

**Brecksville United Methodist Church
Council on Ministries (COM) Meeting
August 6, 2007**

Present: Kay AuWerter Dave Lienert
Les Buttolph Bob Lundholm
Sue Dietrich Ruth McDonel
Lisa Drew Karen Oehl
Jenny Gee Jennifer Schneider
Janet Kleckner Betsy Wooster
Craig Kotnik

Pastor Karen Oehl opened the meeting with prayer.

Minutes of June 4, 2007, COM meeting approved as corrected: Faith & American Politics workshop to be held Aug. 19-20 (not June).

Janet Kleckner, Chairperson, led individual COM introductions for benefit of new members.

Finance Report (Les Buttolph, Business Mgr.)

- Les distributed individual budget overviews to each COM chairperson; he may be contacted to discuss/amend budgets as needed
- He stated that budget dollars not spent in any given year are put into the general fund and may be recaptured in subsequent years as needed
- Les will prepare monthly budget summaries and distribute by first of each month to COM chairpersons via their respective office inboxes

Interpreter Magazine (Karen Oehl)

- Program magazine of United Methodist Church; issued bi-monthly
- Seven free subscriptions offered to each UMC; Karen circulated sign-up sheet to COM members if interested in receiving subscription

Change in BUMC Worship Schedule (Sunday School to be held between services)

- Will form transition/transformation task force as “clearinghouse” coordinator to gather information, identify issues, present recommendations to COM for approval; also need to create name for this group
 - Comprised of representatives (at minimum) from Education, Trustees, Worship, Youth, Evangelism, and a few members of congregation at large; all ages needed
 - Alan Scheufler willing to head task force
 - COM members to encourage someone from each committee to volunteer as task force representative (must also report at COM meetings); COM to submit names to Karen Oehl prior to next COM meeting on Sept. 4
- COM members brainstormed on required tasks:
 - Determine actual worship service timeframe (children needed 9 am to noon in Sunday School); need 70 minutes between services; what happens to current coffee hour?
 - Education/marketing – Inform parents, congregation, community; post banner outside
 - Space – Number of current classrooms versus classrooms needed (may require use of Fellowship Hall); assess parking requirements
 - Need more offerings for adult education and Adult Education Lay Coordinator

- Safety of children (especially between Sunday School drop-off and pick-up times)
- Different Christian education programming needs means new recruiting responsibility by Education Committee
- Cost to implement overall change

Good Word and Weekly Bulletins (Karen Oehl)

- Good Word changes
 - Appearance and design (may require more training for office staff); distribution from monthly to bi-monthly; more articles/less announcements
- Weekly Bulletin changes
 - More ongoing, in-depth announcements (weekly basis necessary for many BUMC announcements)
- COM brainstormed on other communication needs:
 - Separate Education newsletter in order to capture volume of news; email distribution may be effective venue
 - Rolling BUMC calendar to keep abreast of ongoing events/important dates
 - Alert community of BUMC events to promote participation

Ministry Team/Committee Reports

Youth Board & Trustees – Kay AuWerter

- Youth Board – All members co-chair this committee
- Trustees
 - Architect providing cost for remodeling work (to begin mid-2008); \$95,000 in capital campaign funds raised to-date (80% of total commitment)
 - Tiles ordered to repair roof
 - Will cost ~ \$1,000 to repair cloakroom leak versus \$5,000 originally anticipated

Church & Society – Dave Lienert

- Continuing with volunteer work programs/mission groups; will incorporate UMM into groups
- Coffee in Parlor discussions will be held each month
- Seeking opportunities for activities/events to bring “outsiders” into fellowship with BUMC; e.g., host a game night/congregation invites friends; Dave asked COM to think about other ideas

Evangelism – Bob Lundholm

- BUMC men’s slow-pitch softball team finished enjoyable season of fun/fellowship
- Continue to staff greeters

Worship – Sue Dietrich

- Joy McGuire, new full-time Music Director, will join BUMC staff Aug 7; Aug.19 is her first Sunday
- Continue to seek organist; in the interim, Chris Toth will play for fall weddings
- Worship Arts picnic will be held at the parsonage on Aug. 23 (6 pm)
- Currently recruiting ushers and communion stewards

Missions – Craig Kotnik

- Sponsored Andrea Dumont’s mission trip to Russia; she will return with report soon

Education & Staff – Betsy Wooster for Jennifer Schneider/Mark Vincent (Education)

- Sunday School registration Rally Day set for Sept. 9 (includes pancake breakfast served to students by UMM); will also commission teachers at 9 am worship service
- First day of Sunday School on Sept. 16
- Many adult education options available in fall
- Aug. 19-20 Faith & American Politics seminar -- Liz Frederick, Les Buttolph, Penny Burns (tentative), and Betsy will attend to become trained facilitators

Koinonia – Jenny Gee

- Approximately 70 persons attended recent Ice Cream Social; approximately 46 attended Akron Aeros baseball game
- Church picnic will be held Aug. 21 at Richfield Woods Pavilion (approximately 5 pm to 8 pm)

Staff Reports

Lisa Drew

- YSP
 - Recent trip very successful; youth attendees really displayed Christian leadership
 - 2008 trip will be held mid-July in Michigan; more building requirements versus painting
- EPIC summer session concludes with pool party on Aug. 12 at Telischak's home
- Need to empower more lay leadership for youth groups in addition to Lisa

Janet Kleckner closed with prayer.

Next COM meeting: Tues., Sept. 4 (7:30 pm in Parlor)

Linda Rollins
COM Secretary