

**Christ Church United Methodist
Administrative Council Meeting
September 16, 2002**

Opening Time/Minutes/Charge Conference Preview

Dan Stokes led Council members in singing "Gather Us In," and Jean Hawxhurst offered the opening prayer. Minutes for the July 2002 meeting were approved. George Strunk discussed the upcoming Charge Conference, explaining that it will begin with worship. Other items on the agenda are election of officers, approval of salaries for paid staff appointed by the bishop, a report by the Finance Committee on the church's commitment to support the covenant of 16% for benevolences, a report from the Trustees, and other reports on the ministries of Christ Church. The meeting will be in the chapel.

Pastor's Report

Rev. Hawxhurst stated that if team leaders had anything that needs to be on the church calendar for the next year, they should see their staff leader. Over 800 people were in Sunday school this past Sunday, the first time for this level of attendance. The Fellowship Hall Worship is changing times, moving to 12:45; we hope to attract people who aren't coming to church now. We also hope to move to a weekly Fellowship Hall Worship, but for now the service will be held once a month. Bonnie MacDonald and Rev. Hawxhurst are still in school; Rev. Hawxhurst is working on a project with small groups in dialogue. Kentucky Refugee Ministries has asked us to consider signing a petition to encourage the government to keep welcoming refugees.

Treasurer's Report

George Vest discussed items from the Statement of Operations and the Balance Sheet for the eight months ending August 31, 2002 (filed with report). Contributions through August are at \$1,246,125, somewhat below budget. The pattern has been to make up for things in December as people pay on their pledges. Revenue is about 12% ahead of where we were this time last year. Expenses are running 3.4% under budget across the board, except for the Preschool (in part because Camp Wigglesworth did not do as well as predicted). Facilities are under budget. We have spent \$95,168 more than we have taken in. The cash balance is down; about \$200,000 will be needed to cover expenses this month, and there is just enough cash to cover that.

Trustees Report

The Trustees have a budget of \$130,000. Robert Pfeiffer reported that thirty-five windows have been replaced and repainted, trim has been repaired and replaced, the Fellowship Hall sound system has been improved, landscaping has been worked on, and stains have been cleaned off the roof. One project that remains to be done is the addition of parking spaces to the lot; our lawyer will ask for an opinion from the judge in September.

Stewardship Report

Scott Dickens noted that the challenge is to keep momentum and growth going. In 2001, there were 713 giving units; that number has grown to 792 in 2002. In addition, 32% of pledges increased in 2002 over 2001. October 27 is Commitment Sunday. There will be moments of ministry on the two or three Sundays before that, and mailings will go out in early October. The overall emphasis is on participation, not just financially but in every sense. Someone from each Sunday school class will be asked to give a personal testimonial about what stewardship means to them.

Disciple Bible Study and Small Groups Report

Jennie Weeks said that the major purpose of small groups is to be a place where people get to know each other and noted some benefits of small groups. It is important that church members nurture each other. Nelson Knight and Jennie have been considering how to get the church to embrace small groups. They are trying to get together a visionary team to track what's going on now in terms of small groups and work with ministry teams. Disciple classes usually start in the fall. They are looking for a way to start Disciple and other small groups in January and also wish to be intentional about getting people in small groups. There will be seven Disciple classes at Christ Church this fall, as well as several other Bible studies, a Christian Believer class, and a support group for people without jobs.

Lay Leadership Ministry Team Report

Nelson Knight pointed out that the mission of this team is helping everybody in the congregation identify and use their spiritual gifts. Its task is to develop and implement a plan to identify gifts and what people have a passion for, to create a support infrastructure for that, to connect people with a ministry, and to set up procedures to maintain this process. There will be a pilot run in the fall, and beginning next year, it will be offered to the Administrative Council, who will give feedback before it's ready to go to the congregation.

Ministry Team/Special Activities Report

Steve Chappars remarked that his hope is that the goal would be to have everybody in the church associated with Sunday school and with another small group.

New Business

Dan Stokes told Council members that a group of young adults and choir members is going to Genesis UMC for their October 6th celebration. Walt Kunau offered Neil Kuvin thanks on behalf of the Council for the work he has done over the last three years.

Closing Time/Communion

At the conclusion of the meeting, Council members moved to the Chapel for a time of prayer and communion.

Respectfully submitted,
Beth Dixon, Recording Secretary