

Wesley Memorial United Methodist Church

Church Council March 18, 2014

Church Council members present: Angela Frith Antrim, Mary Cullen Bills, Alison Collins, Jim Holcomb, Curt Jacobs, Gene Kester, Leigh Kuhnly, Harvey Lowd, Harriet Mattes, Mark Morgan, Meredith Morgan, Kathy Niebauer, Karen Odom, Debbie Smothers, Tom Smothers, Al Ward.

Staff members present: Anne Carroll, Debbie Foust, Kathy Barba Pierce, Jared Stine, Susan Sumpter, Adam Vernon

Council Chair Harvey Lowd called the meeting to order. Adam Vernon opened the meeting in prayer.

The minutes of January 21, 2014, were approved as meeting. Susan Sumpter later requested a change of the date of the parenting conference to February 22nd. The change was duly noted and made.

Senior Pastor Al Ward noted that the average worship attendance through March 12th is 512, with 788 people attending on Scout Sunday. Year-to-date two new members have been received, five individuals have transferred their membership, and two have withdrawn their membership. On Sunday, March 16th, members of Wesley Memorial packed 625+ backpacks for the Backpack Project and raised about \$9700 to go toward food vouchers for people who lost food during the recent ice storm.

Trustees Chair Curt Jacobs reported that the Trustees have approved \$10,000 from the Facilities Endowed Fund to complete the renovations of the Youth area, and is recommending that \$40,000 from the 2013 surplus receipts be used as "matching funds" for the playground. He also reported that expenses for clean up after this winter's storms have already topped the budgeted amount.

Finance Chair Karen Odom reported that Finance will make a few basic changes to controls based on recommendations from the recent audit report otherwise the audit was clean. The budget is currently \$34,000 in the black for pledge receipts over expenses paid. Karen and Senior Pastor Al Ward will be meeting with staff to clarify financial procedures.

Leadership Chair Mark Morgan presented nominations of Dan Smoak to fill a spot on the Finance team to end in 2016 and of Lisa Cheek to fill a spot on the Worship team to end in 2015. Both nominations passed unanimously.

SPRC Chair Tom Smothers reported that the search for a Music Director is getting closer. In the search for a Minister of Adult Spiritual Formation and Contemporary Worship, SPRC has submitted two requested individuals to the Bishop and the Cabinet. During the search for a Director of Administration and Finance, SPRC realized that the church would need to pay a

Angela Frith Antrim 3/24/14 1:40 PM

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higher salary to get an individual with the specific experience and qualities required. The Council unanimously passed a recommendation from the SPRC, and supported by Finance, to raise the budgeted salary amount for the position to \$70,000.

Children's Ministry chair Alison Collins reports that the team experienced a very productive visioning retreat with Ministry Architects on March 1st and 2nd. They are currently working on a mission statement, values statement, and three-year revolving goals for the children's ministry.

Congregational Care chair Gene Kester and Minister Jared Stine provided a brief overview of Congregational Care.

Chair of Evangelism and Hospitality Meredith Morgan reported that the team is reviewing how to revive and refresh the use of nametags, will be assisting with this year's Easter Egg Hunt, is planning an off-campus bridge event, and is discussing the Welcome Centers on Sunday mornings.

Chair of Missions and Community Impact Jim Holcomb reported that grant applications are being sent out, with grants expanded to a two-year cycle. Missions is working on having a liaison to each community agency WMUMC supports. WMUMC will participate with Habitat for Humanity on May 3rd.

Student Ministry Chair Mary Cullen Bills noted that Student Ministries is actively trying to recruit more parent and adult volunteers. Church Camp will most likely be a smaller group this year due to calendar conflicts with public schools.

Worship Chair Leigh Kuhnly reported that all four worship services will be held during the summer months.

Adult Spiritual Formation Chair Debbie Smothers reported that Commitment to GROW kicks off on September 7th, which will begin the series of Fall studies.

Director of Wesley Memorial School Susan Sumpter reported that about 150 people attended the parenting event on February 22nd. Fundraising for the playground is moving forward with about \$5000 more in pledges being received. The school is now registering students for summer and fall programs.

In new business, the Church Council approved the disposition of several allocations from the 2013 excess fund balance. Some money had been previously allocated to Missions to restore some of the funding it lost several years ago. With no more funds needed in a rainy day fund, there is \$156,000 to allocate. Each of the following dispositions was unanimously passed by the Church Council:

- \$40,000 in matching funds for the playground renovation through the Board of Trustees
- \$10,000 to support the Choral Scholars program through the Traditional Music Team

- \$10,000 to fund two years of the Backpack Program through the Missions Team
- \$5,000 for the Pastors' Discretionary Fund for Local Relief
- \$1500 for refillable candles for the sanctuary and chapel

The Council also passed a motion to approve \$17,800 for the Youth Renovation Project pending the approval of Facilities.

Jared Stine reported that a committee is forming to create a new pictorial directory.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela Frith Antrim