

## Administrative Council Meeting November 5, 2001 Minutes

**Next meeting, Monday, December 3, 2001, 7:30 p.m. (Charge Conference)**

Pat Del Camp called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. She called our attention to an article in the "Methodist Relay" where it was noted that Kathy Morris was named Spiritual Care Coordinator of the Year by the New Jersey Hospice and Palliative Care Organization.

**Opening Hymn:** Wayne Richmond led the Council in the hymn "Great is Thy Faithfulness."

**Devotions:** Carole Mercer read some humorous stories of sayings by children as they decide the meaning of communion. Some think refreshments are being served. Some wondered if that is what they will eat and drink in Heaven. She closed with a serious reading about Bobby who was diagnosed with leukemia. He repeated the 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm as he was being treated with a needle in his back. He urged his doctor to repeat the 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm also, since it was helpful to him, as he experienced no pain during the procedure. Carole closed the devotions by reading Psalm 23.

**Minutes:** A question was raised about the October minutes where the length of term of Administrative Council members was mentioned. Clarification was made to say that there will be no new class in January 2002. On page two, Rev. John Hutchinson was corrected to read Rev. Joan Hutchinson. In the September minutes the last sentence of the third paragraph of the Staff Parish report on page 5 should be corrected to read: "Pastor Morris will discuss this with Susan Childers."

There was some discussion about putting the Administrative Council minutes on the Web before corrections are made. A motion was made to distribute the minutes to Committee Chairpersons for their revisions by putting a line through the change with corrections in italics before mailing to Council members. When the minutes are put on the Web, the wording: "Subject to revision and amendments" shall appear at the bottom. Motion was seconded and carried.

**Rev. George Morris** spoke of the concept of Future Search and recommended that the Haddonfield United Methodist Church engage in a Future Search Weekend under the leadership of Dr. Stan Menking. Dr. Menking would be paid \$1,400 for his services and \$1,500 would be required for food and expenses. The weekend would commence Friday evening, April 19 at 4:30 p.m. and continue until Saturday evening April 20 at 4:00 p.m. A minimum of seventy-five people is expected to attend and would include Administrative Council members as well as others in the church. A motion was made that funding be taken out of Unanticipated Expense Reserves if there is not enough in the General Reserve Fund. Motion was seconded and carried.

Rev. Morris informed the Council of the composition of the building Committee as follows: Frank Wisniewski, Chairperson, John Douglas, Alice Caldwell, Dennis Powell, Peter Powell, Walter Earley, Sheldon Williams, David Neiswender, Canda Reynolds, Floyd Cranmer, Carol Scarborough, William Faust, Sr., Charles Del Camp, Douglass Gamble, Carol Cahill, Chuck Finnie with the staff serving as ex-officio.

Some members of the Task Force for the Alternative Worship Committee are: Peter Jamieson, Chairperson, Warren and Cindy Brown, Mike D'Italia, Patti Fisher, Lori Jo Jamieson, Gene and Lois LeBlanc, Carol Schmidt, and Alisyn Stoeffel.

Monday, December 3, will be our Charge Conference where committee and staff reports will be given with goals outlined for the coming year. Ron Watts will preside over that meeting. Barbara Finnie will be in touch with committee chairpersons as to how to submit their reports. George suggested having refreshments so we can have some social time following the meeting. Barbara Smyth has volunteered to line up willing people who will prepare cakes for this event.

George expressed appreciation for all the people who have worked diligently since his arrival July 1. He feels honored to be part of this team of very good people who are working very hard.

**Rev. Joan Hutchinson** thanked Carole Mercer for her humor tonight as she shared the joy of Christ with others. She said neat things are happening in Christian Education these days. A new Disciple Bible Class is starting in January and continuing until December with the summer months off. January 9 will be the first meeting. Call the church office if interested.

Two new studies started this past Sunday: Dr. Sayre's Islam Study which was held in the Sanctuary since the group was too large for Felten Parlor and a six week study on "Major United Methodist Beliefs" which had sixteen people in attendance.

Joan expressed gratitude to Barbara Smyth for helping establish short-term classes.

The premarital workshop led by Amy and Bill McElwee was well received. There will be another one in the spring.

Baptisms classes are held once a month and are led by the pastors.

Joan expressed thanks to Alice Caldwell who is constantly finding volunteers for our Christian Education Program.

Training for the Stephen Ministry starts January 9. This ministry helps care for the lonely, new parents, people caring for elderly parents, people who have lost jobs and people experiencing a broken relationship. There is also a need to find people who are willing to be visited.

Joan thanked all volunteers for the Wednesday dinners. The Thanksgiving dinner will be November 14. All are asked to bring a food item for the Neighborhood Center.

**Rev. Champ Goldy** enthusiastically reported on being in New York yesterday with the Wisniewski family. He attended Mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral. He enjoyed watching Karen Wisniewski run the New York Marathon. This was the fifth time she participated in the Marathon. He is honored to have been asked to officiate at Karen's wedding in December 2002.

Champ gave a sad report of Betty, an 89-year-old lady who is getting very forgetful. She receives a small amount of Social Security and would like to get into Collingswood Manor. He is working with two social workers. She had a friend who helped her dispose of all her life savings of \$100,000. He suggested we establish some sort of fund to help people in dire situations as this one.

**Wayne Richmond** announced that the first major concert of the season will be this Sunday, November 11. The Canadian organist, John Tuttle, has been a friend of Wayne's for thirty-five years. It will be a celebration of the completion of the sixteen stops that were blank when John Wilson left our church.

Wayne expressed appreciation for the choir Sunday School class that is studying Hebrews since it fits into the time slot needed to be able to rehearse before the 11:00 a.m. service.

**Dan Stephens** expressed appreciation for support of the Pumpkin Patch project. He also noted that the neighbors were very cooperative and there was not one bit of vandalism.

Dan was not at last month's meeting because he was at a convention in Florida. He went with the express purpose of coming back with a mission project for our youth for next year. They will be going to Ground Zero at the World Trade Center next July 25-August 3.

### **New Business**

Pat Del Camp was contacted by Dave Potts, Chairperson of the Cemetery Committee regarding the \$200 Internment Fee. A \$300 fee is charged at time of purchase of a cemetery plot and a \$200 fee is charged at the time of death. Many people are not paying the \$200 fee. He is suggesting we authorize him to combine the two fees at time of the purchase of the cemetery plot. Discussion followed alluding to the fact that the Internment Fee is usually a charge of the funeral director. A motion was made that this be tabled for the January meeting, suggesting Dave speak to the funeral directors in town for clarification. Motion was seconded and passed. Pat Del Camp will ask Dave to take it back to the funeral directors in town and ask him to come to our meeting in January. The Council will act on it at that time.

**Staff Parish Committee Chairperson**, Frank Wisniewski, reported that Bill Faust, Chairperson of the Property Committee will take over responsibility of directly supervising Pat Shannon and our custodial staff. Bill will spend one day a week at the church. If anyone has any issues with respect to the building, please speak to Bill Faust. Also, anyone can place suggestions in the Suggestion Box.

**Stewardship Committee:** Frank Cahill reported 323 pledges for \$556,356.00 were received on Commitment Weekend. This is \$4,600.00 less than last year when compared to the receipts for the first Sunday, but when compared by individual giver it was \$56,819.00 or 11.3% greater. A letter is being sent to all who did not return a pledge card on Commitment Weekend. A follow-up call will be made this week to those in our local area who have not returned a pledge card. Over a hundred volunteers signed up to make these calls. We thank the callers and all who have helped with our Stewardship Campaign.

**Finance Committee Chairperson**, Charles Bowen, reported the committee will be meeting two weeks from tomorrow. At that time they will approve the budget for next year. They hope to present the budget to this Council at the December meeting.

A motion was made, seconded, and passed to adjourn the meeting at 9:03 p.m. The meeting closed with a prayer circle with sentence prayers and a closing prayer by Rev. Hutchinson.