

**WESLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MINUTES
May 19, 2008**

The Wesley United Methodist Church Administrative Council met Monday, May 19, 2008 in the Education Building lounge. Nick Strobel, Council Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:38 p.m., and Pastor Pam Fine opened the meeting with a prayer. Nick reviewed the minutes of the April 21, 2008 meeting. The minutes were approved unanimously. The Administrative Council agenda was approved with the addition of one item, to change meeting nights so that Pastor Pam may have Monday as a day off.

Administrative Council members present: Barbara Dethlefsen, Pam Fine, Freda Hamilton, Barbara Knowlton, Carolyn Lonsinger, Larry Lonsinger, Jerry Ludeke, Diane O'Dell, Stella Rous, Anne Scott, David Scott, Ruth Shivers, Nick Strobel.

Priority Items:

2nd Worship Service During Summer: Pastor Pam Fine explained that she would like to hold a second worship service during the summer. This would be a 9 a.m. more casual and contemporary worship service to be held outside, similar to the patio service that was held several years ago. It will start in June.

Nominations Committee: Pastor Pam reviewed the list of positions filled to date by the nominations committee. She said that the committee's work is almost done. She is making the following changes with committees: only those committees that are required to do so will have classes with people serving three year terms. This includes Staff Parish, Trustees and Nominations. Other committees such as education, memorials and worship will not have classes but will have members at large, similar to missions/social concerns. She plans to separate the membership/evangelism committee into two committees with current members forming the membership committee. She will form a new evangelism and outreach team.

Youth Group Director Update: Pastor Pam explained that letters have gone out explaining the position, but to date no one has responded.

Visiting Youth Choir: Pastor Pam explained that the youth choir from the Damascus, Maryland UMC will present a concert at Wesley on Tuesday, June 24. The choir will participate in a lunch and pool party at Jerry Ludeke's house. There will be an all church spaghetti dinner at The Gathering Place at 6 p.m. and the concert will be at 7 p.m. Wesley families are being asked to host the youth and their chaperones. The other area Methodist churches have been invited to all the events and to help host the choir members. It was suggested that the event be publicized in The Californian, and Pastor Pam said that she would do that.

Wesley Open House in September: Pastor Pam asked committee chairs to have their

committees brainstorm what they could do to publicize their work during the open house. The open house will be held Sunday, Sept. 28. Pastor Pam's vision is that the church become a Christian community center for the neighborhood. This will be a major discussion item in June when the committees present what they would like to do for the open house.

Summer Children's Program: Anne Scott, Administrator Coordinator, explained that plans are coming along for the Tuesday morning children's program to be presented during July. She has four volunteers that will assist throughout the sessions and six teachers for the first session on July 8. She is writing curriculum that will feature one story from the Old Testament and one story from the New Testament each week. She already has Wesley families tell her that they plan to bring their children. The program is designed to attract neighborhood children who do not have a church, and it will serve as a review for Wesley children.

Vacation Church School: Anne Scott said that she has nine teachers signed up to help with Vacation Church School and that she is completing work on the curriculum. It will focus on missions around the world.

Ice Cream Social and Fireworks Show: Wesley's annual ice cream social and fireworks show will be held July 2. Ron Saylor is available that night to set off the fireworks. Barbara Knowlton will be in charge of the evening. Three tables to serve ice cream and water will be set up at different places on the church grounds.

Fireworks Booth: Anne Scott explained that Bob Pickard is recovering from his cataract operation and expects to be fully able to run the fireworks booth. She asked that people sign up to assist during the four day sale. Larry Lonsinger said that a number of fireworks factories in China have exploded which may lead to scarcities and higher prices.

Sierra Service Field Trip to Mexico: Pastor Pam reported that Phil Maxwell will lead a group of Wesley youth on a Sierra Service trip to Tijuana. This is a pilot project for Sierra Service; the youth usually go to work on Indian reservations in the United States. The Mexico trip will combine work and education about what the students are seeing. To date only Wesley boys are planning to go, but if girls join the group, Pastor Pam will go as a chaperone.

Community Garden Project: Jerry Ludeke explained that she has discussed the community garden project with Bakersfield College administrators. The project would develop a community vegetable garden on the land west of the church. It has been suggested that Bakersfield College become involved because the land could be donated to the college.

Change Administrative Council Meeting Date: Pastor Pam asked the Administrative Council to consider changing the council's meeting date because she would like to take off Monday rather than the current Friday and Saturday. Wesley has so many activities

on the weekend that she is not able to get days off. Anne Scott moved, Ruth Shivers seconded, and it was unanimously approved that all Monday meeting dates be moved to other days so that Pastor Pam can take off Mondays. It was agreed that the Education Committee will meet the first Tuesday of each month, the Staff Parish Committee the second Tuesday, and Administrative Council the third Tuesday.

Notes from Study Groups: Pastor Pam passed out copies of the notes from the four study groups that met earlier this year. She asked that people review the notes and think about what Wesley should be doing in the future. She asked that people think about the Open House in the context of what was studied.

Major Discussion Item:

Budget Review/Revisions: Because a church budget with a \$36,000 deficit was adopted for this year, it had been agreed that the budget would be reviewed and revised as needed in May. Nick Strobel reviewed each part of the budget. The review showed that \$14,000 less than budgeted to date had been spent. This meant that the budget was only \$1,000 out of balance, and no revisions need to be made at this point. Barbara Dethlefsen recommended that another review be done at the September meeting, and it was agreed that this would be done.

Support for Bakersfield Rescue Mission: Support for the Bakersfield Rescue Mission was an item that had been deferred from the April meeting. Phil Maxwell, Missions/Social Concerns chair, originally proposed that Wesley support the mission through a monthly amount of \$500 that would be added to the church budget. Discussion at the April meeting centered on whether the budget could afford a monthly commitment or whether a special offering should be taken. Phil Maxwell was not at tonight's meeting; therefore, the item again was deferred until Phil is present.

Follow Up on Past Priority Items:

30 Hour Famine Youth Program: Pastor Pam reported that the youth who participated in the 30 Hour Family raised \$2,700 for World Vision. The youth spoke about their experience during the Sunday worship service. She explained that Phil Maxwell and she had the youth do a variety of activities during the weekend. One activity involved their planning meals for a family of four for one week on a \$125 budget.

May 11 Pentecost Sunday, Confirmation: Pastor Pam said that she felt the confirmation classes went well. She said that an important part of the experience was that the youth felt the care and interest of church members. Jerry Ludeke and Nick Strobel talked to the students, David Atkins, Ana Lester and Anne and David Scott served as sponsors, and the Atkins hosted the youth at a retreat.

Committee Reports:

Education:

Adult: Stella Rous, Education Co-Chair, thanked Pastor Pam for holding the confirmation class. She said that this had been wanted for a long time, and she was very appreciative of Pastor Pam's follow up on this request.

Sunday School: Anne Scott said that she has asked that Teacher Recognition be done June 15 as she will be gone until that Sunday.

Youth: Report already given.

Finance: Report already given.

Membership/Evangelism: Pastor Pam reported that Wesley received a certificate in recognition that Sunday average worship attendance has gone up 10 per cent from 90 to 99.

Memorials: No report.

Missions/Social Concerns: Ruth Shivers explained that the Food Bank now has 12 people on the team, and this is greatly helping the program.

Staff Parish Relations: Diane O'Dell, chair, reported that staff evaluations are being completed.

Trustees: Larry Lonsinger, chair, said that he is hunting for someone to repair the sprinkler controller. He hopes to find an individual who does electrical work, rather than use a company because of the expense.

United Methodist Women: Barbara Knowlton said that UMW is raising money to send kits to UMCOR. UMW also is collecting games to give to Jamieson Center. New and used games are needed to entertain the children while they are at the center. Barbara said that she had rummage items and asked if a room in Oglesby Hall could be used to store the rummage. Pastor Pam said that she was planning for a late summer rummage sale to support the general budget and that the room could be used.

Web Site: Nick Strobel explained that he has established links to the General Conference and to the Western Jurisdictional Conference.

Worship: No report.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Submitted by: Anne Scott

The next Administrative Council meeting will be June 9, 2008.