

WEST POINT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MINUTES  
SEPTEMBER 1, 2009

The Administrative Council for West Point United Methodist Church was called to order at 7:00 P.M. September 1, 2009 by chairperson Jerry Harbath. 15 members were present: Pastor Jeff Smith, Jerry & Vicki Harbath, Pam & Phil Katter, Jerry Stewart, Rae Ritchie, Ruth Shedd, Jay Blessing, Virginia Emerick, Carl & Sandra Holtman, Nellie Vansickle, Mark & Darlene Christian.

Pastor Jeff introduced Pastor Glenn Robyn from the Wesley Foundation at Purdue. Pastor Glenn introduced Erica and Grant, two students who utilize Wesley Foundation. Pastor Glenn stated that the students at Wesley Foundation do lots of service projects. On November 21, they will gather to rake leaves for any who need it done. He gave the invitation for them to work in our area as well. Erica and Shane attended the first cluster group meeting. She really appreciated the way West Point reached out to them and invited them to join with us. The first service they had this school year, 84 students attended. Pastor Glenn stated that puts us a t about similar size. Together, our different resources can help each other. Erica and Grant shared their testimony about how Wesley Foundation along with Pastor Glenn and his wife Pastor Lana have enriched their lives. In the past, the annual conference has supported the Wesley budget with \$120,000.00. In 2010, they will not receive any money from the conference. The last two years they have raised about \$85,000 on their own. They ask for prayers in hopes of raising \$40,000 more so they can meet budget. Pastor Glenn has a concern about spending too much time in fund-raising and not enough ministering. The Foundation gives ½ of their offering and fund-raisers to other missions. Pastor Glenn stated they are eager to do exchanges with us. We need to find ways they can come here to help. Pastor Jeff asked what else we can do to help the students. Grant stated they love to interact with other churches. They would love to come here for worship and a meal. Pastor Jeff invited them to worship on the 13<sup>th</sup> in the park and to come for the community picnic on the 12<sup>th</sup>. Winterization is one of their biggest services. Last year 308 students went to over 100 homes. Pastor Glenn says the cluster is a God thing! Some of the Wesley students will help put up the tent for the community picnic September 12.

After Pastor Glenn, Erica, and Grant left, Pastor Jeff asked for discussion of ways to help Wesley Foundation. Pastor Jeff stated West Point is secure financially but Wesley is not. Pastor Glenn stated Wesley will continue to grow and thrive. Pastor Jeff wants to be a part of their solution. He asked us to pray diligently to the extent of how we will be able to help Wesley. Pastor Jeff feels the Holy Spirit is talking to him and guiding him toward a church donation of \$5,000 to Wesley. If we can give \$200 per month, that will help finance them. Jerry asked if we should take up a special offering each week. It was felt this is too much but maybe a special offering once a month would work. Next month Pastor Jeff's pastor letter in the newsletter will let the congregation know the plight of Wesley funding. Pastor Jeff feels we are on the verge of doubling our attendance. God is faithful and generous to us. We need to trust God and take the first step. We will continue with the quarterback program to fund the Lighthouse mission trip as well.

Previous minutes from June 2 were read and approved. Pam also read Worship Committee minutes from August 13 and the all-church meeting August 9. Jerry read the

Worship Committee minutes from July 21.

Darlene gave the treasurer's report. August offerings were okay. General fund balance the end of August was \$4,259.87. Sunday School \$259.59, Memorial Fund \$15,230.79, Mission Fund \$3,728.72, Trustees Fund \$1,634.83 and Savings \$81,100.00. Current loan balance is \$50,122.39. When \$14,909.74 is paid toward the loan, the loan will be paid for. There will remain \$35,212.65 on the loan balance. Darlene figured if we receive \$8,000 for the grain and the 55 paying families would contribute \$38 more per week, the loan could be paid off by January 1, 2010. If each family paid an extra \$16.00 per week, it could be paid off by Easter.

Phil stated he has a concern with the front doors staying open prior to and during service. It is very expensive for heat and air running with the doors open. The ushers have been doing this to be more inviting.

Jerry Harbath said he feels the Trustees need to address the missing fish scale siding on the front of the church. Besides looking better, we need to be sure no water gets behind the siding. Phil will look into getting this repaired.

The contemporary worship service will start at 11:00 on September 20. The 8 foot screen will be placed on the wall north of the pulpit. Will see how that screen and the current power point works.

Steve Buckles is doing most of the mowing at the park.

Pete Luttrell will wait till after the beans have been harvested then he will get the machinery to dig a hole to bury the tree stumps.

Pam reported on Vacation Bible School. It went well this year. The average attendance for students was 64. Attendance with helpers and teachers averaged 95. The cost was \$2,186.94. Church cost was \$286.35 because we shared expenses with CRC and Stidham. Cash donations were \$1745. The average cost per child was \$34.17.

The cluster group met here in August and had an ice cream social. There were 40 people in attendance. Other cluster don't seem to be meeting and working like ours is.

Virginia stated the smorgasbord is coming up November 1<sup>st</sup>.

Darlene said she had been approached by someone willing to pay for chairs to finish off the north side of sanctuary if the pews were removed. This could possibly help with the projector for contemporary service. Darlene made a motion to remove the two pews on the north side of the church and replace them with 8 chairs. Vicki seconded. Passed. We need to let the congregation know we are doing this to help with worship and flexibility. Carl said we need to get rid of the pews as soon as possible. Someone is interested in one of them.

Charge Conference is November 8. This will be a cluster charge conference on Sunday evening. Pastor Jeff is leading it.

Pastor Jeff stated he feels we may need to hire a part-time person to help with worship and the youth. Jeff said he needs help with the youth. Sometimes he has to make a decision on what particular job gets done. Pastor Jeff asked if he could negotiate with Julie Rife to help with the youth and the contemporary service. Julie has helped with Bible School. She also helped with the canoe trip in August. He feels a 5-10 hour position to help with the youth would be good. He also stated we need to seriously consider dividing the youth as the group is getting bigger. It is important that our youth are taken care of. Mark asked if it would be possible to pay her \$10.00 per hour. Pastor-Parish will need to meet to pursue this issue. We don't want to overburden Julie as she is a freshman at Purdue and active in her own church. Pastor Jeff will talk to Julie more and invite her to a Pastor Parish meeting. The biggest concern is about paying

her. Again it was stressed that dividing the youth group is important.

Pastor Jeff said he is taking the post card being mailed to all of West Point to Stan Mitchell for printing. It should be out next week before the picnic.

Adjourned at 8:45 P.M. Sandra dismissed with prayer.

Pam Katter  
Recording Secretary