

Administrative Council Meeting
April 2, 2001
Minutes

Next Administrative Council Meeting, Monday, May 7, 2001
Corson Hall, 7:30 pm

Pat Del Camp called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. She welcomed members of the Confirmation Class. In case of inclement weather and cancellation of our meeting, Pat has arranged for such an announcement on the following stations: 89.5 (FM), 106.9 (FM) and 1060 (AM). She thanked the members of our church office staff who made phone calls to every member of Administrative Council last month to cancel the meeting because of the weather. Frank Wisniewski mentioned that this message can also be obtained on our church's web site and a message will be left on voice mail at the church. Pat mentioned that she will be leaving at 8:00 p.m. because of a bell choir rehearsal. Ed Bohn will chair the meeting after 8:00 p.m. Pat announced that future meetings will be held in Corson Hall.

Opening Hymn: Wayne led us in the first verse of "He Lives."

Devotions: Dolores Baker's devotions focused on a story, "I Believe In Easter," which she found on the Internet. Dolores read the story of Edith Burns who was a patient of a Dr. Phillips who informed her she had cancer. She wanted to share her hospital room with someone who did not believe in Easter. She used every opportunity to share her belief in the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Dolores closed with prayer.

Minutes of the February 5 meeting were approved as mailed.

Rev. Reasner welcomed the Confirmation Class to our meeting. He reported receiving thank you notes from the Interfaith Caregivers, Fresh Air Home, New Jersey Veterans, the Heifer Project, the Quiggs, Kim Crutchfield and the Wertzels in Tanzania.

The Haddonfield Visitor and Information Center has asked our church to be a part of a Sunday afternoon visitation of all Haddonfield churches starting in May. Frank Wisniewski said it would be a good opportunity to show off our church. To find a contact person, Administrative Council will put something in the bulletin. We would probably need someone for a guide one Sunday a month. It was moved and seconded that we participate with the Haddonfield Visitor and Information Center's request to participate in the church visitation program.

Nancy Anderson read a report from Carol Schmidt concerning the Prayer Committee which is composed of five to seven members. She would appreciate any suggestions. They will be meeting on a weekly or biweekly basis. They hope to have a web page where people can request specific prayers.

Rev. Reasner expressed a word of appreciation to Wayne Richmond for presenting the Gospel Concert March 4. He felt it was a significant time in the spiritual life of this church and urged our members to put pressure on the Music Ministry to have such an emphasis yearly.

Rev. Larry Dunn called on Bill Plumb to make the Mission Committee report. Five thousand dollars was given to the Neighborhood Center toward the replacement of their bus that burned from funds from the Felten bequest. The committee voted to give \$3,000.00 per year to three mission families in Paraguay, India and Guatemala and to the Congo Pastor's School in Zambia. Frieda Hamer asked the question if these mission families are Methodist sponsored. Bill Plumb said they are not Methodist Board of Global Ministries sponsored programs, but sponsored by the Methodist Mission Society. A vote was made to support these ministries. There were two negative votes and the motion was passed.

Rev. Joan Hutchinson expressed her appreciation to Leslie Robinson for planning the Teacher Appreciation Dinner. Mary Louise Lavery, Dan Stephens, Alice Caldwell, Leslie Robinson and Rev. William Reasner shared briefly at the luncheon.

Because no one was using the Resource Room, it was given over to the Music Department. The resources are still available, but they have been moved to the rooms where they are needed the most. Call the church office if you need to borrow anything.

This year's topic for Vacation Bible School is "Polar Expedition," a cool place for kids to experience Jesus' love. Dates for this year's Vacation Bible School are June 25-29 from 6:30-9:00 p.m. in the evening.

Joan spoke at Collingswood Manor recently and the title of her message was "The Game of Life." She mentioned how appropriate it was to give out the puzzles after the service. The residents seemed to appreciate them very much.

Wednesday Dinners: Three more dinners remain this year. The speaker at this week's Wednesday dinner is Jim Krutzke who has been involved in Disciple Bible Study. Joan urged people to attend so we can get to know him. On April 18 the Joy Clown Troupe will give the program and on April 25 Angela Estes will speak about the work at Robin's Nest.

Communications Committee has been meeting on a regular basis. The next meeting will be Tuesday, April 10, 2001 at 7:30 p.m. If anyone has any suggestions about the web site, please contact Susan Childers or Mark Whitehead.

Joan encouraged us to reserve Saturday, May 5, 2001 to support the TV Ministry which will be having an old-fashioned picnic and variety show. Cost is \$15.00 a person.

Joan thanked Alice Caldwell for the Rotation Sunday School report she put together. Everyone is raving about the program.

Rev. Champ Goldy asked for volunteers to deliver Easter flowers after the Easter services. Since it is very costly to reside in a commercial Assisted Living facility, Champ encouraged all to stay healthy. Champ announced that he got married on a recent busy Sunday afternoon. Congratulations, Champ!

Wayne Richmond announced that all tickets for Friday night's concert have been gone for a few days. They are expecting a full house. Upcoming events are the Maundy Thursday Service and the three-hour Good Friday Service. The one service that Wayne dreaded with fear and trepidation when he came to this church was the three-hour Good Friday Service. When he realized five to six hundred people attended, he became a believer! New Sound and Chancel choirs, along with several brass instrumentalists will be doing Easter services this year.

Youth Ministry: Dan Stephens reported that twenty of our youth will be going to Montana this summer. This past weekend they attended a Youth for Christ retreat in Ocean City, Maryland, which included an 1:30 a.m. foot washing service. A group of young people from Tulsa, Oklahoma came to last night's meeting. It looks like next year the youth will be going on a mission trip with people our youth met during last year's trip. The Confirmation Class participated in a "Prayer Path" labyrinth where they went through eleven different prayer stages. This originated in England where a youth prayer revival is occurring. (Dan mentioned it is a pleasure working with Pat Del Camp with the Confirmation Class because she is so gifted working with our youth.) It is good to see the young people's serious side. Jayne Kay, Liz Knapp's granddaughter, spoke of the unforgettable Confirmation Class retreat to Keswick. There was an altar call where they experienced the love of God for the first time. They enjoyed singing hymns that were different from the ones sung in church. The "Prayer Path" was an awesome experience where eleven different stations were set up with sand boxes and videos. She felt the retreat made Confirmation better. Pat stated that the curriculum is quite challenging for all concerned.

Finance Committee: Frieda Hamer gave Charles Bowen's report. She stated that the net income on the Operating Account sent out to members of Administrative Council is correct. We had to borrow close to \$100,000 from Reserves during the past few months.

Frieda took personal privilege to encourage all to cheer for Arizona in the NCAA basketball final game tonight since she met Tom there, met the Lord there and received a degree from the University of Arizona.

Stewardship Committee: Frank Cahill outlined a policy for requesting funds for anything that is not budgeted. After some discussion, a motion was made to approve the process. Motion was seconded and carried.

Staff Parish: Chairperson, Frank Wisniewski, spoke of the suggestion made two months ago of having a congregational meeting. The District Superintendent took it up with the Bishop and Cabinet. Both felt it was not warranted at this time. Frank's committee has met with six or seven individuals and one class over the decisions that have been made over the last several months.

A special education fund of \$100,000 was established several years ago for sending staff and lay people to conferences and seminars. Rev. Morris attended a seminar a few weeks ago concerning "Shepherding the Spiritual Life of Congregations."

A job description was adopted March 12 for a Director of the Television Ministry. It was referred to the Communications Committee and the TV Ministry Committee for review. Staff Parish then named Jack Shaw as the interim Director of TV Ministries. Staff Parish Relations Committee will open all lay ministry paid positions for applications and advertise the positions on the HUMC and Conference web sites. It is hoped that Jack Shaw will apply for the permanent position which includes 500-550 hours per year at a salary of \$850 per month for that position.

Frank mentioned upcoming dates as follows:

- May 20, 2001 Celebration of Ministry for Carol and Larry Dunn at 1:00 p.m. chaired by Susan and Gail Childers and Jean and Jim Hetherington.
- June 10, 2001 Worship Service at 3:00 p.m. for Judie and Bill Reasner chaired by Barbara Smyth.
- June 3, 2001 Congregational meeting and hymn sing at 4:00 p.m. Youth dinner at 6:00 p.m. During the Congregational Meeting the proposals will be addressed relative as to the upgrades to the building. There will be an opportunity for the congregation to ask questions. Staff Parish will give a status report as to where we are in the visioning process.
- April 21, 2001 Joint session with Staff Parish and Administrative Council will start in Felten Parlor and will break up into groups and then meet together. We want to provide a status report on the visioning and obtain Administrative Council's input, especially in nurturing and caring ministries.
- July 1, 2001 First Sunday with Rev. George Morris and Rev. Joan Hutchinson. Welcoming luncheon in Corson and Propert Halls will be catered at no charge to the congregation. Contributions will be accepted. A musical program will be presented at the luncheon.

Frank mentioned that it is the obligation of the Administrative Council to stop rumors circulating throughout the church. He passed out a list of the names and positions of the staff and asked us to pray for the church staff by name.

Old Business

John Scarborough spoke of an unfortunate incident that occurred the first Monday night in February on a snowy night with few people in attendance at the monthly Administrative Council meeting. Joan Clymer was very emotional as she resigned from the church. It broke our hearts to listen to her message. John read a letter he wrote, asking her to reconsider and to stay on as a member. He asked for members of the Administrative Council to sign the letter before leaving tonight. John will mail it to Joan in the morning.

Floyd Cranmer asked about the picture directory project that has been ongoing for over a year. He suggested the money be returned to the parishioners who ordered pictures. Dan Stephens said he is in constant communication. The company has told him they have not received material from Mike Riddle. Since the Riddles are out of town due to a funeral he has not been able to contact them. He will report further at the next meeting.

New Business

Gail Childers thanked the Administrative Council for their approval of the **Daily Walk Through the Bible** program. Over one hundred people have participated. They have had two coffees with good attendance. Lives have been changed and members have grown closer to the Lord. Pat thanked the Childers for their work on this project.

The meeting was closed with personal silent prayer and the benediction by Rev. Reasner.