

Aldersgate United Methodist Church Council Meeting
September 20, 2011

Council Members in Attendance: See Roster

Tom Cook, Lay Leader, welcomed everyone to the meeting and opened with a prayer.

Tom reviewed the agenda for the evening and made the following adjustments: added the action item of electing a Church Treasurer and an update on the Stewardship Campaign.

The following reports were given:

- Passionate Worship: Cheryl Bratten
 - o A worship planning team as been created to assist in the planning of the Saturday and Journeys services. They meet on a quarterly basis.
 - o We are searching for an Altar Guild Coordinator as Charlene Leggeri is moving out of the area.
 - o Journey to Bethlehem preparations are underway in order to update some costumes and get the animals on order.
 - o Planning or the Advent season will begin once Dennis returns.

- Intentional Faith Development: Jason Micheli
 - o Fall kick-off was on September 11 and went very well. There were two classes without teachers, but a rotation of parents has filled the gap.
 - o The Sr. High Sunday school class has been revamped to use all of the students as mentors for the Confirmation class. The mentor program has worked so well, the Sunday school class was suffering, so now the first 15 minutes or so of class is now a session on what will happen in Confirmation and then the Sr. High students join the confirmation class for the rest of the hour.
 - o The adult classes are going well.

- Risk-Taking Mission and Service: Tom Devine
 - o The team has begun moving forward with recommendations from the Joel Team Report.
 - o Working to deepen the connection between Aldersgate and Rising Hope. An example is Rising Hope had a water drainage issue and several men from Aldersgate went over to correct the issue saving Rising Hope several thousand dollars in expenses.
 - o UMW has made several significant donations to Rising Hope and there is a fundraiser for Rising Hope on September 30.
 - o The Ft. Apache program is up and running very well. The summer trip was a success and we continue to build the relationship.
 - o Missions:
 - Dates for the 2012 mission trips will be coming soon.
 - The dates for Green Bag distribution have been set and are ready to move forward.
 - All of the 2011 mission trips went well especially with over 70 people traveling to Guatemala.

- Radical Hospitality: Amy Hurd
 - o Hospitality teams supported VBS with visitation teams and other resources.
 - o Coffee hours were cut back over the summer as attendance decreased and started back on September 11. There may be a need for new coordinator in the near future.
 - o Breakfast with the Pastor will resume once Dennis returns from sabbatical.
 - o Wednesday night dinners return tomorrow, September 21, with Tom Miller coordinating.
 - o Communications:
 - The new directory will be ready soon. We are waiting on final proof from the company and then we should receive the directories within 3 weeks of approval.
 - A new look to the web site is coming soon. Please ensure all of your information is up to date.
 - The winter newsletter deadline is November 15.

- Extravagant Generosity Steve Larkin
 - o Steve felt very blessed to have several key members of his council with him at the meeting.
 - o Budget (Attached): Steve gave a thorough walk through of the budget and answered questions as they arose.
 - o Pastor's salaries were not detailed in the budget so they were outlined as follows:
 - Sr. Pastor Salary \$108,415.74
 - Assoc. Pastor Salary \$ 45,773.20
 - Assoc. Pastor Reimbursable Account \$ 6,695.00
 - o Steve reminded the council this is a review document until the Stewardship campaign is held and the final figures are calculated. The exception is the Pastor's salaries which are set and can not be changed after approval.

Steve Larkin moved to approve the budget as submitted from the Finance Committee. Stuart Travis seconded the motion. No additional discussion occurred and the vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

Steve Larkin moved to accept the Pastor's salaries as presented. Ted Gay seconded the motion. No additional discussion occurred and the vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

- o Steve asked Mark Phillips, Finance Team member, to update the council on the accounting firm that has been hired to fill the vacancy of Financial Administrator.
 - Mark explained the contract was a firm, fixed price contract with a set cost for the services provided. The cost will be the same each month if the person provided by the firm works one day a week, or needs to work four days a week to get the job done.
 - These services include accounts payable, accounts receivable, providing reports, etc.
- o Steve asked Kim Engle, chair of Gifts and Memorials, to update the council.
 - The committee has approved a few projects over the summer, to include reimbursement to the general fund for the special Sunday parking signs.
 - There are additional funds awaiting requests.

- Kim explained that any memorial account under \$300 can be designated at the discretion of the committee. Those over \$300 are designated after coordination with the family.
 - The Stewardship campaign is off to a good start. The theme is Celebrate Faith and Family and there will be a kick-off picnic on October 16. Captains will be getting their calls over the next couple of weeks.
- UMW: Deborah Chusmir
 - Reported on an annual service and celebration hosted at Wesley Theological Seminary.
 - There will be a New Member dinner held on October 2 to invite women who have joined Aldersgate in the past year to join UMW.
 - Held a Christmas in July event to raise funds for Cambodia.
 - UMW District Day is October 1 at Sydenstricker UMC. Aldersgate UMW is a Gold Mission Today Unit for the very first time.
 - Plans are underway for the Christmas Market and Silent Auction in November.
 - A Christmas Tea will be held in December to recognize outstanding members.
- UMM: Ted Gay updated the council on UMM Events to include a Missions Dinner on Tuesday, September 27.

Other Business:

- Joel Team: A copy of the final report was presented to the council. Tom Cook thanked Tom Devine for his work in bringing the ideas of the group together in a comprehensive report. Additional discussion occurred.

Steve Larkin moved to accept the Joel Team report as presented. Stuart Travis seconded the motion. No additional discussion occurred and a vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

- Election of Treasure: Tom Cook, on behalf of the nomination team, presented Ed Little's name for consideration of the council as Church Treasurer.

Ted Gay moved the council accept the nomination. Deborah Chusmir seconded the motion. No further discussion occurred and a vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

Tom Cook reminded the council of the October 30 Charge Conference hosted by District Superintendent Rev. Ken Jackson at 3:00 p.m. here at Aldersgate. Aldersgate will be the host of 4 other churches in the district.

Tom also thanked Jason for taking such excellent care of everything while Dennis was away.

Cheryl Bratten closed the meeting with a prayer at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Terri Phillips
Recorder