

November 4, 2008
Middletown United Methodist Church
Church Council Minutes

Attendees- George Payne, Gib Bishop, Don Meckley Bill Bennett, Barb Lindberg, Judy Garrett, Ann Keyfauber, Belinda McKee, Beth Tice, Amy Byard, Susan Halse, Chris Coffman, Linda Nealon

- n Greetings and Introduction – George Payne
 - o Toni Snyder will be our new Family Ministry Director. She is off to a great start and has been very well prepared
 - o Good-bye to Tom Condon – Card was passed around for Tom. He will continue to be active as a trustee and has been very supportive during this transition period.
- n Opening Prayer – Bill Bennett
- n **Stewardship campaign and '09 budget numbers** (Scott Green)
 - o \$632,000 pledged plus another \$20,000 designated specifically for the capital campaign. Using those numbers and the expenses for the coming year we should come out being able to meet expenses. They are sending out a reminder to those who haven't pledged, as well as, thank you notes to those who have pledged.
 - o Service commitments are being collated and committees will receive lists of people who volunteered to be contacted at the next meeting. Kim Naryan's team
- n Report from **Charge Conference** (Susan and Bill)
 - o It was held and 6 people attended in addition to the 3 clergy and Paul Rose. However, everyone who needed to report was there.
 - o Approved salaries, contingent on several corrections.
- n **Pastor's Reports**- Susan, Chris, Bill, Paul
 - o Suggested that we do some of the book Five Practices during church council. This is the workbook for our upcoming small group Bible study.
 - o Susan is asking that we take the workbook piece that we do each month back to our committees monthly if you have a committee that meets each month. If you have a committee that you're in contact with in a different manner, you'll need to adapt it.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. **SPRC** – Amy Byard
 - a. Kevin Young has agreed to cochair the SPRC for next year.
 - b. Staff reviews have been completed.
 - c. Offering benefits to full time staff is being considered. This may not be financially feasible. We may need to split the cost 50/50 with the affected staff members. This will need to be approved by the Finance Committee.
 - d. The next two meeting will focus on the recommendations of the Joel Committee
2. **Witness** – Linda Nealon-
 - a. Hospitality Schedule was shared

- Nov. 9- Family Ministries
 - Nov. 16- Fellowship
 - Nov. 23 – Finance
 - Nov. 30 – Lay Leadership
3. **Family Ministries** – Toni Snyder
 4. **Worship** – Beth Tice-
Schedule of Advent/ Holiday events was shared
 - a. Nov. 29/30 Advent Week 1
 - b. December 3 (wed.) – UMW Cookie Exchange/ Women’s program
 - c. Dec. 6 –(Sat.) Advent Week 2- Carols and Chrismons service
 - d. Dec. 10 – (Wed.) Family Advent Service – One Night in Bethlehem – dinner will be provided by family/children’s ministries.
 - e. Dec. 13 (Sat.) Advent Week 3 – The Promise of the King- Adult/Orchestra Cantata – 5:00 service.
 - f. Dec. 17 (Wed.)– Taize Service
 - g. Dec. 20 (Sat.) – Children’s Musical @ 5:00 service
 - h. Dec. 24
 - 4:00 Family Service – special music
 - 5:00 Family Service – children’s choir
 - 7:00 Contemporary – Stones and Living Waters
 - 9:00 and 11:00– Communion & candlelight services
 - i. Dec. 27 – 5:00 service
 - j. Dec/ 28th – Sunday – 10:00 service with brunch to follow.
 5. **Fellowship** – Barb Lindberg
 - a. Holy Ghost party went well, but attendance could have been better. Salisbury
 - b. Friday, Dec. 19 - Play at Strathmore was cancelled due to the economy so she has planned a trip to see the light at the Mormon Temple.
 - c. She also anticipated planning a tubing event for January.
 6. **Children** - Belinda McKee
 - a. Sunday School is all going well. We have 89 enrolled in 9:45 a.m. with an average attendance of 55.
 - b. Grades 3-5 have the highest percentage of attendance.
 - c. We are starting to send postcards when they have missed 3 Sundays and all teachers are encouraged to have the other students tell them at school or when they see them that they are missed.
 - d. Practice has started for the Christmas Program which will be on the 14th of December.
 - e. Nursery staff is good under the direction of Meg Watts. We are overstaffed at the moment and will be having a meeting on December 7th with everyone.
 - f. New nursery committee chair is Melanie Gamage and Amie Kefauver.
 - g. Children’s Ministries will be working with Pastor Chris for our Advent Event on December 10th. It will be an interactive program with a light dinner prior to a Wednesday service.
 - h. No report for VBS at this time.

7. **Youth/Young Adult** – Jim/Judy Holian/Beth Tice/Chris Bishop
 - a. High School programs are going well.
 - b. No success in finding a coordinator for prayer pals for college students. Getting a list of college kids and asking parents if anyone would coordinate this.
 - c. Beth found people to donate a microwave and refrigerator for high school classes.
 - d. Chris is working on having the student leadership team break into subgroups based on interest.
 - e. Sunday night is well attended.
 - f. FUEL is going well. Jim shared the idea of FUEL with a lady at work who has been communicating with Chris to plan and set up a similar program at her church.
8. **Adult** – Don Meckley/ Bill Bennett- see notes/ email to modify
 - a. United Methodist Men (Ron Forrester)
 - They continue to meet the 1st Sunday of each month 12:30 p.m.
 - b. United Methodist Women (Lisa Coles)
 - The cookie exchange will be held on 12/3/08. There are 4 Circles that meet:
 - Hope Circle – 2nd Mon. at 7:30 p.m.
 - Serendipity Circle – 2nd Tues. at 7:00 p.m.
 - Friendship Circle – 2nd Thur. at 9:00 a.m.
 - Faith Circle – 4th Monday 10:00 a.m.
 - All “Circles” meet in Gathering Room.
 - c. Open Prayer Group (Jay Kline/ Elaine Canonico)
 - This is held the 1st Wed. of the month at 7:15-8:15 p.m. in the sanctuary.
 - They are in prayer for our church, our leaders, on-going programs and any concerns brought to the group.
 - Prayer baskets- the first weekend of each month.
 - d. Emmaus (Don Meckley)
 - Men’s Emmaus reunion group meets on Saturdays at 8:00 to 9:00 at the Main Cup.
 - Mary Jo Crolley is on the 2009 Emmaus Board.
 - 11 people from MUMC “Walked 2008 and we hope to build on this momentum with a focus on personal invitation of more people to make their Emmaus Walk in 2009.
 - e. Adult Education (Mike McKee/Milt Tipperman, Bill Bennett)
 - Small Group Ministry
 - January 2009 – Kick-off church wide small group ministry with preaching/teaching series on book of Ephesians
 - Small group training session 11/0/08 12-2 in Social hall
 - 10 people committed to assist in planning (so far)

- May 2009 Begin Post-Easter network of small groups as a continuation of Ephesian series – this time with the groups selecting from a set of TBD study opportunities.
 - Jan. 2009 – Begin Winter set of educational offerings.
 - May 2009 – Begin Spring/Summer set of educational offerings.
 - September 2009 – Begin Fall set of education offerings.
- f. Free timers (Dick Kishimoto)
- Continue to provide transportation for doctor visits and lab procedures.
 - Visit sick and shut ins.
 - Participating in pot luck dinners.
 - Open House planned for 12/18/08 in Gathering Room to recruit new members. – sending out invitations to retired and semi-retired and will follow up with phone calls.
 - Four people are delivering Meals on Wheels.
 - Numerous trips planned/ in planning:
 - Alaskan Cruise Summer of 2009
 - Vienna Boys Choir in Lancaster, PA (possible trip)
- g. S"AGES (Kitty Kefauver)-
- Number of seniors is diminishing.
 - Meet 2nd Monday of the month
- h. VanGoers (Joyce Routzahn):
- All is going well
 - Request continued prayers.
- i. Staff Liaison (Bill Bennett)
- j. Brass ornament project
- As of 10/6/08 we have sold 193 of the 432 ornaments @ \$12 each.
 - Total cost was \$1,317.60
 - \$998 profit for church budget for 2008 church budget for 2008 with a potential for an additional \$2,868.
9. Congregational Care –Gary Schreiber- no report
10. Outreach – Judy Garrett/Bill/ Susan- nothing new to report
11. Missions – Debbie/Dave Hall-
- a. Frederick Rescue Mission:
- Dinner at the Rescue Mission on the second Sun. of each month will continue
 - MUMC will do the Mitten Tree again this Christmas to provide shirts and socks for the men.
 - There will be a Walk to Help the Homeless on 11/22/08 around the tidal basin in D.C. Be sure to designate FRM as the beneficiary if you participate.
- b. November Love offering is Hospice. Hospice has their information posted on the new website.

- c. Exodus project coming to an end. The shelter will open sometime in November as a cold weather shelter after some restructuring. Dates for training will be posted as soon as they are received.
- d. VIM –
 - They are will going to Africa
 - They will be selling fall and holiday flowers and will have Sees Candy again at the end of November.
 - VIMs information is up on the new website.
 - Milt Tipperman, Dave and Debbie Hall attended the VIM training provided all day at the Conference Center in Columbia on 10/4.
- e. We will be working with Paul Rose and others in the conference to provide short term mission trips for youth, young adults and others. These would be to places such as Nicaragua, Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico and Jamaica for only one week duration. Our hope is to get the cost of these trips down and enable more people to participate.
- f. Debbie and Dave have completed Emergency Response Team training through our BW Conference. ERTs work in our local communities after a disaster and only travel outside the conference if you volunteer to be called for bigger disasters. MUMC needs to develop their own Disaster Response Plan and this has been brought to the Trustees to look at and possibly work on in 2009.
- g. Mission Central is completely out of flood buckets, which is a concern that will need to be addressed.

12. **Trustees** – Chris Coffman

- a. Shared the mock up of the upcoming new church sign which everyone like. The sign will be lighted. Cost will be about \$11,000 which we currently have the funds for it. Barry Woods will build the sign.
- b. Banners may be “wings” coming of the base or we may put up 6x6 stakes for large banners similar to what the town has done.
- c. Recognizing Tom Condon at all services this Sunday for all his hard work.
- d. Group has been working on a plan to replace Tom. Working on divvying up and assigning captains and volunteers for all the tasks previously done by Tom- many of these are overseeing professionals that will do things such as service the heating system, landscaping, etc. There are 15 sections, each with a captain. Tasks that can’t be handled by one of these captains – call Tim Twigg or Chris Coffman. Trying to be more proactive about how we maintain the church and perhaps save the church money.
- e. Additional locks were approved for the downstairs preschool area.

13. **Finance** – Scott Green

- a. A draft of the 2009 budget was shared. This will be reviewed and amended if necessary by the finance committee in two weeks.
- b. By December any adjustments that are needed will be finalized.
- c. Review of 2008 financial data through September (75% of the year)
 - Giving – 68.6%
 - SPRC – 72.8%

Trustees 73.7%
Witness – 12.25%
Worship – 68.3%
Fellowship – 17.8%
Children – 67.7%
Adults – 77.8%
Congregational Care – 33.6%

d. Currently show income – expenditures of \$31,338 (goal for year \$82,856)

e. Current activities:

- Participating in the 2009 Stewardship Campaign
- Continues to work with pre-school and kid's club to get better handle on actual operating expenses. Held meeting with pre-school staff on Oct. 20th. Discussed plan for developing 2009 budget.
- Developed initial draft of the 2009 budget requests. Established target for stewardship campaign.

14. **Media** – Gib Bishop

- a. New website is up and running and being updated.
- b. Now have two websites, but old one will be phased out. Old one now provides a link to the new one.
- c. Six committees have trained people to update their websites. See Gib if you want to be trained. It takes a very short period of time and Gib can be flexible as to training times. Updates can be done at home.
- d. Hopefully new website will attract new people. It can be a very effective tool for people outside of our church. This is how people often look for new churches in today's world.

15. **Lay Leadership** – Kim Narayan, Bill Bennett, George Payne

- a. They are collating all the service forms.
- b. Another new members' luncheon in next couple of weeks.
- c. Planning next year's stewardship campaign at the beginning of 2009.

Miscellaneous:

16. Closing

- a. **NEXT and FINAL CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING for 2008---
Tuesday, DECEMBER 2, 2008 @ 7:00PM. Please make sure that
you plan to attend this last meeting of the year as we wrap up a very
successful 2008. I would really like to have everyone in attendance if
at all possible. Thanks!.**
- b. Joys and concerns
- c. Prayers