

**Brecksville United Methodist Church
Council on Ministries (COM) Meeting
December 4, 2006**

Present: Scott Campbell Kendall Lancaster
 Lisa Drew Bob Lundholm
 Jeff Hastings Ruth McDonel
 Janet Kleckner Karen Oehl
 Don Krolikowski Marc Vincent

Lay Leader/Chairperson Janet Kleckner opened the meeting with an Advent devotion and prayer.

Minutes of November 6, 2006, COM meeting approved as written.

Finance Committee Report – Jeff Hastings

- Current balance (through 10/31/06) \$17,382.39; interest income up significantly
- Pledges (through 10/31/06) -- Budget \$425,998 vs. Actual Received \$410,033
- YTD Budget \$452,232 vs. Actual \$443,531
- To-date (12/4/06), 207 pledges received = \$406,164 for Annual Budget; \$334,876 for Capital Budget (83.5% of goal)
- 2007 Budget request \$565,000 minimum (~ \$525,000 in expected pledges); 2006 Budget request \$542,903 (\$511,000 in expected pledges)
- Budget reconciliation meeting on Dec. 19 will update/confirm figures
- COM brainstormed on how/when best to approach congregation if a budget shortfall (need ~ 10% more from each person who pledged)
 - Suggest mailing letters announcing shortfall and asking for percentage increase (based on number of contributors); or, word of mouth communication among COM and congregation
 - COM decision
 - Sun., Dec. 10 -- Jeff Hastings will make announcements at each service on status of pledges to-date and encourage congregation to return pledge cards. Same announcement will be emailed to BUMC teachers, etc., not present during these services.
 - After finalizing results of Dec. 19 budget reconciliation meeting, will determine if mass follow-up letter mailing is necessary to request additional pledge dollars

Ministry Team/Committee Reports

Worship – Sue Dietrich

- Hanging of Greens very successful
- Choir and bell choir will offer pre-service music on Dec. 10 and Dec. 17, respectively
- Only one morning service at 9:30 am on both Dec. 24 and Dec. 31

Church & Society – Kendall Lancaster

- Monthly, informal “Coffee in Parlor” group discussions (first Mon. each month, 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm)
 - Seventeen persons attended first discussion on Dec. 4; topic was illegal immigration
 - Next month’s topic will be mental health care; subsequent topics may include universal health options and volunteering

Trustees – Scott Campbell

- Crib Room
 - Walls have been cleaned
 - New carpeting needed
- Parsonage
 - New kitchen sink/faucet installed
 - Roof leaks repaired
 - Keeping watchful eye on basement wall (bowed in)
- Church building
 - Lower level coatroom drainage issue continues following torrential rains
 - Flashing and roof leaks have been repaired (“band aid” solution good for ~ 1-2 years)
 - In process of re-drywalling bellroom and room above Betsy Wooster’s office due to roof leaks
 - Stained ceiling in Chapel repaired due to roof leak
 - Due to construction/installation of new Sanctuary window, tree dedicated to George Petrie has been relocated to Brecksville Cemetery
 - Sanctuary window to be delivered during week of Dec. 11; will be installed same day

UMW – Ruth McDonel

- Cookie walk will be held Dec. 10 between services
- Bought out house for Brecksville Little Theater’s Dec. 4 matinee performance of High Society; UMW will provide refreshments during intermission
- Asbury-Bremeth Circle has provided coffee after second service since Oct., 2006; will continue through May, 2007

Education – Marc Vincent for Janine Telischak

- Adult education
 - “Three Months with the Spirit” study winding down
 - New study on Revelation (led by Kendall Lancaster) will begin Jan., 2007
 - Group including Betsy Wooster, Chuck Gezze, and Karen Oehl will meet to discuss winter/spring adult education options
- Spirit Kids (5th & 6th graders)
 - Met Dec. 3 to celebrate beginning of Advent (~ 20 attendees vs. 12-15 average)
 - Next gathering in Jan., 2007, to celebrate Epiphany
 - Currently studying the liturgical year
- Bible Bucks
 - Raising money for Heifer International
 - Ark in stairwell shows details of goal met for donut party; new goal for spring in progress
- NEO SPCA Shelter
 - Part of animal theme seen in Bible Bucks/Heifer International
 - 1st through 6th graders gathering pet items
 - Donation to be made ~ Dec. 24
- Third-Grade Bible Study
 - 3rd graders will receive Bibles at 9 am service on Jan. 7, 2007
 - Writing own Bible curriculum
 - 3rd graders may lead worship service in March

Evangelism – Bob Lundholm

- Continues to staff Sunday morning greeters and supply bread to new BUMC visitors

Communications – Don Krolikowski

- Currently preparing Christmas ad
- Will discuss web-based calendar example with Irma

UMM -- per Karen Oehl

- Jan. 27, 2007 – Chili cook-off supper; Mayor Hruby to speak

Staff Reports

Lisa Drew

- Dec. 10 next EPIC Youth Experience; 35-40 attendees at each of first three gatherings
- Youth Jam held first weekend in Dec.; of 2,200 United Methodist youth in attendance, 47 were from BUMC

Karen Oehl

- Thanks to many BUMC helpers, serving hot cocoa after Brecksville Christmas parade was very successful
- Christmas Eve family services will incorporate “live” nativity
- Feb. 3, 2007 -- District Leadership Academy, 8:30 am to 3:00 pm, Lakewood UMC; will include speaker and workshops
- Mar. 4, 2007 – Children’s worship
- Vacation Bible School set for last week of June, 2007 – hot air balloon theme

Upcoming Meetings:

Ad Board – Jan. 2, 2007

COM – Feb. 5, 2007

Karen closed with prayer.

Linda Rollins
COM Secretary