

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL
November 20, 2007

The Administrative Council met on Monday, November 20 at 6:00 p.m. in the Meeting Room. Vice Chairperson Gary Ball called the meeting to order. Dr. John Fowler gave the devotional. The minutes were approved as presented.

Gene Hendricks gave the Treasurer's report, noting that the finances are not as good as hoped for when compared with last year at this time. Eighty-one percent of the budget has been spent to date, with only seventy-three percent received. Bill Ellis says that the Stewardship Committee plans to send out cards to members who have pledged in the past but failed to make pledges this year. Gene noted that many in that category have continued to donate, even in the absence of pledges. At Jerry Hatfield's suggestion, Dr. Fowler asked Gene to prepare a narrative report for the next Faith Link, to encourage more participation before the end of the year.

Bill Ellis reported on the progress of the First Light Focus Group which is working on recommendations for reaching the un-churched. Members have visited other churches to learn what is effective in a more contemporary style service, as compared to our present "blended" service. Bill said that we are currently using a traditional service and format in a non-traditional setting for our First Light service. After considerable discussion, Council members voted and approved a motion to endorse Bill's recommendation that a First Light Worship Team be developed. In addition to the members suggested for the team, Keith suggested that Nora Ford's name be added to the team and Susan Morgan suggested that the team invite a youth representative. (See full report for more details, e.g. 2009 budget consideration.)

For the Trustees, Kent Riddle said that with so many activities in the church, we need to be very diligent in locking up and also in turning off lights since utilities are a major expense in our budget.

Keith Smith reported on upcoming Christmas activities: Hanging of the Greens, Chancel Choir Cantata, and Bob Inman's visit on the drama night. Pat Hatfield reminded members that it is important for everyone to make reservations for meals, especially for the drama night when all tables will probably be filled.

For Barbara Bellamy, Keith distributed the flyer for the Church and Community Health Fair which is scheduled for December 1st in the Stevens-Bush CLC. Pam Barber said that she will be providing flu shots at the fair.

Barbara Love said that the Worship Committee had worked hard most of the day decorating the church for Christmas, and she was commended for the results.

Bob Lisk reported that 45 Young at Heart met today.

Bill Armfield said that Steve Barlow has accepted the Scoutmaster position. The

Scouts' recent luncheon netted \$555.00. They plan to have a fellowship dinner for scouts and their families. He is currently working on getting a phone for the scout area and working on solving an alarm system problem.

Sandra Lisk, for UMW, said that 35 Operation Christmas Child boxes were collected for Samaritan's Purse. She commended the staff for their continued leadership and guidance.

Debora Ellis said that the Ladies Bible Study is suspended until January. She is considering discontinuing the Wednesday classes due to personal obligations and also the overlap with Roberta Kogut's cell group.

Bill Ellis reported that 10 to 12 men have been attending the Men's Study Group and they have been studying comparative religions.

Susan Morgan said that Littlejohn United Methodist Church is making an effort to get all Methodist Youth in the county involved in joint activities. She said that she hopes we will be able to offer the CLC for some joint meetings.

Dr. Fowler reported that David Manifold has been nominated to chair the 2008 Finance Committee and that Larry and Nickki Absher have been nominated to co-chair the Family Life Committee. A motion to accept the nominations was seconded and approved unanimously. Dr. Fowler thanked the Council members for their willingness to serve.

Gary Ball recognized Council members who are vacating Chair positions at the end of 2007 and thanked them for their service. These include Gene Hendricks, Walt Fucito, Barbara Love, Pam Barber, Deb Ellis, who were present, and Jamie Ingle, Larry and Susan Hayes, Jane Cummings, and Ann Walters who were absent.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m. and Gary Ball closed with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Sara Mursch for Barbara Weiller