

*First United Methodist Church-Deming, NM
Administrative Council Meeting Minutes
October 13, 2009*

Call To Order- Chairperson Vicki Hofacket called the meeting to order at 5:34 pm. There were fifteen members in attendance. Rev. Keath Baskett gave the opening prayer.

Minutes of Last Meeting- The minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed and accepted as presented.

Reports

Finance – Wendell reported the council is updating the check signers list for the church's main checking account. \$5,000.00 of the surplus funds from budget will be applied toward shared giving. This will be reviewed on a monthly basis, with a goal of paying \$51,000.00 plus. Stewardship Sunday is tentatively scheduled for November 08.

Trustees – The mini work day was successful and we are now in compliance with the state for food service. Little or no money was spent for small projects. The bid is pending for the A/C-Heating of the Gym/Little Lambs/Mac Kitchen. The bid should be updated. Three zones are needed. The previous bid is for approximately \$110,000 (gym-\$65K, \$34K for each of the other zones). The Reinhart Fund is up to \$62,700, an increase of \$9,000 from last year. Duke will find out if there are any notes about when the restrictions end.

Youth – The Youth Group is growing in numbers due to youth asking friends to come join. Scheduled events include a Newsboys Concert in Las Cruces Nov. 1st and Acquire the Fire Nov. 20th thru 22nd. Approximately 22 people (youth and adults) will attend Acquire the Fire. Youth are being encouraged to attend the Chrysalis being held on Martin Luther Weekend. Jack Galbraith attended the last meeting and went over the web page opportunities and how to best utilize them. The youth helped at the autumn carnival and continue to volunteer at the community garden.

Old Business

Kathryn Deitz did a wonderful job on the manual for certification as a Welcoming Church. It has been sent to the District Superintendent. He was extremely thankful that we are continuing our Safe Sanctuary. The manual will be signed by him and returned to us.

Ideas for the Ad-Council/Board Report

Improvements for next year:

Bring back Gospel weekend. Advertise this so the community can attend (schedule as 5th Sundays). Pursue singing at the Kingdom of the Sun retirement center. Have everyone invite someone to church (bring your neighbor to church Sunday). Mass mailings were suggested; even if the return is only 1%, this could be approximately 80 people. Invitation by person is a higher return. Advertise in newspaper, and/or flyers for special events, such as our Christmas program on Dec. 20 (Comcast cable TV, radio and newspaper offer free advertising). Hand deliver

invitations for events. Holding group meetings outside the church walls. Live nativity scene. Suggestions will be given to the newly forming Evangelism Committee.

Discussion turned to persons with suspicious behavior who have been in town. Safe Sanctuary ideas were discussed (locking inner Sunday school room doors, adults roaming hallways). Preventative measures are better than waiting for disaster. Claire will advise Sunday school teachers the name and description of the suspicion person to alert them. Pagers that are used for parents to be used by Sunday school teachers will not work since the page is initiated in the nursery.

Additional ideas include beginning a Spanish language service once a month for the former members of the Hispanic Methodist Church in Deming which closed several years ago. Keath will contact the District Superintendent to see if anyone is interested in this. Sharing worship space with another group may present challenges so we need to be aware of these issues.

Ways to conference/district could help the church include providing resources for grants and grant writers. Claire will see

New Business

Charles Stanley reported the Pastor's salary compensation package was developed and the recommendation was sent to the finance committee for review of the increase. The Pastor and family will be given a gift of a weekend to revitalize. (Recommendation for additional staff members will be presented by Mike Hofacket to the Finance Committee.) The Pastor's salary package was recommended for approval by the SPRC and passed by the Ad Council. Mike Hofacket move the Clergy Housing Allowance and Reimbursement Policy be approved. The motion was seconded and passed. Don Cameron moved to approve the Sexual Misconduct and Reducing the Risk of Child Statements. Wendell Hutchison seconded the motion which passed.

Approval of Endowment Charter – Copies of the FUMC Permanent Endowment Charter were distributed and discussed, with various questions answered. Mike Hofacket motioned the charter be approved as written, Wendell seconded, motion passed. It was recommended that, if possible, an attorney to appointed for the committee at large. This was generally approved by the Council.

Staff Reports

Music Ministry – Sarah Williams report was distributed and a copy is attached.

Pastor Assistant - Beth Simpson advised people are signing up to provide refreshments for Sunday's Fellowship time. Several Sunday school classes have already brought snacks. The Depression Support Group continues. The Caregivers Support Group is still in progress. Homebound Communion Servers are Imelda Veeder and Beth Simpson. She would like more volunteers. Sue Holdridge will see if the youth would like to help with this and report back to Beth. New Members are receiving visits and must. All Saints Sunday November 1st; we had sixteen members pass away this past year. The Discover Class is this Sunday and one couple has already joined the church. Beth will consider the suggestion to put pictures of new members on the bulletin board.

Secretary - Claire Phillips-Orate noted she provides support ministry for the staff. Recently a large amount of time has been spent doing one-on-one counseling and support to people passing through and those needing local assistance.

Pastor - Keath Baskett reported one of the adult Sunday school classes has requested to speak during the service regarding Project Smile, to help children with cleft palates. It cost approximately \$250 per child. This class wants to be doers. Keath will ask the worship committee, at their next meeting, Oct. 14, about setting up baskets for donations.

Additional Agenda Items

Duke Deitz announced that we have a new insurance agent, Cole, Pane and Barlow. Stained glass windows continue to be repaired under the old insurance agent. Duke and Claire are working with New Mexico Art and Glass on this.

It was generally agreed there will be no Ad Council meeting in December unless something came up that needed action.

The next Ad Council meeting will be Tuesday, November 10th.

Wendell Hutchison moved to adjourn the meeting which was seconded and carried. The closing prayer was given by Keath Baskett.

Pumpkin pie served by Wendell. Thank You Very Much Wendell!