

**Christ Church United Methodist
Administrative Council
July 19, 2005**

Call to Order/Devotional

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Sandy Bock. Rebecca Heid led the group in the opening hymn. Dr. Kermit Flener then spoke to the group re: his imminent retirement, sharing a little of the history of his 16 year career here at Christ Church. Dr. Flener hopes that he's been able to share peace and joy with members of this congregation during the tenure of his visitation ministry.

Dr. Flener then highlighted the scripture from John 3:16-17, and told a story of his visitation with a stroke victim. This man couldn't speak...couldn't respond to questions, etc. But as Dr. Flener began to read John 3:16, the man began to quote this passage word for word!

Approval of Minutes

Corrections to May minutes were offered by Charlie Smith, regarding the history of Christ Church's "birth" and development over the past 50 years and beyond. Minutes from May were then approved.

Building Update/Denny Howell

Denny commended the various committees within the church which have already given countless hours in the early planning stages of this project. The three leaders of the project were then highlighted: Construction being led by Denny Howell; Planning and Design will be overseen by Dick Good; and Phil Gayhart, with Sherman, Carter, Barnhart, will be the lead architect. Denny also thanked Dick and Phil for holding two meetings recently, one with the Windy Hills city council, and a second for area residents, to share what our plans are and discuss any concerns.

Sullivan and Cozart have been chosen as construction manager. They will return by August 5 with some firm numbers re: the project. Denny suggested there may be a need for a special called meeting of the Ad Council sometime in August to approve a budget for the project. Dick Good then provided an overview of the planning and design. Phase I will include several steps, including:

- Preparing approximately 36 additional parking spaces in rear of building
- Creating a builder's area for storage of equipment and materials during construction
- Beginning construction on the Christian Life Center, just in front of Fellowship Hall, which will include the new main entrance.

The Christian Life Center will have 3 floors of about 10,000 square feet each. The first floor will house a Senior Center, the second floor will consist of classrooms and meeting rooms, a Café area, along with a bridge to the balcony of the new sanctuary. The third floor will hold offices for staff, etc.

Existing offices, the old Chapel and the scout house will then be demolished, which will open up about 35 more parking slots. At this point, offices and scouting activities will move into the new Christian Life Center.

The new sanctuary will then be built, adjacent to the new main entrance. Seating will include 900 on the first floor, 400 in a wraparound, U-shaped balcony, and 100 in the choir area. A large

stairway will allow traffic to move easily up and down from the balcony. The existing sanctuary will then be remodeled, retaining 2/3 of it for building a new Chapel.

This will be a three-year project, and Dick cautioned the group to expect disruption, as we'll be adding approximately 35% onto what is currently here. Plans have been submitted to Planning and Zoning, and will be reviewed on their August 1 agenda, at 8:30 a.m. Construction is likely to start in 4th quarter of this year, and Dick stressed that we'll continue to try and minimize any concerns and issues with our neighbors.

Ministry Teams

- Sandy Brashear announced that Saturday, August 27 and Sunday, August 28 are the dates for the Ministry Team fair. This will be held in Fellowship Hall, to connect all CCUM members to various opportunities for ministry, both inside and outside our church walls.
- Beth Dixon (**Worship Team**) updated the group on the Saturday Fellowship service, describing it as a common ground for people to come and meet God in ways they might not have considered before. She described a growing sense of community within this service, with people really taking care of each other. One portion of the service includes "prayers of the people," where the congregation can share joys and concerns, either silently, written out on cards, or out loud, in front of the whole group. Beth is very pleased that attendance has remained steady through the summer. They've just recently had the first baptism within the Fellowship service, and on September 10, will host Derrick Webb, a nationally known Christian singer, who will perform as part of the Coffee House. Beth encouraged all members in leadership positions here at CCUM to attend the Fellowship, and get a sense of what the service is all about!
- Mark Ray (**Youth Ministry**) touted Youth Week 2005, a new tradition here at Christ Church, happening all this week! He described it as an "old-fashioned revival with electric guitars!" Other new things going on with our youth include:
 - *Launch Pad – offered to rising 6th graders during Vacation Bible School. Involves working with Katie to ease the transition into the Youth Program.
 - *Drive-in Devos – a Bible study, looking at movie clips from popular films, and relating them to the Bible. Small groups led by various members of congregation.
 - *Wednesday night Bible studies – MS kids at Christ Church (called W3 "Word, Worship, and Wildness!"); HS kids in various homes
 - *Choir tour this summer offered a non-choir mission component, with 6 kids going who had no choir background. Results were amazing...helping these kids to feel a part of the group!
 - *Recent backpacking trip and Paintballing Adventure also!

Mark shared that over 60 kids were here last night for Youth Week, including at least ten new faces! He's seen additional new ones tonight!

- Wenda Fisher/Tom Walton (**Outreach Ministry**) read a letter from Joseph Kolawole, who will study here in the U.S. for his doctorate. Also listed key mission trips, including Leigh Ray's return from Estonia, the Harrisburg trip, Mexico, and the Appalachian trip in August.

Pastor's Report

Aaron Mansfield is working to find ways to help new members get involved here at Christ Church. We have about 200 new members join the church each year, but typically, only 1/3 get

involved. Programs will be put in place in the fall to be more intentional about helping our new folks get connected with the church. He described a challenge from George to grow our membership by 10% (roughly 300 people). Aaron has recently attended a seminar re: helping people become evangelists about sharing their faith!

Dr. Strunk then thanked Kermit Flener for his many years of service to the members of Christ Church, emphasizing how much people matter to Kermit and here at Christ Church. Dr. Strunk then highlighted a few specific instances where schedules were rearranged to accommodate a recent wedding and baptism, because people matter!

Staff Parish Relations

Pam Knight shared the status of our search for a new Director of Children's Ministry. Mason Trenaman is heading the search. They've received about 20 resumes, have interviewed about nine people, three of which are viable candidates! In the interim, Adina Cook, our associate director, has agreed to full-time coverage, with support and supervision from Bonnie MacDonald. Paula Trice and Ann Furnish are the Children's Ministry team leaders. Pam stressed that none of our programming will suffer through this period!

On Sunday, August 21, Christ Church will celebrate and honor Kermit and Ruth Flener, with a gathering in Fellowship Hall after the 11:00 service.

Trustees' Report

Ted Champion reported that we're currently still under budget! They are looking into the purchase of vans for Seniors. Also evaluating alternative placement of commemorative plaques that have ended up on various items of furniture around the church.

Treasurer's Report

Mark Jackson described a positive initial report for the recent audit. Final report coming soon. Finance committee also working on specific aspects of stewardship. Monthly finance report shows we're 10% behind in contributions pledged, and also for overall budget, which is the norm for this time of year. Revenue is up 15%.

A team has been formed to oversee management/allocation of funds already accumulated for Prepare the Way Campaign (approximately \$1 million).

Also, as part of our capital campaign, we had allocated \$200,000. towards the purchase of the Portland Promise Center. The Finance Committee has recommended that we pay \$100,000. now to that Portland can proceed with the initial closing on the building. We will hopefully pay the second \$100,000. by the end of this year. A motion was made, and vote was unanimous to pay the first \$100,000. to Portland.

Stewardship

Keith Spayd introduced himself to the group as the new Stewardship chairman. November 13 has been designated as Stewardship Sunday, the real theme being education. Keith described a changing approach to stewardship...viewing it on a year-round basis, not just a one-time program. The goal is to instill that God truly owns all that we have, and that it's up to us to decide how we share it. Keith described a book, *The Principle*, which says that "you can't take it with you" but you can send it on ahead, and offers details on six principles for giving.

Old Business

Leigh Ray has asked to remind the group to complete and return the job description sheet for our Admin Council positions by August 1.

New Business

Wade Watkins provided highlights from the recent UM Conference, where he, along with Cathy Fyock and Cindy Potts, was a delegate representing CCUM.

- Wade shared that the United Methodist Church is in the hands of some very fine, dedicated, intelligent, passionate Christians!
- He also “officially” informed the Council that Dr. Strunk has been returned to us for another year, along with Revs. Mansfield and Macdonald!
- Christ Church was honored, specifically for its Mission programs. Wenda Fisher was honored for her work with the Refugee Program, and Leigh Ray was honored for the 2nd year in making Christ Church a Mission Ambassador church.
- The Kentucky UMC sent \$180,000. for tsunami relief
- On a less positive note, there is a growing gap between budgeted and allocated amounts

Wade described the meeting as an interesting combination of business meeting and worship, the theme this year being “Heart of Worship.” He reminded us that worship isn’t what we do...it’s who we are and what we bring to do the work of the church in the presence of God. Historically, the Methodist conference has met every year, somewhere in the world, since 1744. The original group consisted of 6 clergy delegates and 3 lay delegates.

Praises and Prayer Concerns

- Raja Kara – Rotarian of the Year
- Kermit and Ruth Flener
- Elmus Ussery – health concerns
- Catherine Smith – outpatient surgery
- Phyllis Wilson
- Golf Ministry
- Benjamin Thomas - surgery
- Melissa Mansfield – treatments delayed
- Emily Sims – Karen Sims’ mother-in-law
- Sam Ford, Karen Palmer’s father, in hospital
- Rebecca Heid
- Dan Stokes
- Bonnie Macdonald’s mother – pancreatic cancer

Rick Ashton closed with prayer. Next meeting will be September 19. Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dana Faulkner
Recording Secretary