

Church Council Meeting Minutes Monday, April 27, 2009

Present: Mark Werrell, Michelle Koch, Ruth Oatman, Jerry Swalley, Mary Bell, Betsy Kent, Jim Faltot, Mary Haggard, Deede Cataldi, Bill Clark, Marietta Garrett, Kathy Werrell, Dayle Thorpe, Roland Sharp, Donna Hitchner, Diane Brahy, Mary Hudson, Darrell Sparks

Opening Devotion – Mark Werrell

Approval of 2/23/09 Church Council Meeting Minutes: The Church Council minutes were approved. (Ruth Oatman moved; Darryl Sparks seconded)

Approval of 2/22/09 Church Conference Minutes: The Church Conference minutes were approved. (Darrell Sparks moved; Roland Sparks seconded)

Newark Empowerment Center Extension – Mary Hudson:

The Outreach Team moved to extend NUMC as the host site accommodations for the Newark Empowerment Center afternoons Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and the Code Purple Sanctuary in rotation with the other participating faith communities.

The Newark Empowerment Center has completed two years of service to the greater Newark community. There have been 1,872 on site contacts 685 unduplicated clients in 486 unduplicated households – 297 male and 388 female.

76% of the clients (453) were not “shelter-less”. Most had at least temporary housing. Nearly all were at risk of becoming homeless in the near future. The NEC through its sponsoring churches assisted 306 at-risk households with \$32,716 in financial assistance to maintain their current housing. Of those families who received financial assistance, 94% ended 2008 still in their homes.

18 Newark churches and synagogues regularly refer clients to the Newark Empowerment Center for financial counseling and screening. Approximately 75% of clients request financial assistance.

Roland Sharp moved to suspend the policy to present and then wait a month to vote. He moved that we vote on the Newark Empowerment Center Extension at this meeting. Jerry Swalley second the motion. The motion to suspend passed by unanimous vote.

Kathy Werrell second the motion made by Outreach.

Mark reminded that this would be on an ongoing basis and we will not need to renew every year. If there are any issues they can be brought forward to council on an ad hoc basis.

Decision: The motion passed by unanimous vote to extend NUMC as the host site accommodations for the Newark Empowerment Center and the Code Purple Sanctuary.

Higher Ground Academy – Donna Hitchner:

It looks like we will be able to start the program in 2009. Donna shared a draft brochure outlining the program. It included Donna’s email and the website. There are a couple students for the summer. Mark suggested that Donna go to the Trustees when it comes closer to the time where space is needed.

Wesley Foundation Covenant Agreement – Darrell Sparks:

Wesley Foundation has updated their Covenant Agreement. It will be up for vote at the next board meeting. It then needs to come back to Church Council for approval. It was suggested that Darrell present it at the May Church Council for a vote in June.

Finance & Treasurer Report:

The Finance report was distributed. Budget requests are due no later than April 30th.

Deede did inform that the church received a generous anonymous gift that went to Outreach, Library, and the George Kirk Music Series. It also paid off the remaining balance of the debt from last year's budget year. It was a substantial amount to go to this year's budget as well as a substantial gift towards the kitchen.

Jerry indicated that the budget looks good because of that gift. If you deducted the gift, we would be behind.

Children and Family Ministries – Diane Brahy:

Almost all of the teaching slots for bible school are filled.

We got a new committee member from the Ministry Fair. Diane Smith joined. We are doing well for committee members.

Mary Bell announced the Friendly's Fund Raiser on May 12, 4-8pm which will support the G.R.E.E.N. Team.

Library – Marietta Garrett:

We usually have another book fair in May but we do not have one planned.

Adult Ministries – Donna Hitchner:

We will be having a couple classes running this summer during the 9:30 & 11:00 services.

Outreach – MaryHudson:

We need Go Bags.

Traffic through the Empowerment Center doubled.

On June 7 there will be an envelope offering for the "Nothing But Net" campaign. This campaign will raise money to purchase mosquito nets. Conference delegates will present the contribution to the Nothing But Net campaign at conference. The Conference's goal is to save 10,000 lives.

Trustees – Deede Cataldi:

The workmen from New Hampshire have been here to fix the upper trim. They also fixed trim around the windows and the back railing on the steps.

SPRC – Jerry Swalley:

Our custodian is having a baby and has not been able to work since the end of December due to some complications. Deede and Tim have been getting by with part-time help. We expect our custodian will be back about 6 weeks after she has the baby.

Worship – Roland Sharp:

We welcome any feedback or comments on the Lent and Easter Celebration services. We hit a record attendance Easter Sunday.

Communications – Bill Clark:

The Communications team is ready to help with communication of any activity or special event to the community. With Mary's help as the Executive Dir. of Wesley Foundation, we will be able to inform U of D of certain events via the U Daily and their calendar of events. We will start with the May Taize service.

Music – Betsy Kent:

May is when the children and youth end their program year. The children will sing on 5/10 for the last time. Youth Chorale will sing for their last time of the program year on 5/31, Confirmation Sunday. Chancel Choir will also sing on 5/31 for the last time of the program year.

Summer choir mode is the 4th Sunday of the month.

Music Factory registration will be 5/10. Music Factory is 8/10-14 with the performance on 8/16. It is the 19th year for Music Factory. We will be redoing a play, Rescue in the Night from 1992.

BIA - Kathy Werrell:

Thanks to all for helping with the Ministry Fair. We did not seem to have a big crowd for the Ministry Fair. This will be a topic of discussion at the next BIA meeting.

Pledge Sunday did not seem well attended. So there is some concern about how many calls we need to make. We will be focusing at our next meeting on the plan for bringing in the pledges.

Our next focus will be to strive to have regular attendance that matches what we had for Easter Sunday.

Congregational Care – Ruth Oatman:

Four people signed up for Stephen Ministry. We have enough to conduct the class.

One of our new members would like to start a ministry focused on informal home visits for the homebound.

Membership – Dayle Thorpe:

There are 13 new members who are half way through their sessions. We have seven sheppards at last count.

June 6 is Newark Nite. Anyone who interested in assisting can help our Community Events Team.

Pastor Comments – Mary Haggard:

Youth Sunday is May 3.

Youth Stock will be available for sale starting in May.

We have a smaller confirmation class.

May 31 is Graduation Recognition Sunday.

Confirmation is also 5/31.

We still need Breakfast Angels.

Wesley activities are winding down. We could use exam survival bags. We will have movie night before Reading Day.

Keep all the youth and college students in your prayers. This is a stressful time.

Wesley Foundation – Darrell Sparks:

The improvements in the lounge are just about done.

We will be hosting the Midnight Breakfast 11pm – 1am for roughly 300 students.

The mission trip to Tennessee was a success.

Lay Leadership – Michelle Koch:

All the sign-up sheets were collected from the Ministry Fair. Lay Leadership has a copy of them and each committee got their sheets back. Each committee is encouraged to reach out directly to those who signed up. A summary of the signups from the fair was distributed. There are committees that are still in need of people to take on some key positions and others that need some additional committee members. Please brainstorm within your committees regarding what you need and who may be potential candidates. Think about some ways that you could reach out to share what you do more informally, than the Ministry Fairs. If you need anyone from Lay Leadership to reach out, we of course will do that. We will be reviewing the signup sheets at the next meeting and looking at potential candidates for the open positions.

The roster will be distributed to everyone. Please provide any corrections or additions.

Pastor Comments – Jim Faltot:

We are planning a group trip (group of 20) to Oberammergau in 2010 for the passion play. The town experienced The Plague in the middle ages and prayed to God to rid them of the plague. If God responded they would put on the passion play. The plague went away. So every 10 years the town performs the passion play live. It is a 6 hr long passion play.

Jim is working with Pilgrim Tours to organize a 13 day trip through Germany for the passion play and to Turkey to visit the 7 cities that have the 7 churches referred to in the book of Revelation. It is scheduled for Aug 27 – Sept 8, 2010. The whole thing (all-inclusive) would come under \$4,000. Jim reserved the front page of Parish Notes in June to inform the congregation of the trip.

Prior to the trip, Jim will conduct a 9 week class in the spring. It will have an intro, a summary and a focus on 1 city/church a week for each of the 7 churches.

Announcement:

Charge Conference Reports are due to Danette on May 8. Send Mark a maximum of 3 accomplishments and 3 goals for each committee. Mark, representing Church Council, has to include something that Jerry will submit to the district. Accomplishments would be for the past program year July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009 and goal for July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010.

Next Meeting: The next meeting is Tuesday May 26, 2009 at 7:00pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michelle Koch
NUMC Council Secretary