

First United Methodist Church Administrative Team
“Conducting the Business of the Church in a Christ-like Manner”
January 9, 2006

Members Present: Diane Schneider, Virginia Mund, Kath Roll, Sarah Fischer, Andrew Zoller, Sean Thorenson, Don Wolf, Brian Artz, Dave Aberle, Lori Wavrin, Nathan Bergman, Brenton Leingang, Pastor Kermit Culver

Members Unable to Attend:

Others Present: Paulette Voegele, Secretary

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:40 p.m. by Chair, Dave Aberle

Opening Prayer: Pastor Kermit offered the opening prayer

Approval of Minutes: Diane Schneider moved and Sarah Fischer seconded that the minutes of the December meeting be approved as written. Motion carried.

Diane also moved and Sarah seconded that the minutes of the Charge Conference be approved as revised. Motion carried.

Staff Report: Pastor Kermit reported that he has heard more positive things about the services and activities provided over this Christmas season than any previous year.
Staff is doing well. Stephanie is doing Joy’s job during her absence for the winter. Sean verbalized approval of the tri-fold bulletins. Feedback on the screen/cross/projector project has all been very positive.
Working with the finance committee, staff has ordered two more computers to update current office equipment.
Ann Elder has volunteered to make banners for the wall behind the screen when it is retracted. She is considering a “stained-glass” quilt. She is also planning to make a new altar cloth as well.

Subcommittee Reports:

Finance: Brian indicated that Jeff had e-mailed the December financials and hoped that everyone had been able to access them. Year-end was approximately \$10,000 in the red. However, two year-end contributions, for about \$8,000, that have not yet been totaled in, will reduce that negative to approximately \$2000. Several large items occurred in December that contributed to this negative balance. \$2700 went to Todd Perman for the camera system. Mission items totaled \$3000. Elevator maintenance was \$539 and the cost of donation envelopes for the new year was \$600.
Items that were purchased, but have not yet been paid for will be applied to the January budget. These include furnace repair needed in December, cost of the mugs (\$1500), accounting software (\$1000) and 3 new P.C.’s (\$2000).

2005 actuals regarding spending indicated we spent 101% of the actual budget. Pastor Kermit suggested that for the future, we may want to look in to a donation “booklet” that other Methodist churches in the community are using. He is not sure of the cost, but believes it is comparable, and quality is better.

The 2006 buget is approximately \$484,000, \$60,000 more than 2005. This will require \$9200/week to fulfill.

Brian indicated the finance team would like to start the budgeting process for 2007 sooner than this past year, maybe May or June (rather than September), to facilitate the process and not “push” those involved quite so hard.

Update on the land: The balance going in to this new year is \$4800. We can probably have it paid off by March. By clearing up this expense, we may have contributions that can be used for other purposes if the donators agree.

A celebration in recognition of this major accomplishment was recommended. It was suggested that we tie it in with the 50th anniversary celebration. Possibly a whole weekend could be set aside with activities planned Fri. evening through Sunday morning. Bill Strutz will be contacted to see if his former Sunday School class still wishes to plan this event.

Kathy Roll asked if the Finance committee has any recommendations for use of the outstanding pledges. Brian indicated they have been thinking of things like a building fund, a No. Washington fund, putting it in the First Church trust fund... Pastor Kermit explained what the trust fund is, how it was created, and what it is used for.

Trustees: Lori reported that MDU replaced the outside meter, there was a leak in the system.

A couple of water leaks were fixed.

All 1954 light fixtures will be replaced inside the building in the near future. There is a 5 year warranty on lamps and a 10 year warranty on ballasts.

Seifert will be replacing lights outside the building on the south and west sides and over the front door. They will all be on timers.

The “Veggie tales” room will be framed out and finished.

SPRC: Diane indicated they reviewed staff evaluations done by Pastor Kermit.

Pastor Kermit submitted his vacation schedule for the new year.

The committee discussed appreciation for the staff.

Old Business:

Vision Team – meeting schedule has not yet been set.

50th Anniversary – celebration date needs to be set. Dates discussed included the first weekend of May (May 7th), Confirmation Sunday (May 23rd) or April 30th (U. of Mary graduation day). Ad team members will visit with members of the congregation to see what others in the church may prefer.

New Business:

Pastor Kermit met with Connie Driscoll last week and discussed our goal to “extend our ministry beyond our walls”. Over the holidays enough food was

donated for holiday dinners to fill 80 baskets. After donating what was needed for the main purpose of the baskets, we still had some left, which were given to transients who may have stopped in at the church, and also to homes in the neighborhood. While doing this, an older man's home in the neighborhood was noted to be in need of repair – shingles, painting, general repairs, etc. Pastor Kermit was thinking this could be a project of our ministry. It was also discussed that we may have a neighborhood dinner or “block party” at the church and invite our neighbors to promote closeness and good will.

Election of Vice Chair/chair elect to become the Chair in 2007: Diane nominated Sean Thorenson. Sean accepted the nomination. Elected by unanimous approval.

Closing Prayer: Brent Leingang offered the closing prayer.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Next Meeting: Feb. 13th a potluck supper will be held at 5:30 p.m. for members of the Ad team and their families in order to get to know each other better. Subcommittee groups will meet at 6:45 and the Ad team as a whole at 7:30.