

**WEST POINT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MINUTES
MAY 5, 2009**

The Administrative Council for West Point United Methodist Church was called to order at 7:00 P.M. May 5, 2009 by chairperson Jerry Harbath. Carl led with prayer. Thirteen were present: Pastor Jeff Smith, Jerry & Vicky Harbath, Rick & Drew Snider, Carl & Sandra Holtman, Nellie Van Sickle, Jay Blessing, Rae Ritchie, Phil & Pam Katter, and Darlene Christian. Jerry stated the Church is not a structure but is the people. Five times last week God brought this to his attention in different messages. He read from a Bible Dictionary that stated the Church is a Christian term. The real church is all who belong to the Lord Jesus Christ. Webster's defines church as a place where people go to worship.

Since the minutes are now on the website and some printed copies are available before the meeting, we did not read them.

Darlene gave the treasurer's report. General account balance as of April 30 was \$4,773.02. This was the second month of paying the exact loan balance. One more month, then we will resume paying extra again. Other balances are: Sunday School - \$362.41; Memorial Fund - \$15,176.00; Savings - \$84,038.46; Trustees - \$3,456.04; Missions - \$5,094.00. Money was transferred from savings to pay for the new mower which cost \$7,769.53. We did receive a 30% discount on the mower for being a church. Bible School donations have been good. All donations and payments are being run through the missions account.

Jerry reported there was a Worship committee meeting April 30. That committee discussed starting a second service. They also discussed having the service time moved up for the summer. Rae said her step-son Jake would like to play in a praise band. Darlene said her son Josh would also play in a praise band but would prefer not every week. This committee will meet again on May 7 after a week of prayer and thought on these changes.

Pastor Jeff said the Pastor-Parish committee will meet on May 14.

Phil reported there will be a meeting on May 16 for the park committee. Tom Melind from Zionsville Lions Club will be there to talk to the committee. He has been involved in planning several parks. He is working with a group from Purdue who will help develop and put together the park. He is also working on several grants. There is a grant available to build a new community center and he is going to work on that. This grant could pay for the entire building. The plan had been to do this park in phases but there is potential to get it all done faster. Carl asked if we could put a permanent structure on leased property. Rick said since we aren't paying for it, will it be ours. There will need to be more insurance. Pastor Jeff feels that it will be okay. Rick suggested the park be named "Cadet" park after the old West Point school mascot name.

Darlene looked over the insurance policy we received. She stated the Trustees need to get together and review our coverage for the church ground and also the park ground. At the time they meet, they also need to designate a "Park Superintendent".

Jerry will ask Josh and Mandy to co-ordinate the September picnic.

Mark has mowed the park property twice. He would like someone else to help do it some. The mower is on a trailer that would need to be hooked up to a truck or tractor and pulled to the park. It takes 3-4 hours to mow the whole area. Pastor Jeff and others are willing to mow but will need to find a way to get the mower there.

Mark talked to Gary about the process of removing trees and brush from the park property. Gary might use his equipment for free. Pastor Jeff said that Pete & Shane stated there is more growth there than you think. There needs to be discussion on what to take out and what to leave. Gary would like some trees left. He now owns the property south of the park area to the ditch line. This was deferred to the Trustees to decide on.

Garrett Soto from Sound Advice came again yesterday to check the sound system. It worked fine. Jerry had tried it on Wednesday also and it worked fine. Hand held was not working good on Sunday. Both microphones should work at the same time.

The office furniture has been ordered from Smith Office and should be here this week.

The copier is in. They will deliver it any day. When we have a computer and the DSL line, Eric from Copier Plus will come out and train those who need to know how to use it. Rae asked if we couldn't purchase a recycle container. Pam will do this.

Last Sunday our church served a meal and helped with the service at the Wesleyan Foundation at Purdue. Several from here attended and had a great time with the kids there.

The geraniums will be planted on Saturday the 9th at 9:00A.M. Nellie will purchase four geraniums to give out on Mother's Day.

The UMW is selling ice cream and cookies during the Lion's Club car show on May 16. They will also have info about the church and VBS there to hand out. Will also have cups and ornaments out to sell. Gary has given them permission to set up a table in front of his building. They hope to get an awning also. Rick said they could probably use his.

Ronda had the first "Little Beamer's Church" last Sunday. There were 10 kids. She said it went very well.

Pam said she is having a couple of VBS meetings this week. Jessie from Stidham UM and Jamie Slickers from the Reformed Church in Lafayette are going with us to share decorating costs. All three churches will then use the decorations. May 17th after church, those wanting to help make decorations are to meet here for a work day.

It is felt that the hospitality room needs to be re-arranged to make more room and make it more inviting. Will try to move the tv and couches to the north end soon.

Jerry & Rick purchased a platform that can be used for a stage at the summer picnic. It was purchased for around \$350 at Sportsman's Warehouse. That cost is less than what we paid to rent a platform last summer. It will make a 16'x24' stage. Jerry is storing it in his barn right now.

Prayer concerns lifted up: Dick Swank in hospital, Darlene surgery, Pastor Jeff tests. Dismissed at 8:15. Jerry closed with prayer.

Pam Katter
Recording Secretary