair, and Nick Strobel, Administrative Council chair, presented the proposed 2008 church budget. Budget income was projected at \$216,553 and proposed expenditures were \$253,022. This is a discrepancy of minus \$36,469. There was lengthy discussion about whether to approve a budget with such a large negative discrepancy between income and expenditures. It was finally decided that the budget could be approved and then revisited in May for possible revisions. Pastor Pam moved, Marlene Lipford seconded the motion, and the proposed budget was unanimously approved.

It was agreed that the congregation would be informed about the budget including two new items: missionary support and the hiring of a youth director. Members will be invited to contribute to the missionary as an “adoption”, like we do for the apportionment adoptions, in addition to their 2008 pledges.

Follow Up on Past Priority Items:

Alternative Christmas Giving: No report

Angel Tree Mission Outreach: The Christmas party was a great success with most of the families attending. It was reported that one child could not be located as the family had moved with no forwarding address.

New Year Open House at Parsonage: Pastor Pam said that she felt the Open House went very well, and she appreciated all the food that was brought.

Jan. 13 Baked Potato Lunch: Anne Scott, Administrative Coordinator, reported that \$206 was raised for the youth group through the baked potato lunch. She thanked all the people who helped with the lunch.

Committee Reports:

Education:

Adult: Report already given.

Sunday School: Anne Scott explained that the Sunday School children will take a field trip to see the Habitat for Humanity house that will be built in a one week "blitz build". Pastor Pam reported that the date for the presentation of the Godly Play program will need to be changed. She does not have a new date at this time.

Finance: Report already given.

Membership/Evangelism: Report already given.

Memorials: No activity this month.

Missions/Social Concerns: Report already given.

Staff Parish Relations: Diane O'Dell reported that a contract was signed with the new organist. Pastor Pam will attend Stephen Minister training Jan. 27 to Feb. 4. Pastor John Corson will preach and serve communion Feb. 3.

Trustees: Report already given.

United Methodist Women: Barbara Knowlton, UMW president, said that the Thursday general meeting will feature a program on prayer and self denial.

Web Site: Nick Strobel said that he has restructured the website so that it is universally accessible (508 compliant)—those using screen readers will now be able to use the site.

Worship: Carolyn Lonsinger, Worship chair, said that the committee will meet this month to plan Lenten worship services.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Pam handed out a list of activities that she had done since the last meeting and briefly discussed each.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

Submitted by: Anne Scott

The next Administrative Council meeting will be February 11, 2008.