

Newark United Methodist Church

Church Council Meeting Minutes

Monday May 29, 2007

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Present: Mark Werrell, Michael Chorba, Michelle Koch, Chuck Mason, Kelly Stoneman, Ruth Oatman, Betsy Kent, Mary Haggard, Mary Bell, Jim Faltot, Mary Hudson, Jane Savino, Bill Shearer, Bryan Everett, Deede Cataldi, Kathy Werrell, Bill Clark, Roland Roth, Roland Sharp, David Palmer

Opening Devotion – Ruth Oatman

Approval of 4/23/07 Minutes: The Church Council minutes for April 23, 2007 were approved with modification. (Ruth Oatman motioned, Roland Roth seconded)

Pastor Comments – Jim Faltot:

Jim attended the Festival of Homiletics in Nashville TN. Jim described it as a very humbling experience. The sermons were wonderful. The people were incredible.

David mentioned that the Lay Leadership Enrichment session will be held on 8/26, 12:30–4pm. Team leaders are asked to encourage their team members to attend. David requested that Church Council purchase copies of “Good to Great for the Social Sector” by Jim Collins. The publication is a Monograph to Jim Collins’ book “Good to Great”. The publication costs \$9.56.

The motion is made by Kathy Werrell to purchase the monographs using the Immerging Ministry funds in the budget. Jane Savio 2nd the motion.

Decision: The motion passed unanimously to purchase the monographs for the Lay Leadership Enrichment session with funds from the Emmerging Ministries funds.

David requested that the monographs be read prior to the 8/26 session.

David announced that October 21, 4:30–6pm will be the second evening of the Fall New Members class where representatives from each of the committees are needed.

Lay Leaders who will be attending the Annual Conference will be meeting with the clergy for dinner on 6/4 to discuss the upcoming conference.

The staff met today, 5/29, to plan out the calendar. They worked on the calendar details through December and the highlights through May.

David will conduct his State of the Church address the 2nd Sunday in September, Sept. 9. Once again this year he is recommending that we delay the start of the 11 o'clock liturgical service so that he can speak at each service. Community Days is on Sept. 16. The services will be consolidated to 3 again for a special service on Sept. 23. Therefore, we may want to wait to start the 11am liturgical service until the last week of Sept, Sept. 30.

David shared information from the Reconciling Ministries Network website. They were previously known as the Reconciling Congregation. David mentioned that NUMC has stated in the past that they were a reconciling congregation. David would like the group to consider adopting to affiliate with the RNC.

Need Based Health Team Update – David Palmer:

David first presented the summary of results from the February 2007 group sessions that focused on having members of the congregation give their own explanation for why Need-Based Evangelism was NUMC's weakest quality characteristics. Copies were distributed to the meeting attendees. A copy is included and is available upon request.

David then reviewed the Health Team Report to Church Council. A copy of the report is attached. The committees were asked to come up with ideas of how to strengthen Need-Based Evangelism and how to incorporate it into their programs. The report recommends

that we incorporate NBE in all meetings and study groups. It also suggested ways of soliciting ideas from the congregation. There were recommendations on how to incorporate it into the bulletins and the friendship pads. Lastly, the report discusses coming up with a theme for the coming year.

#### Church Purchasing Policy – Deede Cataldi:

Deede started by commending the teams on the wonderful job they do and the diligence they put into purchasing decisions. The policy governs the purchase of goods and services for NUMC. Deede reviewed the policy. The policy, including a flow diagram, was distributed to the meeting attendees. A copy is included and is available upon request.

#### Christian Education Restructuring Proposal – Roland Roth:

The Christian Education Team has many different responsibilities. It is difficult to manage all of the CET work meeting once a month even with the amazing staff that we have and the nearly dozen willing and able team members. Christian Education has long been identified as Sunday School or children with adult ministries getting much less direct programmatic attention. Consequently CET believes adult and children ministries would be better served by teams solely devoted to each segment.

The recommendation is that the CE Committee will be dissolved and its responsibilities be divided and performed by two newly created committees, Children and Family Ministries Team (CFMT) and an Adult Ministries Team (AMT).

CFMT will have responsibility for CE and fellowship activities related to infants through grade 6 and for families, i.e., adults with infant through grade 6 children.

AMT will have responsibility for CE and fellowship activities related to post-high school adults, which could include ministry to families with adult children.

It was recommended that the proposal clearly state that Youth, grade 7 through grade 12, are included in Youth Council.

Lay Leadership – Affirmations – Kathy Werrell –

The following were presented for affirmation and affirmed:

Members of the Committee on Lay Leadership:

Class of 2008 – Naomi Seinsoth

Class of 2009 – Len Davis

Parking Lot Ministry:

Mike DeMonte

Chris Murphy

Leigh Ann von Hoelle

Empowerment Center Pilot – Mary Hudson:

The Empowerment Center had 80 clients in the first month. It averaged seven people a day. Many of the clients were women. This was an unexpected surprise as the initial focus was to provide a place for homeless men.

There will be a Mission Dinner (covered dish) on June 13, 2007 at 6:15 in Heritage Hall. Bill Perkins will speak at 7pm. A midpoint report on the Empowerment Center will be given. All participating faith communities are invited to participate in discussion of recommendations for the future.

The participating faith communities included NUMC, Calvary Baptist, NewArk United Church of Christ, Holy Family Catholic Church, First Presbyterian Church, Newark Unitarian Fellowship, St. Paul's Lutheran, St. Nicholas' Episcopal, Temple Beth El.

The Outreach Committee moved that Newark United Methodist Church continue to host the Empowerment Center for an additional

six months, October 2007 – March 2008 with the possibility to add 1 more afternoon per week.

Mary was asked to identify costs for the next 6 months. She was also asked to distribute the mid–point report prior to the next council meeting.

#### Committee Reports:

##### Outreach – Mary Hudson –

The Outreach Committee will assemble Go–bags at the June 11, 2007 meeting comprised of supplies from the U of D dorm harvest and team member donations.

The Habitat House will be dedicated on May 30th at 11am. We are in process of paying our pledge to Habitat for Humanity in full.

A third cook is needed for Hope Dining room. Friday lunches continue.

Thanks to Mary Alice Hinerman, John Kievit, Janet King and Phyllis Muyskens for their work on the recently redesigned Outreach Bulletin board.

Outreach requested authorization to announce and collect a special offering for a United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) declared disaster after receiving an UMCOR advance number declaration. This is permitted for UMCOR declared disaster relief response. Finance provided their approval.

The rationale behind this request is to provide the congregation with notice of how to contribute to disaster relief within days of the event. Example: The recent tornado hit Kansas on May 4th & 5th the UMCOR Advance #901670 was announced on May 8th. Members of the congregation anticipating the announcement of the relief effort, call the church shortly after a disaster makes the news.

The purpose of the proposal is to permit a bulletin announcement on the Sunday following a disaster with the collection on the following Sunday and to permit the receptionist to distribute the Advance # via telephone as soon as it is available. In the Kansas

response, the announcement would have come on May 13th with the collection on May 20th and the receptionist would have begun giving the Advance # on May 8th.

We want to contribute through UMCOR because 100% of the funds given to UMCOR are applied to the relief effort as the administrative costs are paid through apportionment (connectional giving).

Finance – Chuck Mason –

Chuck presented the Finance Committee report. The key message is that we continue to miss our forecast for 2007. The options are to increase giving or to limit further spending. There are no clear indicators of what is causing this. Pledges are on target. Attendance is slightly down (20–25 less). Plate giving is down.

Chuck announced that the finance committee will be meeting with SPRC and Trustees to look at the possibility of a 5–10% reduction in budget. Kelly asked that Finance look across all committees.

Ruth suggested revisiting the Stewardship Summit.

BIA – Bryan Everett –

BIA is working on the Fall Pledge Drive and possibly leveraging an outside source to help with coming up with an effective Pledge Drive. BIA is looking at a monthly campaign on Stewardship with something in the bulletin each week.

Closing Prayer – David Palmer:

Committee Representation at Church Council Meetings: Please be sure to send a representative in the event that Committee Chairpersons cannot attend.

Next Meeting: The next meeting is Monday, June 25, 2007 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michelle Koch

NUMC Council Secretary