

**WESLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MINUTES  
October 17, 2005**

The Wesley United Methodist Church Administrative Council met Monday, October 17, 2005 in the Education Building lounge. The meeting was called to order by Nick Strobel, Council Chair, at 5:30 p.m. Pastor Kimberly opened the meeting with prayer. The September minutes were corrected as follows: The motion regarding the fireworks booth was to continue the booth for one more year and then review the situation, examining the county position, and then determine if there is a change in the church position regarding the status of having a fireworks booth.

Present: Jennifer Armantrout, Sherry Atkins, Caroline Close, Barbara Dethlefsen, Pam Hall, Freda Hamilton, Barbara Knowlton, Larry Lonsinger, Jerry Ludeke, Phil Maxwell, Heidi Mensink, Stella Rous, Dolores Shumate, Nick Strobel, Sharyn Woods.

**Priority Items:**

Council Meeting Dates: Nick Strobel pointed out that our meetings on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday might conflict with certain holidays. December was changed from the 19<sup>th</sup> to the 12<sup>th</sup>, January was changed from the 16<sup>th</sup> to the 23<sup>rd</sup>, and February was changed from the 20<sup>th</sup> to the 27<sup>th</sup>. The other dates remain on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month at 5:30 p.m.

Nov. 19 Bazaar: Barbara Knowlton, co-chair with Lillie Johnson, said that the bazaar will be Saturday, Nov. 19, and will feature a full lunch organized by Julia Maxwell. Sign-up lists to assist with the bazaar are posted in the narthex.

Nov. 27 Greening of the Church: Pastor Kimberly said that during worship service she will explain why we green the church and the significance of the colors, and we will actually green the church as a part of the service. A lunch will follow the worship service. After lunch we will make ornaments, decorate the Gathering Place and package the Bakersfield Homeless Center gifts.

Nov. 27 Charge Conference: Pastor Kimberly reported that there will be a joint charge conference with Trinity UMC at Trinity. Dinner will be at 5:45 p.m. with the meeting starting at 7 p.m. She reminded all those who have reports to get them in to Terry by Nov. 9.

Blanket and Coat Give-away: Phil Maxwell, Missions chair, reported the blanket and coat give-away will be Nov. 19, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., (to coincide with the Bazaar) and Dec. 10, 8 – 11 a.m., in Oglesby Hall. New or gently used coats and blankets are needed.

Bell Choir Benefit Concert: Heidi Mensink requested and was granted permission from Administration Council for the bell choir to give a benefit concert on Sunday, March 26, at 4 p.m. This concert will raise funds for the choir to go to the Bell Festival. The Bell Choir needs to raise \$1,060 to attend the Bell Festival. The festival is an opportunity for the choir to learn new techniques and represent Wesley.

**Major Discussion Items:**

Fall Pledge Campaign: Sharyn Woods, Finance Chair, reported that this year's campaign, Imagine by Living Stewardship, will start Oct. 31 with the first of three letters to the congregation. This new program for Wesley is hoped to bring in new pledges. The campaign offers different approaches for regular pledges and those who haven't pledged before. It also has specific follow-up procedures.

Intelligent Design: Pastor Kimberly reported that she was contacted by Wesley Elsberry, a representative of the National Center for Science Education, who is speaking out against the teaching of Intelligent Design. He is a United Methodist minister in the Bay area. He will be in Bakersfield from Nov. 1 to 6, and we will ask him to speak at Wesley.

Cooperative Ministry: Pastor Kimberly reported that Anna and Dan Murillo have been serving as Wesley representatives in the joint United Methodist church cooperative ministry. Three to five additional lay persons are needed to represent Wesley and help plan a gathering of all the churches in January. The January focus will be on youth, missions and education.

**Follow Up on Past Priority Items:**

50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary: It was agreed that this was a wonderful weekend. As a follow-up, Bishop Shamana will preach at Wesley on Nov. 13, the actual 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of when Wesley was officially organized.

Hurricane Health and School Kits: Pastor Kimberly reported that 396 health and school kits were sent to UMCOR, along with approximately \$15,000 in cash donations for hurricane relief. Jennifer Armantrout reported that the district United Methodist Women congratulated Wesley on the impressive number of kits sent. Now we are encouraging donations for earthquake victims.

**Committee Reports:**

Education: Stell Rous, Education Co-Chair, said that there will be two new adult Sunday School classes starting Oct. 23. Pastor Kimberly and Jerry Ludke will be the teachers. The goal is to offer beginning, advanced and special interest classes for adults. The Sunday School is going well.

Adult: Barbara Dethlefsen said the Thursday morning bible study is getting started. Caroline Close said the Wednesday night study group is going well.

Senior High: Pastor Kimberly reported that the senior high youth don't want to be in with the Junior High. She met with several youth to find out what they wanted. They want to ask questions and have discussions. They will meet in Pastor Kimberly's office to have hot chocolate and talk about their spiritual journey. Pastor Kimberly will spend Advent with the Senior High class.

Finance: Nick Strobel presented the report. Phil Maxwell mentioned that the budget vs actual report was missing. There was a request to simplify the report to the council.

Membership/Evangelism: Barbara Dethlefsen, chair, had no report because the committee has not yet met.

Memorials: It was reported that Heidi Mensink was paid \$250 for the hymn she composed for the anniversary. The funds were from the Frank Rosenlieb Memorial account.

Missions/Social Concerns: Phil Maxwell, Chair, explained that the committee meets every month the Thursday before Administrative Council at 5 p.m. The Angel Tree Party will be Dec. 17 and Julia Maxwell will organize it. Wesley will give presents to 100 children. Maxwell wants to enlarge the committee to include UMCOR and missionary representatives. Having a preparedness plan for Wesley was briefly discussed.

Staff Parish: Nick Strobel reported that Pastor Kimberly's health insurance costs \$5,184 this year.

Trustees: Larry Lonsinger, chair, mentioned a concern about persons getting on the Gathering Place roof. The council approved putting barbed wire on top of the fence near the Gathering Place to keep persons from using the fence to get up on the roof. The parsonage patio has dry rot which will cost \$1,080 to repair. This was approved. The parsonage roof will cost \$9,000 to replace. Lonsinger will get another bid and keep his eye on the roof. Trees around the church need trimming and several need to be removed. He got one bid of \$4,750 for the entire job and \$1,500 just to remove the trees. He will seek other bids. Oglesby Hall will be added to the janitor service at a cost of \$80 per month.

United Methodist Women: Jennifer Armantrout reported that she and Lynette Main went to the School of Missions and seven Wesley women went to Madera for the district UMW meeting.

Web Site: Nick Strobel, Webmaster, said that the minutes would be posted, and there is room for other announcements.

Worship: Pastor Kimberly reported that the worship planning retreat set up the Advent schedule to include the Nov. 27 greening service and characters in the Christmas story in December: Caesar, Dec., 4; Joseph, Dec. 11; and Mary, Dec. 18. Wednesday, Dec. 22, will be the service of the longest night, and this will be a joint service with Trinity. Nov. 6 will be All Saints Sunday and Nov. 20 will be the "Reign of Christ" Sunday looking at the different church services.

**Pastor's Report:** Pastor Kimberly had no other report.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m. The next meeting will be Nov. 21.

Submitted by: Barbara Dethlefsen

