

IVY CREEK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES
January 26, 2009

ATTENDING: Beth Cantrell, Debbie Childs, Gary Cornwell, Kim Crater, Keith Gearhart, Michael Gough, Kathy Haugh, Mary Hodges, Evelyn Jones, Becky Marshall, Patty Milici, Gary Myers, Claude Sandy, Darrell Schiebel, Teddi Schrock, Lynne Steppe, Rosy Stone, Scott Stone, Pastor Jim Thornton, and Betty Wingfield.

Scott opened the meeting at 6:35 p.m. Beth read excerpts from the Bible, had the Council members record their prayers for 2009 on index cards, and closed the devotional with a prayer.

The minutes of the December 1, 2008, meeting were approved as amended.

Pastor Jim offered nominations of three committee members to carry through the next charge conference. They were Beth Cantrell, SPRC, Debbie Childs, Outreach, and Susan Towe, Trustees. Council approved them unanimously.

Reports:

- **Congregational Care** – Teddi reported that they continue to deliver bulletins and visit our three homebound members. She also expressed a need for the services of Outreach.
- **Education** – No report.
- **Westview** – No report.
- **Missions** – Kim reported their Angel Tree was very popular and very successful (65 ICUMC members participated and 60 people received gifts). They also sponsor the Winter Warmth program, the Soup Kitchen, and PACEM.
- **Outreach** – Debbie reported that the committee would like to make additional efforts to help ICUMC become a more welcoming church. There was a discussion of the things we currently do to be welcoming, and explored additional ideas. The Evening with the Arts (former movie night) will resume in March. Debbie attended training on Radical Hospitality.
- **Finance** – See Treasurer below.
- **Treasurer** – Keith and Gary passed out EOY financial reports and reviewed them. In 2008, we had receipts of about \$7,900 less than projected; however, we were able to pay all expenses and had a surplus of about \$6,100. So far in 2009, we are running behind projected receipts at a rate of about \$660 per week. This will be followed closely.
- **Stewardship** – Don submitted an emailed report of the plans for a stewardship drive, with the following highlights: Consecration Sunday orientation meeting on Monday, September 14, 2009; Consecration Sunday leadership dinner on Monday, October 12; Consecration Sunday on October 18, 2009, with lunch following a single service at 10:30; and leadership in these events provided by George Neas, Director of Stewardship, Virginia Conference, UMC.
- **Trustees** – Lynne reported they met last week for the first time. They elected officers and are trying to get organized.

- **Building** – Pastor Jim reported that a meeting will be held on February 3 at 6:30 p.m.
- **Sarah’s Circle** – Patty reported that they met on January 14 and began planning projects for the year. Offered to assist with congregational care.
- **Wesley Foundation** – Mary H. reported the Foundation students returned from their trip to the Holy Land safely despite the war in Gaza. They are making a spring mission trip to Mt. Pleasant, SC, to do needed construction work. The Applebee’s pancake breakfast took place last Friday and was a success.
- **UM Men** – Michael reported the 3rd annual Sweetheart Dinner/Dance will be held on February 21. Also, the men are very involved in hosting PACEM. They are considering some strategies for increasing participation.
- **Bicentennial** – Rosy reported the newsletter is coming out this Sunday, February 1. The photo directory is in progress, but help is needed. The Bicentennial closing ceremony has been moved to April 19, so as not to interfere with Lent. Two proposals will be presented to Council next month.
- **Lay leaders** – No report.
- **Staff Parish Relations** – Beth reported they are working on evaluations for staff, details of compensation for weekly employees (snow days, etc.), and finding an advocate to serve as a liaison between the committee and each staff member.
- **Administration** – Evelyn reports that the Weekly Reader has been a great vehicle for communication. Please continue to send info to her for inclusion. Evelyn knows a young man (age 17) with autism who is interested in volunteering an hour each week (contact his mother Donna at 434-962-4082). We can reach the community via the Daily Progress’ Saturday Religion Notes section (email Molly Akeel at MAkeel@dailyprogress.com). We now have a “Lost and Found.”
- **Music** – Becky reported the choirs have adopted official names; i.e., The Ivy Creek Chancel Choir and The Ivy Creek Handchimers. The Evening with the Arts program (formerly Movie Night) will resume in March. Musicians from ICUMC have enhanced the worship service and entertained at the PACEM fundraising dinner. Becky has distributed a survey/questionnaire to choir members as a means of evaluating past activities and preparing for the new year.
- **Worship** - Patty reported a meeting has been scheduled for February 4 to plan for Lent and Easter.
- **Pastor Jim** reported That Liz Beddow came through knee surgery successfully. Pastor Jim’s vision for 2009 is that all Council members, as church leaders, tithe. If one does not feel that he/she can tithe, increase your giving with tithing as your goal. Also, he would like for each of us to participate in an ongoing spiritual formation group/class, either at ICUMC or elsewhere.

Unfinished Business:

- Photo directory – Progress is ongoing. A template of the pages has been completed, pictures are probably incomplete, and a membership/attendance list is needed. Expect to finish by March.

New Business:

- Distribution of Council minutes – Scott introduced the idea of making the Council minutes more readily available to church members. After a discussion, Council adopted a policy of placing highlights of the Council meetings in the Weekly Reader (Scott will prepare the copy), and placing the minutes on the website after they have been reviewed and approved by Council.
- Disposition of 2008 budget surplus – What to do with the \$6,108.73 surplus for 2008 was discussed, resulting in the Council's approval of transferring \$2,000 to the building fund, \$1,000 to the digital piano fund, and the remainder going into the contingency fund.
- Need for Quarterly Newsletter – Rosy proposed that the Newsletter be discontinued in favor of an expanded Weekly Reader once a quarter. This was approved following the Newsletter coming out this Sunday, February 1.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:36 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for February 23, 2009, at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Claude Sandy