

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

Present: Lisa Drew Joy McGuire
 Jenny Gee Karen Oehl
 Janet Kleckner Jennifer Schneider
 Don Krolikowski Austin Smith
 Dave Lienert Betsy Wooster

Chairperson Janet Kleckner opened the meeting with prayer.

Minutes of September 4, 2007, COM meeting approved as written.

Old Business

- Transition Task Force
 - Meeting Wed., Nov. 7, 7:30 pm
 - Need as many people as possible to input ideas so transition runs smoothly
- Stewardship Campaign
 - As of Nov. 5, 149 pledges received for total of \$329,639 (proposed budget \$600,000)
- Good Word format/content change discussion
 - Suggest distribution 4-6 times/year, 2 of which would be full color
 - Some concern that this less frequent distribution may prevent those unable to attend church on regular basis from obtaining current information
 - If use Good Word as Evangelism piece, still need insert listing dates/times of current events
 - Current in-house preparation very labor intensive
 - Need more feedback/opinions from congregation before moving forward with Good Word change; COM will continue discussion at future meetings

Ministry Team/Committee Reports

Communications – Don Krolikowski

- Purchased video camera and laptop
- Advent worship ad will appear in Sun Courier
- Preparing Christmas ads

United Methodist Men – Austin “Skip” Smith

- Outcome of October events
 - Lawn cleanup successful
 - BUMC continental breakfast – only 4 attendees; therefore, Dec. 9 continental breakfast will be cancelled
 - Meatloaf dinner – low turnout of 15 attendees

Evangelism – Janet Kleckner for Bob Lundholm

- Continue to deliver bread to visitors
- Actively discussing needs of transition task force

Missions – Karen Oehl for Craig Kotnik

- Will visit Brookside Center on Wed., Nov. 7, 11:30 am

- Deciding on distribution of Christmas collection dollars; as in past years, may use themed approach and divide locally, nationally, and internationally

Church & Society – Dave Lienert

- Coffee in Parlor discussions
 - Wed., Nov. 5, well attended; spirited discussion on topic of “Sex Education in the Public Schools”
 - Dec. topic ideas
 - How people may give of their time/talents to charity during Christmas season
 - How to balance true meaning of Christmas with materialism aspect – Joy McGuire will attend Nov. 14 lecture entitled, “Shopping Malls as Real Places of Grace” – Dave and Joy may host Dec. Coffee in Parlor discussion around this topic

Koinonia – Jenny Gee

- Due to several rainouts of our Aug. picnics, may consider holding next year’s event in July and switching Ice Cream Social to August (easier to host indoors if necessary)
- Oct. hayride successful; 63 attendees
- Dec. 1 – Hanging of Greens, including children’s crafts/cookies in Fellowship Hall, potluck dinner, and caroling at Chippewa Place
- Upcoming 2008 events
 - Jan. 26 – Square dance
 - April – History of dulcimer instrument/concert, coupled with spaghetti dinner
- Will mail new questionnaire to congregation about restarting Agape groups
- Developing list of congregational talents to share within BUMC

Education – Betsy Wooster for Jennifer Schneider

- Sun., Dec. 23 – 1st-6th graders celebration for raising funds for Russian orphanage; Lynn Spencer, et al, to visit Sunday school classrooms to share their orphanage experiences
- Will hold a PJs and donuts celebration for Sunday School classes for their offering contributions and learning Bible verses -- Pre-school class largest offering contributors; need to encourage older students to follow this example
- With assistance of Sue Hastings, working on rewording BUMC’s Child Protection Policy pertaining to confirmands and mentors meeting one-on-one as long as their parents are also present

Worship – Joy McGuire for Sue Dietrich

- Currently discussing transition task force and Hanging of the Greens
- Updating prayer and visitor cards for pew pockets

Staff Reports

Joy McGuire

- Currently recruiting for Advent Choir
- Special Advent service will be held on Tues., Dec. 4
- Incorporating more high school and adult musicians into worship services

Betsy Wooster

- Dec. 4 Advent service of rest and restoration will be presented as gift to congregation
- Faith & American Politics course progressing well

- Hebrews Bible study has concluded; Disciple Bible study progressing well; looking into additional Bible study offerings
- Lenten study preparation underway

Lisa Drew

- Youth Jam scheduled for Nov. 30-Dec. 2; expect 50-60 attendees (40 have already signed up)
- Over next 3 Sundays, Lisa will teach Sunday School classes on topic of sex education; Dave Meek, et al, to assist

Karen Oehl

- Concluded Stewardship Campaign; busy planning for Advent and Christmas
- Thanksgiving service will be held on Nov. 18, 7 pm, at Church of the Assumption

Janet Kleckner posed a question for discussion at next month's COM meeting: How do you like our BUMC notices posted in Fellowship Hall versus in the stairwell?

Next COM meeting: Mon., Dec. 3 (7:30 pm in Parlor)

Lisa Drew closed the meeting with prayer.

Linda Rollins
COM Secretary