

Baker Memorial United Methodist Church
Church Council Meeting Minutes
August 15, 2005

Members Present: Mark Armstrong, Rick Carlson, Ronni Verboom, Kathy Adams, Biff Staples, Keith Breslich, Jan McPeak, Debbie Conterato, Margie Voll, Judy Schlarb, Rich French, Loretta Wilson, Sandie Benhart, Kim Starr, Rick House, Sue Pelkey, and Doug BrisBois

Members Absent: Marsha Byers, JoAnn Poole, Vic Temple, George Linchangco, Jean Cole, Joan Arteberry Zavitz, KerryLynn Hunter, Jeff Hunt, Evan Dutmer, and Erik Swenson

Others Present: Doug Ruth

1. Mark called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. With Marsha Byers absent, Mark asked for a volunteer to be Recording Steward for the evening. Rick House volunteered.
3. The opening devotion was given by Mark Armstrong.
4. A motion was made to approve minutes of the last meeting by Margie Voll and Keith Breslich provided the 2nd. The motion passed.
5. Community Outreach area was covered by Kathy Adams: We are providing meals to Lazarus House, filling the Salvation Army food pantry buckets each week, and there will be another blood drive in about a month.
6. Evangelism area was covered by Sandie Benhart: The new Church photo directory will be finished and sent in this Wednesday. For the talent challenge our committee is planning on selling Church License plate frames starting in mid September. Our committee is considering ways to make visitor resource people more visible, looking at the visitors packets, where a visitors resource table might be placed, and the visitor tracking procedure. There was discussion on visitor tracking and the possibility of cross referencing with the youth list (kids coming and the parents not coming). There was a question if the directory could be available on CD and there was discussion on that issue.
7. Missions area was covered by Kathy Adams: The Senegal Conservation Meeting will be hosted by our Church on September 25th. People from three states and Global Ministries will be attending. Jan McPeak pointed out that many volunteers will be needed such as registration, fee takers, welcomers, meal preparation and clean up, and others. A letter will be going out at the end of August about this meeting.

8. Parish Life area was covered by Loretta Wilson: Upcoming events include a hayride at Kuipers Farm on Oct. 22nd, Stuff the Turkey program for the Salvation Army, The Angel Tree also for the Salvation Army, a bowling night, Caroling for shut ins in December, a boat ride in May, a Cougars game in June, and the mini-potluck groups.
9. Christian Education area was covered by Sue Pelkey: We are currently finishing up the Summer Sunday School program. There are openings for Sunday School Teachers in the Fall: 3 year olds, 4th grade, and Jr. High. For Home Coming Sunday (9/11) Pancakes the Clown will be doing a Christian oriented program for the cost of \$200.00. Upcoming events are the teacher dedication luncheon, presentation of 3rd grade Bibles, and the Epiphany program. There will be no school on December 25th, but there will be school on January 1st.
10. Worship and Spiritual Growth had no official report but it was noted that for the talent challenge this group will be having a square dance and a pie/cake auction.
11. United Methodist Men area was covered by Rick House: We are having a small group going the Spiritual Congress retreat on Saturday 9/17. The group will include Ronni and her husband Gilles. We are looking forward to hearing Tony Campolo speak at this retreat. UMM is going to sell Church coffee mugs for the talent challenge. We updated the write up about UMM for the Church website.
12. United Methodist Women area was covered by Judy Schlarb: UMW is having their Mission Team meeting. On December 8,9, and 10th UMW will assist with the Madrigal Dinner. In May UMW will host their Tea event. Last year the UMW raised \$10,000. Each Circle has their own fund raiser and there are six Circles. The age of members of Rebecca's Circle may be reduced to build up its number. There will be a Homecoming Luncheon open to all women of the Church.
13. Youth Fellowship area was covered by Rich French: After a meeting with parents and youth it was decided to start a "do something" group that would meet every Sunday afternoon from 5:15 to 6:00 p.m.. The first meeting will be 9/18. The theme will be worship, service, and study and will include music and drama. Every first Sunday will be Communion and a fun activity. For the talent challenge the youth are thinking of a pumpkin sale for the Scare Crow Festival 1st weekend. Youth Sunday will be late January and will be coordinated with the ASP staff weekend. Confirmation Sunday will be June 4th.
14. Committee on Lay Leadership: there was no report.
15. Committee on Staff Parish Relations was given by Debbie Conterato: We are in a holding pattern on an Associate appointment and on a Director of Christian Education. We held an ice cream social for Ronni at Debbie's house. For the talent challenge we are selling a lawn flocking service of placing a flock of pink flamingos in yards and/or insurance against having your yard flocked by flamingos.
16. Board of Trustees report was given by Keith Breslich: The Parsonage painting is complete but there still is chimney tuck pointing repair need. Tuck pointing repair is also need for the Church

building and a quote to do both is about \$60,000. The crosses have been installed and grass has been planted at the base. The piano in the parlor is being rebuilt and will be moved upstairs into Baker Hall. The boiler inspection has been done and the boiler room has been cleaned up and some painting will be done. The Trustees are working on a revised usage policy for the usage of and fees for the use of our properties. Forty five organizations use our properties for non-church activities. Concerning the recent break in, the stained glass in the parlor has been repaired and the door repairs are being estimated. The repairs will come to about \$ 850.00 and our insurance deductible is \$1,000. There was discussion about filing a claim or not. The Trustees will look into a horn alarm that would sound during a break in the frighten off would be intruders.

17. Committee on Finance report was given by Biff Staples: Through July we have had a negative income due to expenses being up and income being flat. We also have not paid our apportionment's for the last two months. Doug Ruth discussed Stewardship and provided handouts on the vision for the long range stewardship plan and creating a climate for giving. Testimonies will be given and others will be encouraged to join in. Doug also discussed the upcoming Good Sense Ministry course being offered in September. Questions and comments can be sent to Doug by e-mail at dougandcathie@sbcglobal.net.
18. The Endowment Fund report was given by Keith Breslich: We are working on a brochure for late Fall and we are thinking about an appreciation dinner.
19. Additional items were: Ronni handed out the "responding to reports of abuse" policy document and there was discussion as to whether or not we need to revise it. Keith Breslich recommended running this by legal counsel provided by the District and Ronni agreed to research that possibility. Doug Ruth observed that the Broadway at Baker tent show was a great hit and that our website was looking good. Sandie Benhart agreed to do the devotion for the next meeting. The September meeting will be September 19th and the October meeting will be October 17th.
20. Mark asked about prayer concerns and there were the following: There was joy expressed for Rick Carlson's new job and Judy Schlarb's granddaughter getting married. Concerns were for Jan McPeak's fathers upcoming surgery and rehabilitation, for Loretta's friend Jonie who was going to into Hospice, for Victor, friend of Kim Starr who is in the hospital and not getting sick pay, for Ronni's son in law's examination for brain tumor growth and for the Church to once again be able to pay our apportionments.
21. Ronni closed the meeting with a prayer at 9:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Rick House