

## ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MEETING

May 18, 2008

The Administrative Council met on Monday, May 18 2008 at 6:00 p.m. in the Meeting Room. Bill Pipkins, Chairperson, called the meeting to order. Barbara Weiller gave the devotion. The minutes were approved with the following correction by Holly Cole: The Sunday School brochure already exists. She would like to have it handed out with the visitor gift flower. Dr. Fowler said he would ask the ushers to do that.

Bill Pipkins asked for discussion of the Council meeting schedule. We will not meet in June but will have the next meeting on July 21st.

Charles Woodie presented the financial report, saying that the full report will be sent to members tomorrow as an attachment. Revenue to date is approximately as expected ( about 33%), but expenses are at 90%. He asked members to examine the yellow-highlighted expense items on the budget which indicates expenses over the expected 33%. He noted that bus operation expenses were projected with gas at \$2.75/gallon and will be reset in June to reflect current prices near \$4.00/gallon. Charles said that each member should try to hold expenses of non-fixed items to 90% of the amount budgeted. He asks each committee chairperson to look closely at each line item in the next budget rather than just duplicate the current budget in August.

Ken Moore, SPR Chairman, discussed details of preparations for the Fowler's departure and for the arrival of the new Senior Pastor, Jamie Armstrong and his wife, who is the newly appointed pastor of Littlejohn Methodist Church. After last week's welcome visit and tour of both churches, parsonages and schools, the Armstrongs chose FUMC parsonage. The move-out/move-in date is June 24th. Ken will arrange for volunteer help if needed to unload the moving pods for the Armstrongs. Ken read a letter from Jamie expressing his appreciation for the hospitality from FUMC. Because of the administrative challenges involved with housing ministerial couples, Jerry Hatfield said that he will try to have the issue discussed at Conference next month so that clear policies can be in place regarding ways churches deal with parsonage decisions for ministerial couples. Littlejohn Church will try to rent their parsonage and may volunteer to help with our parsonage expenses, however, they are still paying a mortgage and we are not allowed to ask them for help. Ken will take our comments to the District Superintendent on June 1.

Ken distributed a sign-up sheet for gift coupons for the Armstrongs to use at local restaurants. He also said his committee will explore ways for the two churches to share activities, helping to make it a fulfilling assignment for the new family. Daughter Maggie will transfer to Hibriten as a sophomore and Matthew will remain with family/friends to complete his senior year at West Guilford. Jerry commented that we owe Ken a debt of gratitude for the outstanding preparatory work he and his committee have done.

Kent Riddle, Trustees Chairperson, says they have several on-going projects and are researching an expensive project down the road which he will bring to the Council at a later date.

Sara Mursch, Mission Committee Chairperson, had, prior to the Trustees meeting, furnished sample Red Cross Shelter inspection forms for their review. She asked approval for paperwork to be submitted to the

Catawba Chapter of the American Red Cross requesting pre-certification inspection of our facility. If needed as a shelter, having Red Cross certification will bring support of food, supplies and coordination which would enhance our effectiveness. Jerry Hatfield made a motion that the paper work be submitted to David Garrison, Emergency Services Director. The motion was seconded and approved . The next step will be for a Red Cross shelter inspection team to visit, accompanied by the pastor and possibly Bill Sale and Kent Riddle.

Gary Ball reported that many FUMC members assisted with the recent 3-day, 3-house Habitat Blitz.

Dr. Fowler reported for Keith, who was absent on his birthday. He commended Keith for the great work he does and mentioned two up-coming events: The Children of the World concert on May 29th and the pre-school graduation performances of Mary Poppins. The recognition of the Laity awards will take place in June. John reported that the confirmation class went well and Marietta described the recent baptism event at Central Advent Church.

The Ladies Bible Study is finished for the year and is being followed up by a study of depression.

Bill Ellis' Men's Bible Class is on-going.

The Prison Ministry will have graduation; for a class of 20 inmates. Bill Pipkins reported that the recent class on fathering went well, including an event which their children attended.

A new Sunday School Class has been developed.

Dr. Fowler said we can obtain increased funds this year from the Robbins Rural Trust Fund.

Rev. Smith reported that she had served 28 requests from the Christian Service Fund this month, providing \$1234.00 for food, rent and utilities. She thanked Dr. Fowler for his support, noting the qualities that endear him to all.

Debbie Mason reported that the Care Ministry is not going as well as she would like it to, noting that some members aren't covered due to a shortage of group leaders. She will have a call meeting on June 1. Ken said that Rev. Jamie Armstrong will be meeting with all committees and expects to be asked for help.

Bill Ellis reported that approximately \$148,000 (36.5%) of pledges have been collected, putting us on track for the year.

Dr. Fowler expressed his appreciation for the Council and for the many ways FUMC members provide leadership in the community

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 P. M. and Dr. Fowler closed with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Sara Mursch, for Barbara Weiller