

PROSPECT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

2010 CHARGE CONFERENCE

December 5, 2010

IN ATTENDANCE:

Pastor Dennis Winkleblack, Dist. Supt. Rev. Ken Keifer, Janice Moore, Bill Katt, John Rioux, Joyce Rioux, Chuck Pelkey, Dave Corey, Jane Snowden, Chris Wilson, Jill Wilson, Dave Kelly, Tammy Kelly, John Hickman, Marion Hickman, Tim Hickman, Rev. Robert Rhodes, Nancy Rhodes, Don Titus, Lang Ashworth, Diane Ashworth, Heidi Flower, Jackie Palance, Mattie Verzino, Tim Krauss, Elaine Marois, Susie Parker, Terry Parker, Jeff Paulette, Shirley Paulette, Ron Baker, Karen Rochelle, Laura Taylor, Irene Taylor, Susan Powers, Jeanette Baker, Carla Heister, Carol Rivard Scott McNeal, Cheryl McNeal.

The 2010 Charge Conference was called to order at 12:35 p.m. by Rev. Ken Keifer. Janice Moore was elected as Recording Secretary. Polls were opened for election of trustees. Rev. Keifer opened with prayer.

CONGREGATION'S CELEBRATIONS:

Heidi Flower – our senior choir continues to grow and be strong! Our handbell choir is growing and we sometimes have more players than bells. The Children's music program is struggling, but the children's handbells is a big help.

COUNTRY CUPBOARD FAIR:

Karen Rochelle – the fair features our own church crafters and various crafters in the area – it is advertised by radio, t.v. and newspaper. Our apple and pumpkin pies are the best hit, as always. They are always a sell-out! The profits from this Fair go to various areas in the church, as decided each year – repairs, budget, St. Vincent de Paul shelter, Imagine No Malaria, etc. For the first time this year, we handed out a tri-fold brochure with welcome information and church activities. Reminder postcards are also sent.

VICTORIAN TEA:

Scott McNeal – first, hopefully annual tea was held in Sessions Hall, the Parlor and Library. Included was live entertainment, a selection of teas, scones, sandwiches (crusts removed, of course!) and deserts. At this date, there are only 10 tickets left from a total of 122. We are creating a web base to send advance notice of the Renaissance Dinner, next year's tea, etc; and a call list for reminders of upcoming events.

SUNDAY SCHOOL:

Shirley Paulette – there is a lot of enthusiasm and fun going on in our classes this year, using the “Rock Solid” curriculum. PreK to 1st grades are together, 2nd thru 5th grades are together. 6th grade and up are the middle and high school group. Emily Flower comes in to the classes and teaches songs to the children. There is a Saturday morning playgroup for infants to pre-schoolers from our church and the community. The Jr and Sr MYF groups meet the first and third Sundays every month – the Jr group welcomes students from 2nd grade up! Eleanor Riker made a large effort with the Summer Bible School. Plans are in place for this year’s Christmas Pageant, and the MYF will be selling luminaries to line the sidewalks for both services this year. Adult Education is holding classes on Thursday evenings for a “Beginnings” study group. Pastor Dennis reports there are still openings for the Holy Land trip.

LAY SPEAKERS:

Our lay speakers are Tim Krauss, Terry Parker, Bill Katt, Sue Powers, Joyce Rioux, and Jeanette Baker, and Janice Moore. Janice was recertified this year as a Certified Lay Speaker for our district.

CONFIRMATION CLASS/NEW MEMBERS:

Diane Ashworth - there were 5 confirmands in 2010, all girls, who completed a 13 week curriculum entitled “We Believe”. There were 21 new members welcomed in 2010.

OUTREACH:

Jackie Palance – Covenant to Care is going strong, Susan Lee is our liaison with DCF. We provide Christmas gifts, Easter baskets, back-to-school packs and supplies, birthday gifts and parties, emergency packs; we also host the annual DCF foster children’s Christmas party – this as an all-church event and we enjoy it as much as the kids do!

Meals for the Needy – is now under the direction of Susan Powers, after being directed for over 10 years by Elaine and Bill Myhill. Susan reports a great bunch of volunteers for our ‘day’ which is the first Weds of each month at Zion Lutheran church.

Colleen Shover is in charge of the Sunshine program and sends cards to shut-ins and those on the prayer list.

The Bargain Center recently moved to larger quarters at the other end of the lower hallway in the Education wing. Elaine Myhill is in charge and is always happy to welcome volunteers!

PARKING LOT MINISTRY

We started a Summer Program with people from the Boys and Girls club, with funding from the Roberts Fund. Our Parking Lot Ministry, HELD FROM MID-July thru the end of August, every week day afternoon, had games, crafts and snacks for the children in the area, who like to use our upper parking lot to play in. Overall, 25 children participated. One of these girls, age 11, was very active all summer, and passed away suddenly early in the fall. Pastor Dennis and other representatives of our church visited with the family, and the congregation took up a collection to help with funeral expenses.

RETHINK COMMITTEE –

John Rioux narrated the video presentation. Our new screen and projector are in place, the gift of Mr. Roger Sondstroem. The committee is hoping to get “tech-savvy” volunteers to help with future presentations. The unit was dedicated on Nov. 28, 2010. Jeanette Baker reported on efforts to ‘look past’ Sunday morning – locally and globally – with such things as the Souper Bowl of Caring, Zion’s soup kitchen, painting and other help at St. Vincent de Paul shelter. 1412 health kits were sent to NYAC for Haiti. A Rock Concert was held for Imagine No Malaria which raised \$800. A booth at the Mum Festival also focused on Imagine No Malaria; we participated in the annual Crop Walk to end hunger. We held a Tailgate Trick or Treat party in the parking lot on Halloween night.

Our facebook page now has 101 friends, and there have been lots of ‘hits’ to our Webpage.

STEWARDSHIP:

Chris Wilson – Our stewardship campaign focused on a series of sermons based on Adam Hamilton’s “Enough” program. As of now, there are 67 pledges, with \$80,000 to the General Fund and 36 pledges with a total of \$15,000 to the Building Fund. A follow-up letter will be sent out soon. There has been a 20% response so far.

VOLUNTEER STAFFING:

Jill Wilson – it was decided 2 years ago to cut back expenses by eliminating the positions of secretary and sexton. Since then, our office staff, newsletters, webpage, bulletin, outdoor and indoor cleaning and upkeep in the building has been done by volunteers only! Willingness has been 100% !!! Everyone loves this church building, and its people and programs. Rev. Keifer commented on the creativity and helpfulness of all of our members.

A DVD from Annual Conference was shown, including the procession of banners from all the churches.

VOTES:

Trustees – all the following names were elected at 100% votes.

2011 Carol Rivard

2013 Jackie Palance, Tammy Kelly, Mike Fasci.

Tim Krauss proposed passing the 2011 budget; seconded by John Hickman. Also proposed were the Pastor's Salary and Reimbursements, and the Music Budget. All were seconded and all were passed by verbal "aye" votes.

MEMBERSHIP:

Susan Powers – a motion was moved and seconded to remove all names on the 2-page list from the membership rolls. These names have been on our membership rolls with no contact for at least 2 years. This motion was carried.

OTHER BUSINESS

Chaplain George Harris mentioned how 'welcoming' our services are, and how respectful to the music everyone is, staying seated until the postlude is over.

Elaine Marios commented how blessed and grateful she feels to be a member of this congregation.

The motion was made and seconded to close the Conference. We were adjourned at 1:55 p.m.

Pastor Dennis led us in prayer.

Respectfully submitted

Janice Moore

Recording Secretary