

# Baker Memorial United Methodist Church

## Church Council Meeting Agenda

August 17, 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*
- *serving His people and Kingdom in Christian Love.*

**I. Welcome**

**II. Devotions**

**III. Presentation of the Minutes of the meeting of June 15, 2006**

**IV. Discussion regarding Adult Education** ..... *Rick Carlson*

**V. 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*

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

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

**VII. 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*

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

1. Report on the 2006 Annual Conference ..... *Kim Starr*

**IX. Review of Action Items**

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

**X. Church Council meeting announcements**

1. Thursday, September 21, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. in Wiley Hall
2. Thursday, October 19, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. in Wiley Hall

**XI. Sharing Joys and Concerns**

**XII. Closing Prayer**

**XIII. Adjournment to the Youth Room, where the UMM Football Fellowship will be testing equipment for High-Definition Football Broadcasts**

*Adjournment by 9:00 p.m.*

# Church Council Update

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

August 2006

From Mark's desk . . .

*So God created people in his own image;  
God patterned them after himself;  
male and female he created them.*

—Genesis 1:21, NLT

On August 18, *Snakes on a Plane* will open in movie theaters nationwide. I don't know how many people will go see this film (message boards on [www.imdb.com](http://www.imdb.com) have people predicting it will out-gross *Titanic*; I suppose that depends on your definition of "gross"), but I know one thing: this is not a movie you can go to and not know ahead of time what it's about. With a title like this, you can be sure of two things.

1. There's gonna be a plane.
2. There gonna be snakes on it.

Likewise, when I open a recent issue of our denominational newspaper and saw a review of a book called *Why Men Hate Going To Church*, I knew what it was going to be about. The book attracted several readers in our congregation, including one woman (hint: the readers could form a group called "Three Men and a Pastor").

The author is David Murrow, a Presbyterian layperson who believes that the "feminization" of the church is driving away men. He is quick to point out that his definition of feminization DOES NOT mean ordaining women, or permitting women to have equal standing. Nor does he believe this to be a particularly recent trend: he points out that masculine imagery in church music that was once commonplace (*Onward, Christian soldiers, marching as to war*), has been replaced over the past 100 years by more feminine imagery (*And he walks with me, and he talks with me, and he tells me I am his own*). These he calls "love songs to Jesus", but he notes that men have "no desire to fall in love with a wonderful man, even one named Jesus."

I read the book over the last month, and found it to be, for the most part, insightful. I am also pleased that many of the danger signs the author lists are not found in our church. But I do note that our amazingly successful women's ministry (UMW) is not matched by a growing, dynamic men's ministry.

UMM President Rick House and a few other men want to help change that. There are already several successful men's programs, such as the Thursday morning Bible study. But a new one will start on September 10 that is, as far as we can tell, unique: *Men's Football Fellowship*. Men are invited to gather in the Youth Room (renamed "The Men's Den" just for the day) and watch the Bears-Packers game in High Definition on a big screen. Snacks and soda will be provided, and it one thing that is *just for the guys*. Just Christian men, hanging out, watching sports. Nothing more. I'll be there, and I hope some of you will, too.

Your thoughts and comments are always welcome.

**Our next meeting will be  
Thursday, August 17, 2006  
at 7:00 p.m. in Wiley Hall.**

## **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.

## **Meeting Summary**

The minutes were not available to distribute with the agenda packet due to technical difficulties. They will either be distributed in a separate e-mail, or will be available at the meeting.

## **Bishop's Retreat**

The Bishop's Laity retreat will be held in St. Charles this year. Please see the attached flyer. For more information, please contact Doug Ruth or Pastor Ronni Verboom.

## **Evangelism Needs Your Help**

Sandie Benhart, Chairperson of the Evangelism Ministry Team, would like each team leader to fill out the attached form and have it to her NO LATER THAN THE END OF THE CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING. These are needed for the new information table that will be staffed on Sunday morning. For more information, see Sandie.

## **Mission Statements**

Several ministry teams and committees have turned in their mission statements, and most of the rest have begun to work on this project. **Please continue to develop these, so we can review them at the Church Council meeting in September.** If you have questions, or just need help getting started, please contact Mark Armstrong at [mdarmstrong@smartgate.com](mailto:mdarmstrong@smartgate.com) or call him at 630-584-6905.

## **Meeting Schedule**

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

Thursday, September 21, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. in Wiley Hall

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

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

No meeting in December

## **Web Site of the Month**

Church for Men <http://www.churchformen.com/> is the companion web site to the book *Why Me Hate Going To Church*, by David Morrow. I found it interesting, including its resources.

And if you want to waste a little time: Go to <http://www.nearlygod.com/ballparks/>. If you are a baseball fan, you will love this site that connects you to detailed satellite imagery of every major league ballpark in America.

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

## **Report to the church regarding annual conference 2006**

*Called into the future*

by Kim Starr

I am one of the lay delegates to annual conference. One of my responsibilities is to report to the church the actions of the conference.

- We were called to allow Jesus to be part of the decision making. For we can do nothing without Christ. We are his representatives.
- The conference of Northern Illinois is amazingly diverse. The make up of the churches and the ethnicity always amazes me . For 25% of the conference English is a second language.
- The bishop presided over all the meetings. He often says we are a “beautiful people” or a “beautiful conference” Also, that he is a singing bishop. He would stop when things became difficult or confusing in discussion and we would just pray or we would sing. It helped to refocus what we were doing and why. In his address he spoke about his being a time of possibilities, of hope and of God’s liberating, loving and saving work in this world. We should be brought together by our differences not separated. When we truly listen to God then wonderful things can happen. We don’t have to agree with each other to become disciples of Christ Jesus.
- There was a bible study every morning. A worship service to open the conference and close the conference A service honoring the retired pastors, deacons and elders of this year, also a memorial service. There was ordination on the last evening. The candidates make their vows before the conference. They are asked the historic questions- including questions regarding itinerancy, serving the sick and ministry.
- This was the 50 anniversary of women in ministry. There are 157 women clergy with 86 of them in active service. There were many presentations regarding women in ministry. I learned how difficult that process was, and how long it took to have the general conference vote to give women full clergy rights.
- As Ronni has shared we sent a great amount of money to missions and the hurricane relief, volunteers in mission, second mile giving.
- The conference paid 100% of its apportionment to the general church in 2005.
- There was discussion regarding health insurance and the changes. If those in the insurance plan fill out a health survey that can be done on line, it will reduce our insurance costs. Also, a discussion regarding a new pension plan. It will be effective 2007.
- Ronni told us that NIC is the only one with increased worship attendance.
- There is a new criteria for charge conference this year.
- We have joined in a sister relationship with a church in Seoul South Korea. We attended their annual conference and they were present at ours. There is the plan to go to Korea and do some type of sharing between the churches.
- I was reminded of the services our conference has for the local church. One of them is a media resource center. It has a wealth of information- DVD, videos presentations on any subject you could name. Of course I thought of all the possibilities regarding bible study and Sunday school for adults or children. The office is in Elgin and if it is available there is no fee to borrow the materials. That doesn’t include the printed resources they also have.
- Conference next year is June 7- June 10 at Pheasant Run Resort.

Name of Ministry	
Description (max 3 sentences or bullet points)	
Name of Chair or Ministry Leader	
Phone #	
Email Address	
Alternate Contact	
Phone #	
Email Address	
Meeting Date(s)/Time	
Meeting Location	
Upcoming Event Dates/Times/Locations through December 2006	
Other Items	

Return to Sandie Benhart at the council meeting.

**NORTHERN ILLINOIS CONFERENCE**  
**UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

**ONE IN SPIRIT.....**

**ALL IN MINISTRY.....**

**as**

**UNITED METHODISTS**

**BISHOP'S LAITY RETREAT**

**A DAY FOR THE LAITY  
WITH BISHOP HEE-SOO JUNG**

**OCTOBER 7, 2006**

**PHEASANT RUN - ST. CHARLES**

**--- WORSHIP**

**--- BIBLE STUDY & Discussion**

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW AND  
TELL OTHER LAITY TO HOLD THE  
DATE!**

**\$20.00 registration covers lunch and materials. Registration  
Materials will be distributed.**

***\*\*Please Post\*\****

## *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@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sandra.benhardt@sbcglobal.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 . . . . . [dcstarr@ntsource.com](mailto:dcstarr@ntsource.com)

**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**

*Business Manager*

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)