

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH – Deming, NM  
Administrative Council Meeting Minutes  
February 17, 2009

**Call to Order** - The meeting of the Administrative Council was called to order at 5:30pm by Chairperson Vicki Hofacket. Eleven members were in attendance. Rev. Keath Baskett gave a devotional on becoming Christians from the book, “UnChristian,” followed by the opening prayer.

**Minutes of Last Meeting** – Minutes from the previous meeting were reviewed. Mike Hofacket moved they be accepted. Rosalee Gillett seconded the motion that carried.

**Finance** – Wendell Hutchison reported the final year finance report was being redone due to discrepancies.

**Trustees** – Duke Deitz reported a projector was purchased for showing announcements in the Fellowship Hall between services. He also noted the board had approved the use of the gym by an outside men’s basketball group. Some of the damaged computer items are scheduled for pick-up in the near future for recycling.

**Old Business** – Vicki asked for reports on groups’ fund raising and/or community Christ work ideas. Joe MacDonald reported the music department’s Valentine’s dinner/bell concert brought in people from outside the church.

In discussion on a possible Stephens ministry, Wendell Hutchison reported the Finance Committee feels an Evangelism Committee is needed. Discussion followed on current reactions to the word “evangelism” and possible alternative committee names. Mac McGregor would like to be on such a committee. Keath Baskett noted this committee would: need to ask how our church changes lives, what is our place in the community, lead us in how we’re going to introduce people to Christ and how we’ll support that. Discussion on issues and what a FUMC Evangelism team would look like: leaders greet those we don’t know during greeting and fellowship time; invite people into God’s clique since cliques are human nature; evangelism is living your faith; our motive has to be reaching out and offering without expecting anything in return with a side benefit of people coming to church; moving greeting time to the end of the service so it would natural to invite others to join us for refreshments. Mike Hofacket moved we create an evangelism committee using a different name. Wendell Hutchison seconded the motion which passed. Keath will start it but it will be up to the leadership to keep it going.

It was noted that Celebration and the upcoming United Methodist Women Fashion Show and Lunch were good outreach to the community. Joe MacDonald requested help in spreading the word about another outreach event: the Doug Hallock band who will be playing for A Sunday Encounter on March 8<sup>th</sup>.

## *New Business*

There is a 2008 budget carryover of approximately \$6,000.00 to \$7,000.00. Finance is recommending those funds be available for any shortfall that may occur, especially over the leaner summer months. Rosalee Gillett moved that \$1000 of the carryover be added into the budget immediately, with the balance held as a stabilization fund to be used if shortfalls occur. Mike Hofacket seconded the motion which passed.

Handling of bequeaths – Betty Gottschalk’s will indicated a bequeath to the church but that portion of the will was voided by the probate judge. Her children honored her request by giving us a donation from their share of Betty’s estate. Finance Committee has recommended this go to the newly created Endowment Fund. Discussion followed including maintenance funding versus longer term future use. Vicki Hofacket asked us to prayerfully consider this issue for the next meeting. Katherine Deitz moved to table Finance’s recommendation. Cheryl Kae Dodson seconded. The motion carried.

A Sunday Encounter (March 8<sup>th</sup> at 6pm) is hosting the Doug Hallock Band as a fund raiser. The Ministerial Alliance is helping with publicity. The concert would be held in the gym with snacks sold to the public. Money raised would go to the church’s general fund. Katherine Deitz will ask some people to head up the snacks part of this activity.

Vicki reported on survey inquiries to change Sunday worship service times. Preferences are mixed regarding starting later or leaving as they are now. During additional discussion, it was noted that Stephen Ministries would be a good tie-in for the future Evangelism or Outreach committee.

Ideas for community outreach include: Partner with Deming Helping Hand during their commodity distributions; supply items needed specifically for DHH and Love, Inc. Claire will contact them for ideas and Jo Kruger will contact Healing House. We were encouraged to specifically look for other avenues of community outreach.

There have been suggestions to serve Communion weekly. Keath is investigating options, whether on Sunday or during the week. Keath also reported on the Bishop’s upcoming visit to the district on Feb. 21<sup>st</sup> and our church on Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup>.

The next meeting will be March 10<sup>th</sup>.

Wendell Hutchison closed with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Claire Phillips  
Acting Recording Secretary