

CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

September 15, 2011

Trustees: Aaron Johnson, Trustee Chair, reported the roof work is progressing nicely. The material was paid for up front. \$60,000 is to be borrowed from the Central Church fund at 4% interest to complete the project.

Upper Room: On John Jung-Zimmerman's behalf, Pastor Mary reported there were 24 residents in the Upper Room, 19 of them paying. There are 20 men and 4 women currently living in the Upper Room. A chili-cook off will be held Oct. 13th along with a silent auction to benefit the UR. Tickets are \$12.00 and a family of 4 can purchase a family ticket for \$40.00. The event will be held from 5:30-8:30.

Finance: Jerry Langley, Finance Chair, stated we are \$30,000 behind in our needed income. We are running \$70,000 less income than we need to meet our projected budget. Our expenses are \$42,000 less than our projected budget due to savings in salaries and insurance; however, we have recently hired an organist and an Associate Pastor. Upper Room has improved their rent collecting, changing from collecting each month to collecting each week; they had been running a deficit of \$2,000 per month before this. We have paid only District apportionments, but little Conference apportionments. An option to help is to use a line of credit, borrowing from Wills and Legacies, and use of money from the Trinity Trust. Jerry said he will personally approach First Source Bank about managing Trinity Trust and doing our banking business.

Chair of Wills and Legacies: Bill Welsheimer, Chair of Wills and Legacies, stated Dave Loughlin and Jerry Langley are working on challenging the Trinity Trust. The trust was established in 1981 when Trinity merged with our church. The original amount of the trust was \$40,000. Bill Welsheimer stated we may borrow money from the Central Church fund to help with the loss for the first 7 months of 2011 from the operation of the Upper Room. It was moved to draw up to \$60,000.00. Wills and Legacies Committee will distribute \$14,000 to the church to offset the Upper Room loss, with monies from the Central Missions and Evangelism Fund.

UMM (United Methodist Men): Flowers Jenkins, President of the UMM, stated the steak/corn roast held at Casteel's was successful.

Education: Pauline Medhurst, Chair of Education Committee, stated they have been busy staffing Sunday School. There is still one person needed in the nursery. Pauline and her committee have been talking about partnering with Madison School to serve students there. Pauline thanked the Upper Room residents for cleaning the Sunday school rooms. She expressed thank you for all the signage in the building, which was done by Jan Seabaugh.

Welcoming: Linda Phillips, Chair of the Welcoming Committee, stated we are averaging 134 people a week over the last 8 weeks . The Sunday of Kids Praise we had 248 in attendance. There will be an 180th celebration on October 9th following the second service. We have 48 Jubilee members, and 40 have agreed to come. Don Green's barbershop quartet will entertain. Craig Tornquist will emcee. There will be a hymn sing.

UMW (United Methodist Women): Helen Banas, United Methodist Women President, stated there will be a tea sponsored by Church Women United at Zion UCC on Saturday, Sept. 14th, from 2-4 p.m. The North District UMW will hold its' annual fall meeting at Rolling Prairie UMC Sept. 24th at 9:30 a.m. The UMW will hold its' Indiana Conference annual fall meeting at Old Bethel UMC in Indianapolis Oct. 14th and 15th.

Missions: Karen Anderson reported there is approximately \$2600 in the General Mission account. The Food Pantry is doing well financially. The Food Pantry just received \$500.00 from Memorial Hospital Retirees. The Food Pantry is also a recipient of Crop Walk money. She explained that 25% of the total money collected stays in St. Joseph County and is split this year between 9 food pantries, ours being one of them. The Crop Walk will be held Oct.2, 2011.

Church Council Restructuring: Sue Wright explained the design of the Church Council to take effect January 1, 2012. Discussion followed. All meetings are open to everyone. Sue also asked that any questions or comments be addressed to her, to avoid misunderstandings. It is hoped that fewer members on the Council will be able to get more accomplished and move our church forward into 2012. We want to change direction, and everyone needs to get on board.

Nominations: As Chair of Nominations, Pastor Mary has sent a letter to all Committee Chairs asking them to let her know of inactive members and suggestions for any new committee members.

Cluster Church Updates:

- Pastor Mary stated that charge conference is scheduled for Nov. 30th at 6:30 pm. She also stated Southlawn UMC has been added to our cluster.
- There will be a jazz concert sponsored by the cluster churches to be held at Clay to benefit Children of Abraham. More details will follow.

Misc. Reports from Mary:

- Someone is needed to do our web site.
- GED classes are being held by Doc Rushing and are free. Currently there are 10 in attendance.
- There will be a scrolling sign to be put on the corner of our education building. This will be controlled through a computer in the office. This should help increase our visibility. The cost is being paid through the Memorial Fund.
- As an Eagle Scout project, the yard used by the Upper Room residents is being landscaped.
- The screens used in the sanctuary for worship are being looked at and revised.
- Lay training for all members of church committees will be held January 28, 2012. More details will follow.

The next Church Council meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m., November 17, 2011.