

Church Council Meeting
April 17, 2012

In attendance: Jeanette Baker, Susan Powers, Jeff Paulette, Heidi Flower, Matti Verzino, Jackie Palance, Carol Rivard, Bill Katt, Chris Wilson, Jill Wilson, Joyce Rioux, Beth Provost, Carolyn Koboski

Excused: Pastor Sorozan, Carla Heister, John Rioux

Devotions and opening prayer provided by Jeanette Baker

February 2012 minutes were approved and accepted. One question was brought up regarding whether camp information had been received by the church. To date, the information had not arrived, but was expected this week. A notice will be put in the bulletin and the May Tower regarding this information.

Reports (additional information)

Women of Prospect: looking for recipes for their cookbook which is being assembled.

Education: A special award is being planned for Estelle Franck for her exemplary service to our church, to be presented on Children's Sunday. Also, a family retreat is being planned at Epworth United Methodist Camp this summer. Retreat is open to all church members.

Outreach/ReThink: Foodshare's Walk Against Hunger is May 6. Looking to form a Prospect Team of walkers. Special envelopes will be distributed at the April 22 service for donations to Foodshare. Prayer Ministry would like to continue once a month on the second Sunday.

Middle Ages Group:

Microphones that have been proposed for purchase are not compatible with the present equipment system. Since they would only benefit special programs like the Renaissance Dinner but not the church as a whole, the Trustees could not come to a consensus regarding purchasing the microphones.

Music: Tag Sale will be held on Saturday, June 2 to benefit organ restoration fund. Articles should be brought to church during office hours or on Sunday mornings.

SPR: Nursery is being used consistently, different families each week. Many children were there on Easter Sunday. Nursery workers will continue through June. Families who use the nursery should be contacted through Education to keep in touch. SPR will meet in May and discuss continuation of nursery help and also the open Music position.

Question was brought up regarding whether or not the recorded music is being used during the 8:30 service. Three people are trained to set up the equipment but it is not always being used. Possibly the equipment could be housed in the chapel to make it easier to set up each Sunday.

Trustees: Chris Wilson announced he will no longer be able to take care of the grounds after this year. New arrangements will need to be made, possibly to have a paid person do the grounds-keeping. The Council wishes to extend its sincere appreciation to Chris for his hard work maintaining our church grounds over the past years.

Finance: Jill Wilson pointed out that the Accounting Fund Balances shown in that report are sometimes partly restricted and are not readily available. It was suggested that accounts have sub-accounts to distinguish restricted money from unrestricted funds. There is a \$40,000 deficit in the budget. Our portfolio was able to cover a deficit in the past, but now that is not the case. Jill and Don Titus will call members who pledged last year but did not pledge this year.

New Business

Connecticut District News:

District Conference will be held Sunday, May 20 at the Trumbull Nichols United Methodist Church

Cooperative School of Christian Mission will hold a workshop July 19-21

Annual Conference will be held June 6-9.

Jill Wilson reported on a District Youth Mission trip to Prattsville, NY where there was extensive flooding last fall. The trip is scheduled for the week of July 22-28. She would like to take a youth group from our church, and several youths are interested in going. Cost is \$150 per person. Heidi Flower expressed interest in accompanying the group.

The annual Statistical Report is due on April 30. It is very important that this deadline be met.

Vacation Bible School will be held the week of June 25, 6:00-7:30 pm. and Heidi Flower will lead the program. The title of the program is "Operation Overboard", with fish and oceans as the theme. A meeting will be held Monday, April 23 for anyone interested in helping/learning about the program. Asbury Methodist and Plainville Methodist churches will be contacted and welcomed to participate in our program.

Pastor would like to create a Building Use task force to examine building use, internal as well as external. Bill Katt agreed to be on the committee along with a member of the Trustees.

Missing members names will be given to Pastor Bob.

Next Council meeting will be May 15, 2012.

Respectfully submitted,
Beth Provost