

**Brecksville United Methodist Church
Council on Ministries (COM) Meeting
February 5, 2007**

Present: Scott Campbell Bob Lundholm
Sue Dietrich Ruth McDonel
Lisa Drew Karen Oehl
Jeff Hastings Alan Scheufler
Janet Kleckner Janine Telischak
Don Krolikowski Betsy Wooster
Kendall Lancaster

Lay Leader/Chairperson Janet Kleckner opened the meeting with prayer.

Minutes of December 4, 2006, COM meeting approved as corrected (1st through 6th graders--not 3rd graders--will lead first-service worship on March 4).

Special Finance Report – Jeff Hastings

- Budget has been finalized; will present to Administrative Board in April
- All Ministry Team budget requests have been approved
- Finance Committee requested \$5,000 from General Fund to help balance 2007 Annual Budget; optimistic that congregation will provide enough additional funds to balance Budget
- Additional \$20,000 in extra revenue has been generated in response to our mass letter mailing; largest amount provided by our “shut-ins”
- To comply with bank, changing current counting procedures for weekly offerings; must count on Sundays and transport funds to bank on Mondays
- Reminder: In order to receive a receipt for income tax purposes, any cash offering must be placed in an envelope clearly marked with the individual’s name

Leadership Academy (Feb. 3, Lakewood UMC)

- Karen Oehl, Janine Telischak, and Sue Dietrich attended
- Inspirational and uplifting; rely on God; how to pray; Taize worship
- Passionate speaker on Wesleyan theology (heart for the poor)

Ministry Team/Committee Reports

Worship – Sue Dietrich

- Two services on Ash Wed., Feb. 21--7:30 am in Chapel; 7:00 pm in Sanctuary
- Children will lead first service on Mar. 4
- Easter services will be offered on Maundy Thursday, Good Friday (community service at Christ the Redeemer Luthern Church), and Easter Sunday

UMW – Ruth McDonel

- Susan Henry, former missionary in Bolivia, led program at UMW meeting on Feb. 1
- Approximately 100 people attended Brecksville Little Theater’s Dec. 4 performance of High Society; UMW provided refreshments; proceeds to benefit UMW mission fund
- In lieu of UMW’s regular March meeting, will host Church Women United on Mar. 2, 10 am; program will focus on women of Paraguay

Communications – Don Krolkowski

- Audio recordings of sermons now on BUMC website; also Mike Jaszczak's recent solo "You Lift Me Up" (go to link on pastor's page)
- Set up interactive calendar on website (go to Maintenance link); uses color keying and shows months in advance
- Developing new format for weekly bulletin to incorporate bulk of BUMC news; Good Word to contain more feature articles

Church & Society – Kendall Lancaster

- "Coffee in Parlor" group discussions (first Monday of each month; 6:30 pm-7:30 pm)
 - January session on "Volunteering" facilitated by Dave Linnert; approximately 25 persons attended
 - "The Delivery of Mental Health Care in the United States" discussion was held on Feb. 5; 9 persons attended
 - "At What Age Should We Stop Driving a Vehicle?" is discussion topic for Mar. 5
 - Will develop/publish list of topics for balance of year; looking for members of congregation to suggest topics and/or facilitate

Trustees – Scott Campbell

- Purchased new snow blower and salt spreader
- Looking for a company to perform door repair to reduce drafts
- Currently replacing old thermostats
- In process of repainting Crib Room; new carpeting will be installed this week or next
- Sanctuary and Administrative Wing remodeling:
 - Diffuser glass for Sanctuary window to be installed Feb. 12; will then finish plywood decking and flooring
 - Trustees will conduct "walk-through" on Feb. 6 to bring new architect "up to speed" on the project; will work from plan developed by previous architect. New architect and design firm will make recommendations on colors, fabrics, etc.

Education – Janine Telischak

- "PJ Sunday" was much fun
- Janine grateful for opportunity to attend Leadership Conference--enhanced spirituality and gained new ideas
- All BUMC adult studies are well attended
- Youth bell ringing opportunity coordinated by Doug Huth; learn history of BUMC bell and ring with older teen/adult supervision
- Looking for volunteers to assist with Vacation Bible School on June 25-29—"Soaring to New Heights with God" (hot air balloon theme)
- Confirmation Sunday is May 13 (Mother's Day)

Evangelism – Bob Lundholm

- Continue to provide visitor follow-up and deliver bread
- Next meeting will be held on Feb. 19

Staff Reports

Betsy Wooster

- Offering 13 opportunities for adult studies this year versus 5-6 last year
- Six-week church-wide Lenten adult study--“What’s So Amazing About Grace?”--Will begin week of Feb. 25; small study group sign-up in progress

Lisa Drew

- Jr. High Retreat to be held Feb. 9-11; expect about 100 youth to attend, including 13 from BUMC
- Exploring possibility of starting a liturgical dance group
- Music with a Mission will be held April 21
- All 30 spots have been filled for this year’s YSP trip to Michigan
- Soul Quest will participate in 5-week Lenten study beginning Mar. 7; focus on why grace matters in our life
- Upcoming--Bible School in the park
- Epic (Sunday evenings) continues to be very successful

Karen Oehl

- Barbara Polomsky and Linda Rollins attended Bible Storytelling seminar at Christ the Redeemer Luthern Church on Fri. evening, Jan. 19, and all day Sat., Jan. 20; learned storytelling techniques as creative way to communicate God’s word to congregation through lively interpretation, expression, and animation
- Good News to be distributed once each in February and March
- Working to fill open Administrative Assistant position

Next COM meeting: Mon., Mar. 5, 7:30 pm, Parlor

Karen closed with prayer.

Linda Rollins
COM Secretary