

WEST POINT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MINUTES  
DECEMBER 2, 2009

The Administrative Council for West Point United Methodist Church was called to order at 7:00 P.M. December 2, 2009 by chairperson Jerry Harbath. Jerry read Luke 2:8-10. Pastor Jeff led with prayer. Thirteen were present: Jerry Harbath, Pastor Jeff Smith, Virginia Emerick, Nellie VanSickle, Jay Blessing, Rae Ritchie, Carol Stout, Rick & Lisa Snider, Mark & Darlene Christian, Phil & Pam Katter. Previous minutes were read and approved. Darlene gave the treasurer's report. The general account balance on November 30 was \$3,178.46. Phil reported the following account balances: Sunday School \$243.79; Mission Fund \$3,998.72; Trustees \$9,099.00; Savings \$78,110.54; Memorial Fund \$12,232.71; Loan balance is \$33,520.24. \$11,170 will be paid on the loan balance in December. Jerry wondered if we would lose momentum if the loan is paid off. Mark doesn't want to pay off the loan before July. Darlene feels it will be July at least before the loan can be paid off. She is not seeing people pay more as loan goes down. Pastor Jeff would not want to announce pay off till we have a consultant hired and other things in line. Darlene says we need to wait until after the first of the year at least before paying loan off. Jerry Harbath is not in favor of paying off the loan either. Darlene wants to set up a separate account for the building fund, taking so much each month and putting in there. A fundraiser person will let us know how much we can afford to spend. Pastor Jeff asked us to step back and see what we have accomplished. We have come a long way. Darlene wants to make sure we do the steps in the right order and don't have to back track. The steering committee will meet after the 1<sup>st</sup> of the year to discuss what to do next. Pastor Jeff said we need to table this until January.

Mark stated we need to get the tree line cleared out between properties before spring. He feels we need to hire someone to do this and get the field tile fixed. Jerry will ask Gary for an estimate on cleaning out the tree line and fixing the tile.

Discussed the worship survey. Lisa stated we need to listen to the survey - the majority wanted a 10:30 traditional service and a contemporary service on Sunday evening. She stated she doesn't feel we can afford to keep on going the way we are. Pastor Jeff wondered if the people wanting to keep a 10:30 Sunday service and no contemporary service are just not wanting to change. Carol asked about the ages of those responding. We have lost several young families and some of the older ones. Darlene suggested asking those attending the contemporary service if they would come at another time. Jay doesn't like that we have no choir during traditional service anymore. It was suggested maybe giving up Sunday School all together. The adult Sunday School class is getting big enough to split into two classes. That class needs to make a decision on what they want to do. Pastor Jeff stated that if people are not willing to change, then they cannot be comfortable with our mission statement and core values. Pastor Jeff's concern is that we don't want to be held hostage by those not wanting to change. Darlene said we need to get the kids and offer more. Pastor Jeff stated it isn't about the programs we offer or what other churches offer but about who we are and why we are here. Do we go out into the community and serve? There are 6-12 kids involved in 7:08 but very few on Sunday morning. Rick asked how we can get these kids involved on Sunday. After the first of the year, maybe some Wesley students would be willing to come out and help. Virginia asked if we had given it enough time.

There is concern about the number of families lost. There is at least 10 families that do not attend anymore. Pastor Jeff asked if we are on the path God laid out for us? Darlene wondered if we should go to those who have left and ask what we could do different. Rick suggested having a traditional service at 9:30 and contemporary at 11:00 with Sunday School meeting during one of these times.

Pastor Jeff said we have 2 or 3 options but maybe the best is to have a special meeting dedicated to services and times. Deferred this to the worship committee for December 29 at 6:00 P.M. This will be an open meeting inviting the church.

Karla showed up to discuss the park. She met with Duke Energy to see about electric for the park. To set a pole will cost between \$200-\$500. She is trying to get an updated drawing of the park moving one ball field. They have picked out some play ground equipment and are asking for donations to cover the cost.

The Pastor-Parish committee will meet on December 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 P.M. to meet Julie and review her job description.

Darlene said if we get new tv's for the sanctuary, Computers Made Easy will come out and set up the computer. Rick stated we need 55" to 60" plasma screen. The estimated cost of hook up is \$639.90. Will try to have this done by the first of the year.

The AED will not be delivered until 5 people have completed the training course.

Many people have commented on how nice the Christmas decorations look this year.

Charge Conference and cluster meeting went well. The youth rally at Wesley went well. The kids had a great time.

Pastor Jeff said he had been contacted by a local mother asking for help with Christmas gifts for her children. Darlene suggested food or a gift certificate for food also. Lisa volunteered to shop for them. Mark made a motion to spend up to \$200 for kids gifts and a \$75 grocery gift card. Nellie seconded. Passed.

Pastor Jeff stated he has booked 20 slots for the youth works mission trip in June. Four adults will go. There are two students from Stidham planning on going. He needs a commitment by March from those wanting to go. A \$1200 down payment is due now. Pastor Jeff asked for financial help with this payment. The other churches also need to help with finances. Phil will transfer \$600 from the mission fund to the Lighthouse account to help cover the down payment.

Pastor Jeff thanked everyone for their hard work. He said to remember our core values and make decisions based on our mission statement and core values.

Dismissed at 9:15 P.M.

Pam Katter  
Recording Secretary