

# Baker Memorial United Methodist Church

## Church Council Meeting Agenda

October 19, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. in the Wiley Hall

*Baker Memorial United Methodist Church is a welcoming Community of Faith empowered by the Holy Spirit. We seek to Glorify God by:*

- *celebrating His gifts,*
- *helping each other become disciples of Jesus Christ, and*
- *servicing His people and Kingdom in Christian Love.*

**I. Welcome**

**II. Devotions** ..... *Ben Adams*

**III. Presentation of the Minutes of the meeting of September 21, 2006**

**IV. Amendment to the 2007 Budget** ..... *Biff Staples*

**V. Review of Building Assessment** ..... *John Fell*

**VI. Discussion Regarding the Mission Statements of Ministry Teams and Administrative Groups**

**VII. Reports of and Items from our Seven Ministry Teams**

1. Christian Education ..... *Meg Bingham*
2. Evangelism ..... *Sandie Benhart*
3. Mission and Outreach ..... *Ben Adams*
4. Parish Life ..... *Loretta Wilson*
5. Worship and Spiritual Growth ..... *Jean Cole*
6. Year-Round Stewardship ..... *Doug Ruth*
7. Youth ..... *Erik Swenson*

**VIII. Reports of and Items from other ministries of our parish**

1. United Methodist Men ..... *Rick House*
2. United Methodist Women ..... *Judy Schlarb*

**IX. Reports of and Items from our Administrative Committees and Boards**

1. Committee on Lay Leadership ..... *Pastor Ronni Verboom*
2. Committee on Staff-Parish Relations ..... *Debbie Conterato*
3. Board of Trustees ..... *John Fell*
4. Committee on Finance ..... *Biff Staples*

**X. Additional items from council members, parishioners, and others in attendance**

**XI. Review of Action Items**

1. Selecting a council member to present a devotion at the November meeting
2. Other action items from this meeting

**XII. Church Council meeting announcements**

1. Church Conference, Thursday, November 2, 2006 at 7:30 p.m. in Collins-Pace Chapel
2. Thursday, November 16, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. in Wiley Hall
3. Thursday, January 18, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. in Wiley Hall (**No meeting in December 2006**)

**XIII. Sharing Joys and Concerns**

**XIV. Closing Prayer**

*Adjournment by 9:00 p.m.*

# Church Council Update

A Monthly Newsletter for the Church Council of Baker Memorial United Methodist Church

October 2006

**From Mark's desk . . .**

*Let me now remind you, dear brothers and sisters, of the Good News I preached to you before . . . Christ died for our sins, just as the Scriptures said.—1 Corinthians 15:1-3, NLT*

When I was a boy, the name of *Good Friday* was always a cause for consternation. Each year, I'd wonder: "Why do we call it 'Good Friday' if Jesus died that day? It should be 'Bad Friday!'" Then I'd sneak some Easter candy, and forget about this conundrum for another year.

The phrase "Good News" appears 148 times in the Bible, or at least in the *New Living Translation* of it. The first 21 occurrences are in the Old Testament. The next 23 are in the gospels (all in Matthew, Mark, and Luke; John doesn't use the phrase a single time). But the most prodigious user of this phrase is, by far, St.

Paul, who uses it 80 times over 12 epistles. In each case, Paul considers the "Good News" to be the death of Jesus Christ. Paul knows, of course, that without the death of Jesus, there is no sacrifice for our sins; and without that sacrifice, we are all doomed to pay the price for our own sins. That is why anyone who is "washed in the blood of the lamb" (Revelation 7:14) can call "Good Friday" good.

God has an amazing way of taking bad things and bringing great good out of them. Esther, a Jewish girl, became queen of Persia by some, well, less-than-ideal circumstances. But later, when she was able to use her position to save her people, her cousin Mordecai credited God: "Who knows if perhaps you were made queen for just such a time as this?" (Esther 4:14, NLT) More Good News!

Sometime Good News happens in small packages. We got some at the 10:30 a.m. worship service just a few weeks ago. Before the service began, Pastor Ronni stood on the chancel steps and made an announcement: "Brothers and Sisters, I have Good News: *we are out of bulletins!*" Without God, one might be tempted to think that running out of bulletins is "bad news". But since we know God's great history, we know what this really means: that more people are coming to worship God than before . . . and more people are hearing about Jesus Christ than before . . . and that truly is, Good News!

Your thoughts and comments are always welcome.

## **Agendas & Packets**

If you cannot be at a Church Council meeting and wish to have an item placed on the agenda, e-mail it to Mark Armstrong at [mdarmstrong@smartgate.com](mailto:mdarmstrong@smartgate.com) at least seven days prior to the meeting date. Any documents submitted will be included in the agenda packet.

**Our next meeting will be  
Thursday, October 19, 2006 at  
7:00 p.m. in Wiley Hall.**

### **Meeting Summary**

The minutes are distributed with this agenda packet. We have three major discussion items for the meeting:

**An amendment to the 2007 budget** will be presented. We have word that our 2007 apportionments will be \$93,000 instead of \$100,000. Also, we have a request for \$3,200 in additional funding for staff salaries. Other requests for budget amendments can be considered as well.

**A Building Assessment** has been completed by the Board of Trustees. John Fell will present the assessment to the Council, and lead a discussion regarding the Trustees priority and funding issues.

**Mission Statements** are due from each group that relates to the Council. If you chair a ministry team, administrative committee, or board, please bring the mission statement that your group prepared for discussion.

### **Meeting Schedule**

The meeting schedule for the remainder of the year is as follows:

Thursday, November 16, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. in Wiley Hall

No meeting in December

### **Web Site of the Month**

Ever Google your own name on the internet? If you have, you might discover someone else with the *exact same name* as yours. This happens with churches, too; and not just ones with common names. Find-a-church (<http://archives.umc.org/Directory/ChurchDirectoryAdvanced.asp>) is a service of The United Methodist Church where you'll find that there are two separate churches named "Baker Memorial United Methodist Church." One is ours; the other is in East Aurora, New York about 15 miles southeast of Buffalo.

And if you want to waste a little time: It's back! One of the funnest web games ever is Fling the Cow, which has a new home at <http://www.arcadedevil.com/go/1211/Fling~The~Cow.html>.

*If you have a favorite web site, submit it to [mdarmstrong@smartgate.com](mailto:mdarmstrong@smartgate.com).*

### **A Personal Note**

Thanks for the encouragement everyone has given me as I have changed jobs. For those who haven't heard, I left Bulthuis Realty Consultants, my employer of the past 19 years, and have accepted an appointment as the Supervisor of Assessments for Kane County. If you need to reach me during the day, please feel free to call me at (630) 208-3823. And . . . yes, it's fine to ask me questions about your property's tax assessments; answering these is part of my job!

**BAKER MEMORIAL UMC CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING**  
**September 21, 2006 7:00 PM WILEY HALL**

Members present: Ben Adams, Gina Armstrong, Mark Armstrong, Debbie Conterato, Pastor Eunbae Doh, Betty Erickson, John Fell, Pastor Rich French, Rick House, Jan McPeak, Doug Ruth, Judy Schlarb, Biff Staples, Erik Swenson, Pastor Ronni Verboom, and Margie Voll.

Others present: John Hemingway

Members absent: Rick Carlson, Jayne Scales, Joan Arteberry Zavitz, Vic Temple, Evan Dutmer, Tom Trengove, Jean Cole, Kim Starr, JoAnn Poole, and Jeff Hunt.

Chairperson Mark Armstrong called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Pastor Rich French led the council in a devotion.

The minutes of the August 17, 2006 meeting were reviewed and approved with no changes.

**Laity Accomplishments:** Rick Carlson requested that the Council members list some of the accomplishments of the laity of our church; a sheet was passed around and left for Rick in his mailbox.

**Discussion regarding Coffee Fellowship Hour Volunteers:** Pastor Ronni Verboom brought to the Council the need for new volunteers for the Coffee Fellowship. After a short discussion, several members of the Council agreed to serve on a task force to restructure the system, with the intent of making it easier to volunteer. The volunteers are Gina Armstrong, Betty Erickson, and Judy Schlarb, who will meet with Pastor Ronni Verboom.

**Discussion regarding Church Fire Drill:** Pastor Ronni Verboom announced there will be a fire drills on Sunday, October 15 at 9:45 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. All worshipers and church school students will participate. The drill will not be announced prior to that day so as to not discourage persons from coming to church that day.

**Discussion regarding Emergency Preparedness:** Gina Armstrong raised the issue of emergency preparedness, which was originally discussed in teacher training, but referred to the Council because the issue is larger than just Sunday School. Issues considered include first aid kits, defibrillators, first-aid training, and lock-downs. After discussion, it was agreed that Chairperson Mark Armstrong would appoint a task force to make a recommendation. Gina Armstrong and Jan McPeak agreed to serve on the task force.

**Discussion regarding the Establishment of an All-Church Accountant Position:** Biff Staples made a presentation about the advantages of establishing a position of All-Church Accountant. This person would be in charge of the reporting and day-to-day administration of church finances, but would not be authorized to disburse funds. The position would report to the Committee on Finance. After much discussion, the Council authorized the Committee on Finance and the Committee on Staff-Parish Relations to implement the plan, subject to the following conditions:

**Baker Memorial UMC Church Council Meeting**  
**September 21, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. in Wiley Hall**  
**Page 2**

1. The position of Church Treasurer would remain a volunteer, elected position.
2. The position will be posted internally before interviews begin.
3. The Committees will consider the comments made by and received by the Council in developing the details.

**Discussion regarding the 2007 Budget:** Biff Staples presented the 2007 budget as follows:

<i>Baker Memorial United Methodist Church</i>				
<i>2007 Budget Proposal</i>				
<u>Income</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007 Budget Requests</u>	<u>Proposed 2007 Budget</u>
Pledged	\$420,000	\$450,000		\$500,000
Unpledged	135,000	160,000		140,000
Other	90,000	86,000		91,900
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$645,000</b>	<b>\$696,000</b>		<b>\$731,900</b>
<b>Expenses</b>				
Adoption Ministries	-	-	500	500
Advertising	-	-	-	-
Apportionments	86,300	94,000	100,000	100,000
Christian Education	8,800	9,800	17,500	12,000
Church Council	500	500	500	500
Community Outreach	3,000	3,000	-	-
Confirmation Class	500	1,000	1,000	1,000
Evangelism-Membership	4,500	5,300	13,195	12,000
Alpha	1,500	-	-	-
Fellowship	800	500	2,270	1,000
Finance	1,800	4,000	4,000	2,000
Parish Life-Higher Education	200	200	1,000	1,000
Library	500	500	500	500
Liturgical Arts	200	400	400	400
Miscellaneous	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Missions	5,000	8,000	11,000	11,000
Office Administration	25,400	33,300	38,300	36,000
Payroll/Personnel	392,000	398,000	415,000	415,000
Property Maintenance	83,000	104,500	106,000	98,000
Stephen Ministry	900	1,000	1,000	1,000
Stewardship	-	-	5,715	3,000
Music	22,000	22,000	31,000	22,000
Worship	2,100	4,000	5,015	4,000
Youth Ministries	5,000	5,000	14,000	10,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$645,000</b>	<b>\$696,000</b>	<b>\$768,895</b>	<b>\$731,900</b>

After much discussion, the Council arrived at a consensus and approved the budget. It was also noted that the council has the authority to amend the budget at any point during the year.

**Baker Memorial UMC Church Council Meeting**  
**September 21, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. in Wiley Hall**  
**Page 3**

**Additional Business:** John Fell briefly addressed Trustee issues; he will have a full report at the October meeting. He also reported the possibility of acquiring the property at 207 Cedar Avenue. After discussion, the Council affirmed the goal of acquiring that property at a market price. At John Fell's request, Pastor Rich French, Mark Armstrong and John Hemingway agreed to assist in the acquisition process.

**Review of Action Items:** Ben Adams agreed to provide a devotion for the October meeting. Mark Armstrong reminded the chairpersons that Mission Statements were due before the October meeting. Pastor Ronni Verboom reminded the officers of the church that their annual reports must be in the office (in electronic form, if at all possible) by October 23.

**Meeting Announcements:**

- Church Council meeting Thursday, October 19, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. in Wiley Hall.
- Church Council meeting Thursday, November 16, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. in Wiley Hall.
- Church Conference meeting Thursday, November 2, 2006 at 7:30 p.m. in Collins-Pace Chapel.

**Sharing Joys and Concerns:**

- Ben Adams shared the joy of Project 217 (the preparation of the house at 217 Cedar Avenue for a refugee family) nearing completion.
- Rick House reported that his son has been approved for student loans; also that Jim, Chin, a friend of his, has suffered a stroke.
- Debbie Conterato reported that she and Paul have celebrated their 35th wedding anniversary.
- Pastor Eunbae Doh reported that he has purchased a new home and the Doh family will be moving within a week.
- Mark Armstrong reported that his appointment as Kane County Supervisor of Assessments will become effective on Sunday, October 1, 2006.

Pastor Ronni Verboom closed the meeting with prayer. The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Armstrong, Acting Steward

## *Church Council Membership*

### **Chairperson**

Mark Armstrong . . . . . (630) 584-6905 . . . . . [mdarmstrong@smartgate.com](mailto:mdarmstrong@smartgate.com)

### **Vice Chairperson (Lay Leader)**

Rick Carlson . . . . . (630) 879-8789 . . . . . [carlson.r@sbcglobal.net](mailto:carlson.r@sbcglobal.net)

### **Recording Steward**

Jayne Scales . . . . . (630) 377-0089 . . . . . [jmarie55@comcast.net](mailto:jmarie55@comcast.net)

### **Members at Large**

Joan Arteberry Zavitz . . . . . (630) 584-0904 . . . . . [jarteber@hotmail.com](mailto:jarteber@hotmail.com)

Vic Temple . . . . . (630) 377-3110 . . . . . [ginvictemp@aol.com](mailto:ginvictemp@aol.com)

Evan Dutmer . . . . . (630) 584-2031 . . . . . [sosal58rbi@hotmail.com](mailto:sosal58rbi@hotmail.com)

Margie Voll . . . . . (630) 377-8120 . . . . . [johnavoll@comcast.net](mailto:johnavoll@comcast.net)

Tom Trengove . . . . . (630) 762-0379 . . . . . [tomt@mail.lemont.k12.il.us](mailto:tomt@mail.lemont.k12.il.us)

Betty Erickson . . . . . (630) 584-6183 . . . . . [n9yfc@aol.com](mailto:n9yfc@aol.com)

### **Chairpersons of Ministry Teams**

#### *Christian Education*

Meg Bingham . . . . . (630) 584-1612 . . . . . [mbingham@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mbingham@sbcglobal.net)

#### *Evangelism*

Sandie Benhart . . . . . (630) 513-1134 . . . . . [sandra.benhardt@comcast.net](mailto:sandra.benhardt@comcast.net)

#### *Mission and Outreach*

Ben Adams . . . . . (630) 377-6912 . . . . . [werbanks@prodigy.net](mailto:werbanks@prodigy.net)

#### *Parish Life*

Loretta Wilson . . . . . (630) 513-5962 . . . . . [ltreeman@earthlink.net](mailto:ltreeman@earthlink.net)

#### *Stewardship*

Doug Ruth . . . . . (630) 513-9627 . . . . . [dougandcathie@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dougandcathie@sbcglobal.net)

#### *Worship and Spiritual Growth*

Jean Cole . . . . . (630) 513-6058 . . . . . [jecinstc@aol.com](mailto:jecinstc@aol.com)

#### *Youth*

Erik Swenson . . . . . (630) 513-1672 . . . . . [eswenson@d303.org](mailto:eswenson@d303.org)

### **Chairpersons of Administrative Committees**

#### *Finance*

Biff Staples . . . . . (630) 584-5283 . . . . . [bstaples@ats.bwauto.com](mailto:bstaples@ats.bwauto.com)

#### *Lay Leadership*

Pastor Ronni Verboom . . . . . (630) 584-0441 . [rverboom@bakermemorialchurch.org](mailto:rverboom@bakermemorialchurch.org)

#### *Staff-Parish Relations*

Debbie Conterato . . . . . (630) 232-7519 . . . . . [dcontera@ballhort.com](mailto:dcontera@ballhort.com)

**Lay Members of Annual Conference**

Ben Adams . . . . . (630) 377-6912 . . . . . [werbanks@prodigy.net](mailto:werbanks@prodigy.net)  
Debbie Conterato . . . . . (630) 232-7519 . . . . . [dcontera@ballhort.com](mailto:dcontera@ballhort.com)  
Kim Starr . . . . . (630) 584-1762 . . . . . [KimberlyAnnStarr@sbcglobal.net](mailto:KimberlyAnnStarr@sbcglobal.net)

**Sunday School Superintendent**

Gina Armstrong . . . . . (630) 584-6905 . . . . . [gmarmstrong@smartgate.com](mailto:gmarmstrong@smartgate.com)

**Church Treasurer**

JoAnn Poole . . . . . (630) 584-6987 . . . . . [jp3m13@comcast.net](mailto:jp3m13@comcast.net)

**President of Board of Trustees**

John Fell . . . . . (630) 584-4687 . . . . . [chgosprtmn@sbcglobal.net](mailto:chgosprtmn@sbcglobal.net)

**President of United Methodist Men**

Rick House . . . . . (630) 262-3921 . . . . . [brhouse@mchsi.com](mailto:brhouse@mchsi.com)

**President of United Methodist Women**

Judy Schlarb . . . . . (630) 584-2181 . . . . . [jlschlarb1939@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jlschlarb1939@sbcglobal.net)

**Professional Staff**

*Director of Administrative Ministries*

Jan McPeak . . . . . (630) 584-3431 . . . . . [info@bakermemorialchurch.org](mailto:info@bakermemorialchurch.org)

*Director of Music Ministries*

Jeff Hunt . . . . . (630) 584-4251 . . . . . [mmsdir1@aol.com](mailto:mmsdir1@aol.com)

*Assistant Pastor for Youth Ministries*

Pastor Rich French . . . . . (630) 584-5736 . . . . . [rfrench@bakermemorialchurch.org](mailto:rfrench@bakermemorialchurch.org)

*Associate Pastor for Christian Education Ministries*

Pastor Eunbae Doh . . . . . (630) 444-1799 . . . . . [edoh@bakermemorialchurch.org](mailto:edoh@bakermemorialchurch.org)

*Senior Pastor*

Pastor Ronni Verboom . . . . . (630) 584-0441 . . . . . [rverboom@bakermemorialchurch.org](mailto:rverboom@bakermemorialchurch.org)