

Baker Memorial United Methodist Church
Church Council Meeting
October 17, 2005

Members Present: Mark Armstrong, Joan Arteberry Zavitz, Kathy Adams, Ben Adams, Bill Staples, Rick House, Jennifer Hruska, Ronni Verboom, Rich French, Margie Voll, Jan McPeak, Judy Schlarb, Sandie Benhart, Ketih Breslich, Loretta Wilson

1 Mark called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

2 Joan Arteberry Zavitz gave the devotion.

3 Beth Patten-Nawara was appointed Recording Steward for the remainder of 2005.

4 Rich French moved to approve minutes as presented. Sandie Benhart seconded. The motion passed.

5 Introductions

6 **The Adoption Ministry Task Force** was presented by Jennifer Hruska. She discussed the four main goals, 1) encouragement and support for families 2) support birth parents 3) funding a line item to the budget to disperse \$500 by forming a new committee 4) sharing information about the adoption process. It was decided the Council should reflect on what group within the church should have oversight of the adoption task force. Let the task force work with the Church staff to develop the mechanics of how the task force would work and report back to the church council. Joan Arteberry Zavitz moved to pass a motion to accept the four goals of the adoption ministry. It was seconded by Rick Carlson. The motion passed.

7 **Safe Sanctuary** is being worked on.

8 **Pastors Discretionary Fund** Pastor Verboom needs to talk with Joann Poole and move money into the fund.

9 More discussion needs to occur with current church members about allowing Licensed Clinical Counselor Frank Breseman to use the building.

10 **Stewardship** - Biff Staples reported it is on going.

11 **Christian Education** had no report

12 **Community Outreach** - Kathy Adams reported that 20 pints of blood were collected on September 28 at the annual blood drive. Rick Carlson mentioned that the weekly services at Brighton Gardens is a valuable outreach and needs a little help. We are the only church providing this service. We need a musician on the 3& 5 Sunday from 2:30 – 3:00 pm. High School students might be an option because they need community

service. Also, Pastor Doh's wife might be an option. Sign ups for the Salvation Army bell ringing will begin in November. The adoption ministry could go under Community Outreach.

13 Evangelism - Sandie Benhart would be willing to take the adoption task force under the evangelism committee. They are working on brochures, and training sessions for greeters and "ask me" button people. They will have things ready for the beginning of 2006. People worshiping in the sanctuary on Sunday mornings need to invite people to fellowship. Evangelism is also working on ideas for the Christmas parade float. The Church directory will be available in 4 weeks. Pastor Doh will be in it.

14 Missions - Ben Adams thanked Jan McPeak for helping Missionaries Alan and Mavis Strefflyer. The meeting about Senegal at the Church was successful. Missions may plan a trip to Senegal in 2007 and the cost would be about \$1500. Helen Shepard, missionary to Mongolia, whose main focus is hospice and AIDS work is coming the Monday after Thanksgiving. Missions would like to have a mission trip to Mongolia with health officials or help in another way. Email health care professionals to Ben who might be interested. Baker Memorial UMC and the Geneva UMC are helping Betty Loe and Tina Johnson from Mississippi. We have given furniture and \$2000 for rent through the end of the year. Geneva UMC will cover the rent for the first 3 months of 2006. Tina is a sophomore at St. Charles East. Pastor Doh is looking for a piano

15 Nurturing is not formed.

16 Parish Life - Loretta canceled the trip to the pumpkin farm. They will be accepting donations to the Salvation Army for Stuff the Turkey. A \$15 donation provides a Thanksgiving meal to a family. We will also receive 125 angels for the Angel tree for Christmas.

17 Worship and Spiritual Growth no report

18 United Methodist Men - Rick House reported that bell ringing for the Salvation Army needs a volunteer to pick up the bucket at the end of the day or drop it off at Jewel. Furthermore, please try to volunteer an hour or two to bell ringing.

19 United Methodist Women - Judy reported that the UMW will cook Wednesday Night Supper October 26. They will help with the Madrigal dinner the 2nd weekend of December. We will receive \$1200.00. Judy has talked to a few people about handing out candy canes at the holiday parade with a message attached. Hot chocolate may also be served. Judy was asked to make sure the Madrigal group has insurance information in the church office. Mirian Emmett is going to contact Kathy Adams about UMW helping with the Hurricane Katrina Effort. It was recommended that she look at the UMCOR website. Pastor Verboom mentioned that there is a great need for church to church adoption due to Hurricane Katrina.

20 United Methodist Youth Fellowship - Pastor French had to cancel the first meeting due to poor participation. He has gone to the high school Sunday school class and asked kids to attend. The kids who have attended have been high school age but it is open to more. There are upcoming events that will hopefully have more attendance.

21 Council on Youth Ministries - Pastor French has not done much yet.

22 Committee on Lay Leadership - Pastor Verboom reported they are meeting.

23 Staff-Parish Relations -Debbie Conterato reported earlier to Mark that there was nothing to report.

24 Board of Trustees - Keith Breslich reported the trustees have a new safe child policy and a policy requiring insurance for anyone using the Church other than Church missions. They are working on an alarm system, piano repair, leaks in walls and cleaning chimneys. They have a policy stating that only church missions can use the parking lot. Someone needs to seed the area under the crosses and water the grass seed.

25 Finance - Biff Staples said the budget will be presented December 12. Jan McPeak has each committee budget. Committees need to get their budget to the church office by November 6. Trustees have developed a donation schedule for use of church rooms including, classrooms, library, sanctuary, and Baker Hall. The donations are divided by half and full day usage. Extensions of church missions, such as scouts and AA do not have to pay. Outside groups must adhere to the Church safe child policy.

The members of the church need to be diligent about turning off lights and heat when they are finished using a room.

26 Endowment Fund - no report

27 Additional items

Tell Pastor French if the soda machine is empty.

Talk to Mark Armstrong if you want to write an advent devotion.

Pastor Verboom has received information about apportionments for 2006. They should be \$94,068.00 for 2006.

We do not have lots of money to hire support staff and committees need to try to do as much stuff on their own as possible.

The next Church Council meeting is November 21, 2005 at 7:00.

Church Conference in December is usually in Wiley Hall and we need a piano to sing hymns.

Prayer concerns were mentioned for Jan McPeak's father and a pastor friend of Pastor Verboom.

Adjourned at 8:56