

**WESLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MINUTES
May 21, 2007**

The Wesley United Methodist Church Administrative Council met Monday, May 21, 2007 in the Education Building lounge. Nick Strobel, Council Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Pastor Kimberly opened the meeting with a prayer. Nick reviewed the minutes of the April meeting, and the minutes were approved unanimously after the following changes were made: the word “during” was removed from the Parsonage Needs paragraph, and Hank Webb’s name was added to the Lent, Easter Week Activities list of leaders helping the youth make palm crosses.

Administrative Council members present: Donna Adams, Pat Carter, Caroline Close, Barbara Dethlefsen, Evelyn Elliott, Barbara Knowlton, Jean Ann Lansche, Tom Larwood, James Lipford, Marlene Lipford, Carolyn Lonsinger, Larry Lonsinger, Jerry Ludeke, Diane O’Dell, Anne Scott, David Scott, Nick Strobel, Kimberly Willis, Sharyn Woods. Visitor: Jennifer Armantrout

Priority Items:

June 10 Farewell and July 1 Welcome Worship Services: Carolyn Lonsinger, Worship chair, explained that the Worship and Staff/Parish committees had met together and planned the two worship services. There is a United Methodist ritual to be used during the worship service to say farewell and to welcome a new pastor. The services will be similar to the ones saying farewell to Pastor Marty and welcome to Pastor Kimberly.

June 10 Lunch and Program: Anne Scott, Administrative Coordinator, said that sign ups are posted for volunteers to help with the lunch and to bring potato toppings and desserts. Hank Webb is directing the youth in a skit that will be presented.

June 13 Potluck with Pastor Pam: Anne Scott reported that Wesley’s new pastor Pam Fine will be in Bakersfield June 13 and will meet with Administrative Council and Staff/Parish members at 6 p.m. in the Gathering Place. A potluck will be held followed by an informal discussion with Pastor Pam. Attendees are asked to bring a main dish, salad or dessert.

Transition Planning: Diane O’Dell, Staff/Parish chair, explained that Nick Strobel videotaped the May 20 worship service and sent the video to Pastor Pam as she had requested. Diane said that a Transitions Worship and salad lunch will be held at Wesley after the June 17 worship service. The workshop will be presented by Hollie Hillman and is designed to help church members prepare to welcome and work with a new pastor. The workshop will be approximately two and one half hours in length. Ms. Hillman is driving a considerable distance and doing this as a favor to Wesley. Wesley members are urged to sign up and attend the workshop. The Tehachapi UMC will be invited, and the district office will be asked to advertise the event.

Parsonage Needs: Larry Lonsinger, Trustees Chair, said that he and Lisa Neath will inspect the parsonage May 29 and determine what repairs need to be made. Pastor Kimberly said that she thought that there was little to do. The carpet only needs to be cleaned, not replaced.

Organist/Pianist Hunt: Diane O'Dell, Staff/Parish chair, explained that Joy Wang's piano teacher has expressed interest in the position of accompanist and has organ experience in addition to teaching the piano. The salary is satisfactory. Her only concern is about the Thursday night choir practice. Because she has not yet said she wants the position, the church is still looking for someone. Joy will continue to play during the summer.

June 3 Teacher/Student Recognition: Pastor Kimberly explained that she is obtaining gifts for the junior high and high school graduates and will present them during the worship service June 3. Anne Scott will be responsible for the recognition certificates for the teachers. Carolyn Lonsinger will order cakes for a reception following the service.

July Ice Cream and Fireworks Show: Barbara Dethlefsen, Membership/Evangelism co-chair, announced that the annual ice cream and fireworks show will be Monday, July 2, as Ron Saylor can come that night and set off the fireworks as he had done in past years. Barbara Knowlton will be in charge that night. Anne Scott will arrange for two security officers to be present. Tom Larwood requested that Ron be asked not to "push" buying the fireworks; this show should be a gift from Wesley to the neighborhood and not used as a sales pitch for the fireworks booth. Barbara Dethlefsen and Barbara Knowlton said that they would talk with Ron and with Bob Pickard, fireworks chair, about this concern.

Vacation Church School: Anne Scott said that she is meeting with the Vacation Church School teachers Saturday, June 2. She is completing writing the curriculum. The field trip for 1st grade and up will be to the Habitat for Humanity house that is being built across from Trinity UMC. Following the Habitat visit, the children will eat their snacks at Trinity and tour that church. The junior highs also will visit the Bakersfield Homeless Center and Kern Medical Center.

Oct. 27 Dinner/Auction: Carolyn Lonsinger, Auction co-chair, said that the date of Oct. 27 has been selected for the dinner/auction. Chefs from Bakersfield College will cater the dinner, and Wesley members will make the appetizers. Dan Murillo is arranging entertainment around a Broadway theme. Anna Murillo is the other co-chair. Freda Hamilton is taking reservations, and Anne Scott is in charge of soliciting auction items.

Bell Choir Memorial Request Update: Donna Adams, Memorials chair, said that she talked to Fay Rosenlieb Kennedy, and Fay approved purchasing chimes out of the memorial fund established in the name of Frank Rosenlieb. Sherry Atkins will order the chimes.

Special Offering Update: Nick Strobel explained that \$157 was collected for Vickie Healy as a special offering and \$143 was added from the Pastor's Discretionary Fund to provide a \$300 going away offering for Vickie. She is ending her eight years as Fresno

District Superintendent and will become the pastor of Wesley UMC in Fresno. The Sunday School children will lead a special offering June 3 for the Bed Nets vs. Mosquitoes campaign that the United Methodist Church is leading. Each bed net costs \$10 and will be given to an African child as a protection against mosquito bites which cause malaria. The special California Nevada Conference offering for Angola will be taken June 17.

Major Discussion Item:

Summer Worship Service Time: Nick Strobel explained that the informal poll taken regarding summer worship service times showed that 42 persons preferred a 9:30 a.m. time and 34 persons preferred the current 10:30 a.m. time. Pastor Kimberly said that she wanted to speak to this topic. She said that the Administrative Council needed to think of new people who get confused over a change in time. The church can lose people as a result. She strongly urged that the time remain at 10:30 a.m. Pat Carter moved, Barbara Dethlefsen seconded, and it was unanimously approved that the summer worship time remain at 10:30 a.m.

Follow Up on Past Priority Items:

May 4-5 Rummage Sale: Barbara Knowlton, UMW President, reported that the United Methodist Women earned \$2,176 from the May 4-5 rummage sale. She thanked everyone who donated items and/or worked on the sale and especially thanked Louise Clay who organized the event. Barbara said that there was an excellent turnout of customers and of volunteers who worked to prepare and during the actual sale. Barbara explained that the leftover women's clothes were taken to the Bakersfield Rescue Mission for the women who reside there. Sharyn Woods, Finance chair, said that the parking lot sale had four tables and made \$300 for the General Fund.

Spring Work Day: Larry Lonsinger, Trustees chair, thanked all the people who participated in the April 28 work day. He said that most of the work was accomplished. The piano still needs to be moved to Oglesby Hall.

Committee Reports:

Education:

Adult Studies: Anne Scott reported that the Wednesday Night Bible study group is finishing the study of Genesis. This study will be presented to the Thursday Morning study group in the fall.

Sunday School: Anne Scott said that One Room Sunday School curriculum materials have arrived, and she needs volunteers to teach one Sunday during the summer.

Youth: Pastor Kimberly said that the food list for the summer youth group meetings is almost filled in with volunteers. She has been talking to the youth about the pastor transition and what it means. She wants the youth group to keep meeting weekly during the summer. June 24 the youth group will have a pool party and barbeque at Hank Webb's home. This will be a good-by party with Pastor Kimberly. Pastor Kimberly explained that the youth had toured the Bakersfield Rescue Mission and served food at the Bakersfield Homeless Center as recent mission outreach projects.

Finance: Sharyn Woods, Finance Chair, said that the church budget is balanced, and the church continues to pay its apportionments.

Membership/Evangelism: Report already given. Jerry Ludeke requested that the list of shut-ins be placed higher on the bulletin board, and Anne Scott said she would move it up once the potluck and other lists came down.

Memorials: Report already given.

Missions/Social Concerns: Anne Scott said that serving food at the Bakersfield Homeless Center was a great experience for both the youth and the adults who accompanied them. She is going to talk to Phil Maxwell, Missions chair, about scheduling a future “food” date with the Bakersfield Homeless Center and inviting Wesley adults as well as the youth to participate.

Staff Parish: Diane O’Dell, Staff Parish chair, said that Pastor Pam has notified us that she will be able to conduct the July 15 worship service. Her sister’s wedding has been moved to Saturday morning, and Pastor Pam plans to drive back to Bakersfield that evening.

Trustees: Report already given.

United Methodist Women: Barbara Knowlton, UMW President, said that the United Methodist Women will not meet during the summer. They held a general meeting last week, and Pastor Kimberly joined them.

Web Site: Nick Strobel, Webmaster, said he is continuing to add items to the website.

Worship: Carolyn Lonsinger, Worship chair, said that she is looking into the possibility of obtaining nametags for members. This will help Pastor Pam to identify people. Nick Strobel announced that the Taize Service will not be held during July or August.

Pastor’s Report: Pastor Kimberly said that she was working with Pastor Pam on the transition. She will be going to Santa Rosa immediately following worship on May 27 and will return the following Friday. June 19 Pastor Kimberly will go to conference. She explained that she will be working out of the parsonage this week as she begins to pack. She still must attend physical therapy sessions three days a week.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.
Submitted by: Anne Scott

The next Administrative Council meeting will be June 11, 2007.

