

**BAKER MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES...SEPTEMBER 19, 2005**

Members Present: Mark Armstrong, Loretta Wilson, Sandie Benhart, Ronni Verboom, Joan Arteberry Zavitz, Ben Adams, Debbie Conterato, Margie Voll, Rick Carlson

1. Mark called the meeting to order at 7:01. He asked Rick Carlson to be Recording Steward for the evening.
2. Sandie Benhart gave the opening devotions.
3. Sandie Benhart moved to approve the minutes as corrected. Margie Voll seconded. The motion passed.
4. Old Business: Further discussion of the Safe Sanctuary policy was postponed because we have not heard back from the person in the conference office that we had contacted.
5. Ronni brought up the idea of having a Pastor's Discretionary Fund. This fund could be used for a variety of "situations of real need." Such needs might include medical expenses, counseling, food, clothing, etc. The concept has already been approved by the Finance Committee. Ronni will solicit donations from the congregation. It was suggested that such donations could be combined with several funds that are already in use. Confidentiality and a degree of accountability (to make sure monies are used for the intended purposes) will be stressed. It was suggested that this be built into next year's budget.
6. Ronni suggests that we enter into a relationship with Frank W. Bresemann, Licensed Clinical Professional Psychotherapist. Dr. Bresemann provides counseling from a Christian perspective, but not overpoweringly so. We would offer him space at Baker for 8 hours per week. We would also offer publicity, as this is considered to be an extension of our ministry. He works on a sliding scale. Staff would refer possible clients to him. Ronni will also take this proposal to the staff and the Staff-Parish Relations Committee. A background check will be done.
7. Reports:
 - Education: Sunday School is now completely staffed.
 - Community Outreach: There will be a Blood Drive on 9/28 in Baker Hall.
 - Missions: The \$180.00 that was earned from the car wash will be divided as follows; \$60 Katrina efforts, \$60 Talents contribution, \$60 other mission projects. There was discussion of a possible fundraising event that would be conducted in relation to the St. Charles Christmas parade. This could be done in conjunction with the Evangelism Committee.
 - Trucks will be going south from Naperville to help hurricane victims, and we are assisting in filling the trucks. Ben is looking into ways to support a Katrina resettlement family. The Senegal Consultation will be held here on Sept. 25. The Northern Illinois Conference is requesting funds to assist the conference that includes New Orleans as it tries to pay salaries and medical coverage for pastors. In one district, there are no churches left standing. The possibility of supporting a "sister church" was raised.

Evangelism: The committee is looking into a “marketing” program. It’s also working on brochures and a new welcome packet. New “Visitors Ask Me” buttons will be provided for selected members to wear to assist guests/newcomers that come to church. License plate frames will be sold as part of the Talents drive.

Parish Life: There will be a hayrack ride on October 22, from 1:00-5:00. Caroling will take place on Dec. 17. Bowling will take place on Feb. 26, while the annual Boat Trip will be on May 20.

Worship: The committee is looking into different ways of celebrating communion. It’s also trying to provide support for teams like ushers, greeters, etc. that serve before and during worship.

UMW: Two major fundraisers are planned this year, the Madrigal Dinner and the Tea. In addition, UMW will serve three of the Wednesday night supers. Marian Emmett is in charge of Katrina relief. A retreat is planned for March 10-12.

Youth Council: Approximately 35 attended the first late-afternoon worship service with 11 youth participating. Other fellowship and service events are on the calendar for the year.

Lay Leadership: Meetings are planned for Oct. 5, 20; Nov. 3, 17; Dec. 1. These are in preparation for the Church Conference on Dec. 12, at 7:30, with the 6:45 Staff-Parish meeting preceding it.

Staff Parish: We will welcome Pastor Eunbae Doh on October 1.

Trustees: Outside groups that use our facility will now need to follow our safe child policies. Classroom windows are leaking and may need replacement. Concerns were expressed about the elevator door on the top floor, the grass near the crosses, and plans for snow removal. The crosses will be consecrated on Nov. 6, All Saints Sunday.

Finance: The suggested rate structure for outside groups was put on hold until the next meeting.

8. Mark closed the meeting with a prayer. The meeting adjourned at 9:17 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Rick Carlson