

**WESLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MINUTES
September 19, 2005**

The Wesley United Methodist Church Administrative Council met Monday, September 19, 2005 in the Education Building lounge. The meeting was called to order by Nick Strobel, Council Chair, at 5:32 p.m. Strobel opened the meeting with prayer. The August 15, 2005 minutes were unanimously approved with the addition that District Superintendent Vickie Healy will preach at the Sept. 25 service. There were no additions to the agenda.

Present: Donna Adams, Jennifer Armantrout, Pat Carter, Caroline Close, Pam Hall, Freda Hamilton, Jean Ann Lansche, Ana Lester, Phil Maxwell, Anna Murillo, Dwight Reynolds, Stella Rous, Anne Scott, David Scott, Nick Strobel.

Priority Items:

Update on Pastor Kimberly: Nick Strobel explained that Pastor Kimberly is recovering nicely from her ankle surgery. She is using email and parsonage meetings to keep herself involved with church activities and decision-making. She plans to attend the 50th Anniversary festivities and be back in the pulpit Oct. 2. Her transplant will take place in two to three months (now planned for January 2006).

Shared Ministry Moments: Phil Maxwell, Missions/Social Concerns Chair, explained that his committee will be handling the Shared Ministry Moments during the worship service.

50th Anniversary Celebration: Anne Scott, Administrative Coordinator, said that the 50th Anniversary Celebration scheduled for next weekend, Sept. 23-25, was organized and ready to go. She reviewed the various activities that were to occur and thanked all the people who have worked for a year on the project. She said that approximately 200 people were registered for the Saturday night dinner. Phil Maxwell explained that the youth had blanketed the neighborhood with flyers inviting the neighbors to the Saturday morning breakfast.

Hurricane Project: Health and School Kits: Phil Maxwell reported that 258 health kits have been packed to date, and that both health and school kits will be packed Saturday as part of the anniversary celebration.

Fall Pledge Campaign: Nick Strobel, reporting for Finance Chair Sharyn Woods, announced that the fall pledge campaign will be conducted Nov. 1 through 30. The theme will be "Imagine". He said that further information would be provided at the next meeting and in the Outlook.

Nov. 19 Bazaar: Jennifer Armantrout reported for the bazaar committee. She said that the co-chairs are Lillie Johnson and Barbara Knowlton, and the lunch chair is Julia Maxwell. The committee will hold an organizational meeting Friday.

Major Discussion Items:

Fireworks Booth: This item had been tabled from the August 2005 meeting. Nick Strobel summarized the pros and cons of the August discussion regarding the sale of fireworks by the church: Pros were that it was a good money raiser, only took four days of labor, and tied in well with the neighborhood ice cream social and fireworks show. Cons were that it polluted the atmosphere, provided opportunities for injuries and staffing was a problem. There was considerable discussion by all persons present. People were in agreement that the July 1 ice cream social/fireworks show was a great outreach to the neighbors and should be continued even if the booth were eliminated and that it was a good money raiser. There was major disagreement on the moral implications of Wesley being involved with fireworks sales. It was pointed out that the city and county are debating whether or not to continue to give permits for fireworks booths. Concern was voiced that Bob Pickard has worked very hard providing leadership for the booth and was not present at this meeting. Discussion then centered on finding a compromise. A motion was made that the fireworks booth be continued for one more year, July 1-4, 2006, and then be ended. This would give Bob a year's notice that it was going away. The motion was made by Jennifer Armantrout, seconded by Donna Adams, and approved by a 7 to 6 vote.

2005-06 Church Calendar: Anne Scott presented the draft of the 2005-06 Wesley calendar as revised after the August Administrative Council meeting. She explained that the Celebration Dinner had been eliminated for this year, and the Greening of the Church would be done during the morning worship service. Further revisions were as follows: Phil Maxwell said that Julia Maxwell would like the Dinner/Auction to be Saturday, April 1 and that he would like to schedule a Missions Lunch for Sunday, Feb. 12; it was agreed that the spring work day would be scheduled Saturday, March 25. With these additions and changes, Anne Scott moved, Pat Carter seconded, and the 2005-06 Wesley calendar as revised was unanimously approved. (An addition after the meeting was that Charge Conference would be held Sunday, Nov. 27, 7 p.m., at Trinity UMC.)

Follow Up on Past Priority Items:

One Worship Service: Anna Murillo, Worship chair, said that the one worship service seems to be going well. She has heard no criticism of the concept. Jennifer Armantrout said that she had heard complaints about having to speak prayer requests aloud, using the cordless mike. She said that people preferred that they fill out the green prayer request slips and that one person read the prayer requests. Nick Strobel pointed out that having people read their own prayer requests made them take ownership. It was agreed that the Worship committee would address this concern.

Vacation Church School: Anne Scott reported that 75 children and youth attended the Vacation Church School. Total cost was approximately \$200 due to the large number of donations made by church members. These included food, supplies, and financial support. Scott said that she plans to create the curriculum again next summer and believes that it will center around the environment and care of God's world.

Committee Reports:

Education: Stell Rous, Education Co-Chair, said that the committee was inviting Joshua Huddleston, Youth Director, to join the committee so that members were informed of what he and the youth are doing.

Adult: Rous reported that Nick Strobel is teaching an adult Sunday School class on Questions of Faith. Later this fall Jerry Ludeke will teach a contemporary studies class based on a book, and Pastor Kimberly will teach Bible 101.

Sunday School: Anne Scott said that the Sunday School is running smoothly with two teachers in each classroom. The September Sunday School offering has been directed towards supplying supplies for the UMCOR school kits. The children have learned about Rev. Oglesby, and the youth will present a play about him at the Saturday night dinner.

Youth: It was explained that the youth passed out flyers for the pancake breakfast and will serve at the Saturday night dinner.

Finance: Nick Strobel, reporting for Sharyn Woods, said that the committee was considering setting up a medical relief fund to help persons facing medical bills. He reported that all apportionments were paid to date.

Membership/Evangelism: No report; committee has not yet met.

Memorials: Donna Adams, Co-Chair, reported that the committee has had not need to meet.

Missions/Social Concerns: Phil Maxwell, Chair, explained that the committee meets every month the Thursday before Administrative Council at 5 p.m. He said that more people are needed on the committee as follows: To handle the party for the Angel Tree recipients, to serve as a liaison with Trinity UMC, to serve as a liaison with UMCOR, to manage transportation for shut-ins who want to attend worship services and/or other church activities, and to serve as a liaison with missionaries. Pam Hall, who is the Trinity UMC secretary, volunteered to be the liaison with Trinity. Ana Lester volunteered to organize the transportation of shut-ins. The annual coat and blanket giveaway will be held in November or December and will not include a breakfast this year. The committee is hosting a neighborhood breakfast this weekend as part of the 50th anniversary celebration. Maxwell said that the committee was exploring a variety of ideas for mission outreach; included were the possibility of holding a rummage sale every two months, increasing what is distributed through the Food Pantry to include gas money and bus tokens, and offering a weekly free dinner at the church. He will bring proposals to the Administrative Council as they are developed.

Staff Parish: Pat Carter, Chair, requested approval for staff compensation packages for 2006. The committee has proposed a COLA increase of 2.5 per cent for all staff. There also will be a 15 percent rise in the cost of Kimberly's insurance. Reimbursement of staff expense accounts will remain the same. It was moved by Ana Lester, seconded by Donna Adams and unanimously approved that a 2.5 per cent salary COLA be approved for all staff.

Trustees: Anne Scott read a report from Larry Lonsinger, Trustees chair. He had written that the refrigerator in the Gathering Place had been repaired, the work day was successful and cleaning and pruning had been accomplished, and that if tables and chairs needed to be moved for the 50th anniversary, to call him for assistance.

United Methodist Women: Jennifer Armantrout reported that Jennifer and Lynette Main attended a Missions Conference that they found very productive. The UMW general meeting last Thursday had 18 people in attendance.

Web Site: Nick Strobel, Webmaster, asked for people to continue to send items.

Worship: Anna Murillo, Chair, said that the Worship committee meets the first Monday of each month at 5:30 p.m. in the Education Building lounge. Oct. 15 the committee will hold an all day retreat at the parsonage. There will be a special service Sept. 25 with all the former pastors participating. The hymn that Heidi Mensink has written will be presented at the worship service and at the Friday and Saturday night dinners.

Pastor's Report: Nick Strobel reported for Pastor Kimberly and read a humorous story that Pastor Kimberly had emailed to him

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m. The next meeting will be Oct. 17, 2005. Anne Scott said that she would be out of town, and Anna Murillo volunteered to take the minutes.

Submitted by:

Anne Scott, Administrative Coordinator