

**WESLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MINUTES
November 19, 2007**

The Wesley United Methodist Church Administrative Council met Monday, November 19, 2007 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 October 15 meeting, and the minutes were approved unanimously. The Administrative Council agenda was approved with two additions. Pastor Pam Fine asked that Nick Strobel report about the training event that he attended. Evelyn Elliott offered the planetarium event that she successfully bid for at the auction to be a church event, the date to be decided later.

Administrative Council members present: Donna Adams, Barbara Dethlefsen, Evelyn Elliott, Pam Fine, Lillie Johnson, Barbara Knowlton, James Lipford, Marlene Lipford, Carolyn Lonsinger, Larry Lonsinger, Phil Maxwell, Gay Lynne Natho, Diane O'Dell, Stella Rous, Ruth Shivers, Nick Strobel, Sharyn Woods. Visitor: Sherry Atkins

Priority Items:

Visiting Missionary: Missionary Katherine Parker will be in Bakersfield the Dec. 8-9 weekend. Wesley will host a Sunday, Dec. 9, 8 a.m. breakfast so that people may talk with her and learn about her mission work in Cambodia. Pastor Pam will explore the possibility of Wesley Church serving as a covenant church to support her work.

Organist Status: New organist Gray Rowland will play through the end of this year. A decision will be made at that time as to giving him a contract. He is a student of Eunice Lee, who is unable to become the organist.

New Members: Five new members will be confirmed Sunday. They are: Louise Clay, Jill Gawne, Dolores Gunther, and Orsolina and Roy Hargis. Lois Higgins will be confirmed at a later date.

Greening of the Church: The Greening of the Church will be done Dec. 2 during worship and at an evening supper. Following supper people will pack toiletry kits for the Bakersfield Homeless Center.

Alternative Christmas Giving: Jennifer Armantrout, Alternative Giving chair, will be providing information regarding charities to be served and the way that people may give.

Dec. 9 Caroling and Party: Barbara Dethlefsen, Membership/Evangelism co-chair, reported that Wesley will follow the same caroling and party format as in previous years. Carolers will gather at the church at 4 p.m. and divide into groups, following the routes that she will establish. People were asked to submit names of any persons who should be caroled. The youth group members will participate in the caroling.

Angel Tree Mission Outreach: Phil Maxwell, Missions Chair, explained that Wesley will serve 44 families and 83 children through the Angel Tree program. The Christmas Party that will include the Angel Tree families will be Saturday, Dec. 15, starting at 4:30 p.m. in The Gathering Place.

Salvation Army Christmas Baskets: It was reported that the Salvation Army has not yet contact Wesley regarding the location for packing Christmas food baskets. This is a project that Wesley has done in previous years. When the location, dates, and times are known, they will be published in the Outlook.

Christmas Pageant: Pastor Pam reported that the Christmas pageant rehearsals are under way, and the pageant will be presented during worship Dec. 16. The pageant also will be given for the Christmas Party Dec. 15. Persons to organize costumes and props are needed.

VIM Training: Volunteers in Mission (VIM) training will be offered Dec. 8, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., at St. Marks UMC for leaders of trips including construction, ESL, medical, etc. Sue King will lead the training. Previous Bakersfield groups have gone to New Orleans to help following Katrina.

Art Show: It was announced that Anna Murillo and Rose Lester plan to organize a church art show for next spring. The date will be finalized later.

UMW Spring Rummage Sale: Barbara Knowlton, UMW president, said that the UMW would like to hold a rummage sale April 4-5 to support UMW mission work. The sale will be similar to that held last spring with only small appliances, clothing, etc. No large furniture or appliances are wanted. There is a need to find room for storage prior to the sale. These dates were approved.

Major Discussion Items:

Results of Pledge Drive: Sharyn Woods, finance chair, reported that the pledge drive has resulted in 57 pledges totaling \$129,000 received. There are eight new pledges and 19 increased pledges. A total of 25 individuals and families who pledged last year have not yet responded. To date a total of \$5,500 in apportionment adoptions has been pledged.

2008 Budget: Sharyn Woods said that the Finance Committee is still working on the 2008 budget, and it will be presented at the December Administrative Council meeting.

Follow Up on Past Priority Items:

Oct. 27 Dinner/Auction: Carolyn Lonsinger, auction co-chair, reported that the auction produced a profit of approximately \$12,400.

Nov. 3 Training Day: Nick Strobel reported on the training day program that was conducted by Bill Easom. He will share information from the training on the website and with groups.

Nov. 10 Bazaar: Barbara Knowlton, bazaar co-chair, reported that the bazaar netted \$2,635. Only 53 lunches out of 100 prepared were sold; however, all leftover food was later sold.

Nov. 17 Charge Conference: The Nov. 17 Charge Conference was held at Wesley with St. Marks UMC joining in. New district superintendent Mary Ellen Sowato presided. It was a very meaningful meeting.

Pledge Drive Celebration Dinner: Sharyn Woods reported that the pledge drive celebration dinner went very well, and she thanked all the committees for participating.

Committee Reports:

Education: Stella Rous, Education Co-Chair, said that all the education programs are continuing smoothly. Pastor Pam plans to lead an Advent study. This will be a three week study to be presented during the Sunday School 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, chair, explained that the committee is considering a retirement contribution and pay raise for Terry Gonzales, Administrative Assistant.

Trustees: Larry Lonsinger, chair, reported that a cooler was installed on Oglesby Hall. He is working on getting the rest of the coolers covered.

United Methodist Women: Barbara Knowlton, UMW president, explained that the UMW installation of officers will take place during the Dec. 9 worship service. Monday, Dec. 10, UMW will hold a luncheon at the Guild House at 11:30 a.m.

Web Site: Nick Strobel, Webmaster, said that new links and pictures have been posted on the website. He encouraged people to check the site.

Worship: Carolyn Lonsinger, chair, announced that information regarding the donation of poinsettias for the Sanctuary will be available soon.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Pam said that she is continuing with her normal workload and is having a great time. She said that she would like to have quarterly all church "consultation" times when topics of interest can be discussed in depth. She would like to schedule the first consultation in January.

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

Submitted by: Donna Adams

The next Administrative Council meeting will be December 10, 2007.

