

WESLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MINUTES
March 19, 2007

The Wesley United Methodist Church Administrative Council met Monday, March 19, 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 January meeting, and the minutes were approved unanimously. (Note: There was no February meeting.)

Administrative Council members present: Caroline Close, Barbara Dethlefsen, Evelyn Elliott, Freda Hamilton, Barbara Knowlton, JeanAnn Lansche, Tom Larwood, James Lipford, Marlene Lipford, Jerry Ludeke, Phil Maxwell, Diane O'Dell, Stella Rous, Anne Scott, David Scott, Dolores Shumate, Nick Strobel, Kimberly Willis, Sharyn Woods.
Visitor: Sherry Atkins

Priority Items:

Lent, Easter Week Activities: Pastor Kimberly reported that there will be a Maundy Thursday 7 p.m. service at Wesley preceded by a 6 p.m. light supper. A joint Good Friday service for St. Marks, Trinity and Wesley members will be held at St Marks UMC in Oildale at 12 noon. Wesley's annual Easter egg hunt will be held at 10 a.m. Sunday, followed by the 10:30 a.m. worship service.

Church Auction: Sharyn Woods, Finance Chair, said that Anna and Dan Murillo and Carolyn Lonsinger have volunteered to co-chair the dinner/auction. Oct. 13 is the tentative date. A Broadway theme and black and white colors with red accents will be used. If you are interested in helping, you should call Anna or Carolyn.

Rummage Sale: Sharyn Woods said that she would like to hold a parking lot rummage sale and let Wesley members sell items out of their car, truck or table. Sellers may keep their profits or donate them to the church. Sharyn and Darlene Phillips will sell items for people who would like to donate to the church but don't want to participate in the actual sale. She will put up a sign in the narthex for people who want to participate. Barbara Knowlton, UMW President, said that the United Methodist Women wanted to request permission to hold a rummage sale May 4 and 5, to raise money for UMW activities. The UMW sale would feature small items and clothing. There was discussion that the rummage sales should be held at the same time. It was agreed that the UMW sale would be both Friday and Saturday and the parking lot sale would be held only on Saturday.

Summer Sunday School: Anne Scott, Administrative Coordinator, explained that she planned to use the One Room Sunday School curriculum again this summer. Sunday School for children through third grade will be offered at the same time as the worship service. A sign up list for two volunteer teachers each week will be posted.

Vacation Church School: Anne Scott announced that this year's Vacation Church School will be held August 13 – 17, and the theme will be Caring for God's People. The

students will learn about worldwide and local missions and how they can help other people. A Friday lunch will be held for all church members.

Music Sunday: Anne Scott said that she had consulted with Margaret Grant, and Margaret recommended that Music Sunday should be May 13, Mother's Day. The other music groups will be contacted to be sure that they can perform on that date.

Pastor Kimberly Farewell Lunch: Anne Scott said that she would like to work with the youth to take the leadership in planning the farewell lunch for Pastor Kimberly. The date would be Sunday, June 10. The youth would like to put on a baked potato lunch.

Major Discussion Item:

Pastor Transition: Diane O'Dell, Staff Parish Chair, explained that the Staff Parish Committee members met with District Superintendent Vickie Healy March 4 and discussed the qualities wanted in a pastor. The Conference Cabinet will meet the week of March 13 to 17, and Vickie will present Wesley's needs and wishes. Diane explained that the Cabinet tries to match the church and pastor. She said that possible pastors that meet Wesley's requests will be identified and contacted. A pastor is given 24 hours to decide if he/she wants to move. Then Vickie will request a meeting of Wesley's Staff Parish Committee and will bring a candidate to visit. There was discussion about the Methodist process in that this is not an interview. There must be compelling reasons for a church not to accept the candidate that is brought to meet the Staff Parish Committee. Diane thanked Pastor Kimberly for making the decision to leave at the beginning of the pastor change process. This means that Wesley has a much better selection of possible pastors. Pastor Kimberly explained that she will be moving out of the valley to Christ Church UMC, Santa Rosa, a location with clean air that will help her asthma. Pastor Kimberly said that her last day in the pulpit will be June 10. She will arrange for a guest preacher June 17, and Mack Phillips will speak June 24. Annual Conference will be held June 19 to 24.

Follow Up on Past Priority Items:

Pastor Coverage during Jan./Feb.: Diane O'Dell thanked everyone who spoke at worship service during the weeks that Pastor Kimberly was out. She said that she had received very positive feedback about the Wesley members who spoke.

Feb. 10 UMW Dinner: Barbara Knowlton reported that the United Methodist Women made a profit of \$450 from the Feb. 10 dinner.

March 18 Pancake Breakfast: Anne Scott reported that the pancake breakfast put on by the men was a success. A freewill offering was taken, and \$150 was given to the General Fund after expenses were paid. She expressed appreciation for Bob Pickard who organized the event.

Committee Reports:

Education: Adult Studies: Stella Rous, Education Co-Chair, reported that Nick Strobel has been teaching a Sunday morning class, and the Lenten Study curriculum will be

taught once his series is finished. The Wednesday evening Bible study is beginning the Disciples study of Genesis. The Thursday morning Bible study group also is using the Lenten study curriculum.

Sunday School: Jean Ann Lansche, Education Co-Chair, said that Bibles will be given to the children in her class on April 29.

Youth: Pastor Kimberly and Anne Scott described the mission projects that the youth are involved with. They will make palm crosses for Palm Sunday and pack plastic eggs with candy for the Easter egg hunt. They are holding a penny drive for the Bakersfield Rescue Mission during Lent. The youth group members will visit the Rescue Mission on April 15 and will serve dinner at the Bakersfield Homeless shelter April 29.

Finance: Sharyn Ford, Finance Chair, said that the church budget currently is balanced.

Membership/Evangelism: Barbara Dethlefsen, Membership/Evangelism Co-chair, said that a list of shut-in members is posted in the narthex. People are encouraged to call, visit or send cards to the shut-ins. Committee members put on a reception after the funeral for Pam Hall's husband and will put on a similar reception this week after the funeral for Priscilla Dixon. Anne Scott explained that Barbara Knowlton will be in charge of the ice cream social and fireworks show to be held July 1 or 2.

Memorials: No report.

Missions/Social Concerns: Phil Maxwell, Missions/Social Concerns Chair, said that Anita Stewart has begun to work on the Angel Tree program, and he is assisting with the youth mission projects.

Staff Parish: Diane O'Dell, Staff Parish Chair, said that the committee is still looking for an organist or pianist as Joy Wang will be going to college in the fall.

Trustees: Larry Lonsinger, Chair, was not present. Anne Scott will call him to find out if the March 31 workday is still on. (Note: Larry will be out of town that day, and he plans to schedule a workday in April.)

United Methodist Women: Barbara Knowlton, UMW President, said that Jennifer Armantrout presented a program on Spiritual Growth at the last general meeting.

Web Site: Nick Strobel, Webmaster, said that the website has information on the new district superintendent.

Worship: Report already given.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Kimberly explained that the new Fresno District Superintendent Mary Ellen Sawada is a tremendous person and will do an outstanding job.

The meeting was adjourned at 7 p.m.

Submitted by: Anne Scott

The next Administrative Council meeting will be April 16, 2007.

