

First United Methodist Church-Deming, NM
Administrative Council Meeting
February 09, 2010

Call to Order - Chairperson Vicki Hofacket called the meeting to order at 5:33 pm. There were seventeen members in attendance. Rev. Keath Baskett gave the opening prayer.

Minutes of Last Meeting - The minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed. Dick Huffman moved to accept them. The motion was seconded by Wendell Hutchison.

Staff Report

Music-Sarah Williams

The fund raiser on the 6th of February went well. \$465.00 was raised for the music ministry. Soul kids are working on three one act plays to be presented at Morgan Hall on April 24, sponsored by Deming Performing Arts Theatre. First Call is still small but growing and they will assist as stage managers for the Soul Kids plays. The youth will be involved with the Good Friday services. Soul Kids will sing with the choir on the offertory song during Palm Sunday Services; they are also working on an Easter Cantata for Easter. There will be new music introduced by the Praise team. Sarah is working on making connections at the middle and senior high schools, with the counselors, to try to get more youth involved with First Call.

Old Business

An EDE workshop was attended by Kathryn and Duke Dietz. The subject was strategy on how to bring your ideas to the Church to make it successful. One idea was not always needing to vote on ideas; just discuss it with the Ad Council chair for permission. Also, present the vision to several groups and then proceed from there.

Imelda Veeder attended “Frontier of Prayer” and learned about different types of prayer, being focused and specific in prayer, passionate worship and being bold in prayers.

Elmer Veeder attended the Fruit of Spirit workshop based on a nine month sermon series from Galatians, “Walking the Line.” This included questions about worship designed to challenge attendees, as well as a history of worship that noted barriers congregations may be putting up – even if unconsciously. Additional challenges included scriptures to study for each fruit of the spirit, living that fruit for a month, and assessing how it affected attitude, relationships, daily living, etc. How would your congregation respond to that challenge? There was also a course on “Walking through Him” by Reverend Todd Seelau.

New Business

Vickie posed the following questions:

What do we as a church do well?

We are a pretty friendly church. We still need to be more consistent in being friendly in both services. We should reach outside our comfort group to go up and talk to others as well as newcomers. We have a lot of programs and services that we sponsor locally and outside our city.

What can we do better?

We need to find a way to get more newcomers into the church. We should decide what our identity is going to be and help other find a match for their identity if they aren't comfortable with ours. We should let people know what defines us and reach out to others.

What defines us?

The Bishop wants all Methodist churches to define their mission field.

We need to define our mission field in order to become more focused in ministry, opportunities and resources. Everyone was encouraged to take this information back to their committees for feedback. Please have this available for the next ad council meeting.

First Service leaders are prevalent in leadership and committees, but not many from second service. The Nominations Committee should intentionally recruit more 2nd service attendees to be involved in committee for more equal representation. Our challenge will be to recruit more from second service, the need to gather information and insight on questions about our mission field. Different aspects of a perceived dress code and being open to everyone were discussed. Basic questions to ask ourselves each Sunday: Why do we come to church? And for whom are we here for? This is homework for the next meeting. It is very important that we get ideas so that we will know what we want to do.

Previous minutes

Dick Huffman motioned that the previous minutes be approved, Wendell Hutchison seconded. Motion passed.

New Business

2010 Budget

Wendell Hutchison presented an amendment to the budget, based on increases incurred in our building insurance policy, that were received after the 2010 budget was passed. The Finance Committee recommends the 2010 budget be increased by approximately 5% to \$351,299.00.

Discussion followed. The vote was taken and passed to accept the revised 2010 Budget as presented.

The January Finance report was reviewed with one question – why was the \$1,000.00 amount in the Missions – Shared Ministries line item not distributed sooner. Finance will review.

Committee Reports

UMW- Rosalee Gillett

The Rummage sale was very successful with over \$600 in profit made. The UMW will purchase approximately 20 new white tables for the church in the next few months. Storage issues were discussed for these tables. The UMW is trying out a new strategy regarding their functions which will be run by committee rather than by one person. If there is a problem when the function is held, feel free to call on either co-president, Phyllis Mudd or Jo Krueger to address the problem.

UMM- Dick Huffman

There are six each \$500 scholarships that will be available this year. The application deadline will be March 31, 2010. The UMM will be having their spring roast sale again this year. They will replace/repair the sprinkler system at the parsonage. They are discussing having an Easter dinner for the community this year, possibly in lieu of food baskets. A sign out procedure for using church equipment (such as electric roasters) was discussed, prompted by misuse of roasters and missing tables. They also discussed labeling TV's and large electronics as to location so items can be returned to their proper location after use. It was acknowledged that permission from the UMM should be obtained for using electric roasters until the UMM can discuss guidelines for their use. The trustees should update the table and chair policy.

Evangelism- Elmer Veeder

He noted that if we follow through with all that is discussed, we will be doing Evangelism. The End.

SPRC

There was an inquiry about where we are in the process of hiring a second nursery worker. Keath replied that a possible employee, from Russia, is being considered. Obtaining an international background check would cost approximately \$300. We are trying to work with the Deming Public School Systems to use their due diligence when she was approved for parent volunteering. Then our due diligence will be a national background to move along the hiring process.

There are not always two people in the nursery at the present time; Don Cameron will speak to the SPRC about this. We need to have two people in the nursery.

Staff Reports

Assistant Pastor – Beth Simpson

In her home church there is a congregational care system called Lamplighters. This is a program that serves to help the homebound, serve communion, transportation issues, etc. There is a need for this ministry in our congregation and she would like to further explore this need. Beth's spiritual renewal has been going home for a few days, working a chrysalis and leading in worship last month.

Secretary – Claire Phillips-Orate

Wednesday night live is being revived. The planning committee is at a spring program of Math Tutoring, Beginning Guitar, Babysitting classes, Beginning Crochet, and a study following Adam Hamilton's book, "24 Hours That Changed the World," led by Keath. Sign-up is available online or completing a form (from the office or found in the back of the sanctuary). BYOBB, bring your own brown bag, is encouraged with the church providing tea, lemonade and coffee. Advertising for WNL will be funded by the evangelism committee. A summer tutoring sessions is being considered, as this is when children need help to keep on track with what they had previously learned.

Claire serves on the El Paso District Committee for Ordained Ministry (El Paso DCOM). She recently attended a meeting and was impressed by those who are in the ordination process and coming through the system. In hearing about their ministry, there was a common thread; intentional care for their members which in turn expanded into the community as well.

Pastor- Keath Baskett

There will be two Ash Wednesday opportunities this year, one "come and go" service at 7 am in the chapel, and one a 6 pm Communion service in the sanctuary. His Adam Hamilton Lenten Sunday study may be offered during the day for those who do not like to go out at night. The staff retreat is scheduled for Monday February 15th to schedule calendar items and to set goals for the year. The office will be staffed by a volunteer. Keath attended the EDE Passionate Workshop and thought that we were already doing a lot of what was presented. He is looking at incorporating his Facebook account with ministry, noting the church should be on Facebook, Twitter and other social media outlets. Beth and Keath had a meeting with Liz Ballienas from the Deming School District to discuss community school needs. Clothing is covered through a DPS clothing bank, however shoes are a large need for many families. Everyone was asked to think about this and bring ideas and input to the next meeting. On the 5th Sunday, Keath went to Las Cruces to St. Paul's for one of their more offbeat services. He had a good time, but did appreciate our services.

Additional Agenda Items

Duke Dietz asked about using the church as host site for some Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FAC) activities, including having coaches as guest speakers. FAC is attended by many youth. Hosting this might be a way to get more youth in our doors. Kathryn and Duke noted that high school dances were a good draw in their youth. Perhaps we could hold them here. It was agreed these should be discussed with Sue Holdridge.

Meeting adjourned at 7:10 pm

Elmer Veeder gave the closing prayer.

The next Administrative Council meeting will be March 9, 2010, at 5:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Adams
Secretary