

**IVY CREEK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES
March 31, 2009**

ATTENDING: Debbie Childs, Kim Crater, Keith Gearhart, Mary Hodges, Evelyn Jones, Gary Myers, Rhiannon Pattison, Carol Pharr, Claude Sandy, Lynne Steppe, Rosy Stone, Scott Stone (Chair), Pastor Jim Thornton, Teddi Schrock, and Betty Wingfield.

Scott called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m. Pastor Jim opened the meeting with a Bible passage and a prayer.

The minutes of the February 23, 2009, meeting were approved as amended.

Reports:

- **Congregational Care** – Teddi reported that they are now sending cards to persons mentioned at the Sunday service.
- **Education** – Rhiannon reported that CAA planning is continuing. Will meet with parents in an effort to improve child and youth programs. The District Youth Rally will be hosted on August 30.
- **Westview** – No report.
- **Missions** – Kim reported that Missions had provided dinners for both the PACEM men (March 22) and women (March 20). They have targeted Mark and Linda Stransky for establishing the covenant relationship, and will begin talking with the congregation about doing so after the Bicentennial events are completed. The Kroger cards are being used (Ivy Creek has been credited with \$118 so far). Additional Kroger cards are available.
- **Outreach** – Debbie reported that the gift bag initiative has been implemented. They have lost two committee members, and are reaching out to others in the congregation. Pastor Jim, Carole Crandall, and Debbie attended a training on a “Welcoming Congregation” at Aldersgate. They have supported the CAA and Scott’s hike.
- **Scouts** – Scott reported they have held the Court of Honor, a quarterly awards ceremony. They are meeting next Tuesday.
- **Finance/Treasurer** – Gary/Keith distributed and reviewed financial statements. The offering to date is \$2,500 below the budget, spending exceeds budget expectations (which is unusual), and spending has exceeded income by \$6,000. They will put a condensed statement together to distribute to members, and members will be asked to give testimonials on giving.
- **Stewardship** – No report.
- **Trustees** – Lynne reported that the seller may allow us a \$2,000 credit against the purchase of a replacement piano, if the sanctuary piano is not too damaged. They have established four subcommittees; property management, grounds, insurance, and parsonage. A John Deere tractor/mower has been purchased, hazmat items of concern have been disposed of, and Allen Fisher is working on AED and disaster coordination.

- **Building** – Pastor Jim indicated that the Committee will meet next Tuesday, and the architect will meet with the congregation following the 10:30 service on April 19.
- **Sarah's Circle** – Carol reported that they served dinner to the PACEM men on March 23, and are raising funds by serving lunch at the District Men's Meeting on April 4.
- **Wesley Foundation** – Mary reported that the Wesley Foundation ministry to women in correctional facilities has been successful.
- **UM Men** – Gary reported that the District Men's Meeting will be held April 4, and Ivy Creek is providing snacks prior to the meeting.
- **Bicentennial** – Rosy reported that plans for the Bicentennial closing are complete, a booklet on the history of the church should be finished by June, and an undisclosed project has been approved by the Trustees.
- **Webmaster** – No report.
- **Lay leaders** – No report.
- **Staff Parish Relations** – In absentia, Beth provided a written report indicating that they have met with each of our five staff members to review their evaluation letters and set mutual goals for next year. They continue to work on policies for record retention and child safety.
- **Administration** – No report.
- **Music** – In absentia, Becky provided a written report indicating that the: music survey continues; all music through the Bicentennial closing service has been planned; piano purchase research has been completed and presented to the Trustees; music will provide five classes for the CAA; and music Sunday is scheduled for May 24.
- **Worship** – No report.
- **Pastor Jim** shared a letter from PACEM thanking us for our financial gift as well as our ongoing support. He distributed a sheet on the Talent Academy Covenant and asked that we become familiar with it prior to the next meeting so that we can discuss it.

Unfinished Business:

- Photo directory – Rosy reported she now has the names and addresses provided to her entered on the sheets, but there are still some missing. It will probably take another month to complete.

New Business:

- Re-allocation of Bicentennial Committee (BC) postage funds – The \$29 which remains in the stamp fund, and is no longer needed, was moved to the BC general funds, with approval of the Council.
- Additional signature authority to ensure paychecks are ready on time – There was a lengthy discussion of how to handle paycheck signing so that they will always be ready on payday (Friday). It was noted that three people are authorized to sign the checks – the treasurer, the Church Council chair, and Susan Brady. The chair's authority has not yet been transferred from last year's chair. With that revelation, Scott and Keith assured the staff that the checks would be signed on time.
- Discussion of lower Sunday attendance – due to the late hour, this topic was postponed until the next meeting.

Pastor Jim closed the meeting with the reading of a Bible passage. The meeting adjourned at 8:53 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for April 27, 2009, at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Claude Sandy