

Council on Ministries Minutes September 8, 2008

Present: Lynn Hobzek, Don Krolikowski, Lisa Drew, Jenny Gee, Jim McBride, Ruth McDonel, Dee Lancaster, Joy Fenton, Janet Kleckner, Karen Oehl

Janet opened the meeting in prayer.

Minutes from the August meeting were approved as written

Budget: We are currently operating at a deficit, as expected. Groups and programs have done a very good job at holding the line on spending, however. In addition, we have the celebration garden, mugs, and garage sale coming up to help cover the deficit.

New business: We are coming up on the new fall schedule. Rally Day Sunday went well, with good attendance in worship, Town meeting, and for the pancakes. People seemed positive and enthusiastic. Many thanks to Koinonia for the pancake breakfast.

Worship: Lynn Hobzek gave the report. The committee has gone through all the Christmas decorations getting rid of some that were old or unused. Existing decorations have been cleaned and stored neatly. New decorations will be purchased with a gift from Gifts and Memorials. The biggest job right now for worship is organizing the hospitality teams of ushers and greeters. They are trying as much as possible to encourage signing up for a regular stint as greeter or usher. We have hospitality captains for each Sunday of the month.

Communications: Don Krolikowski. Don has been working on transition publicity, posters for events, the mugs, etc. He has also been running the projection system during worship. The education/program booklet handed out in the town meeting packets will be altered a bit to make it suitable to hand out to visitors, new members, etc.

Youth: Lisa Drew gave the report for Youth Board and her staff position. The youth room is mostly finished but still waiting for furniture delivery and set up of the TV screen. New this fall for youth are the Sunday School options and mid-week Quest program for middle schoolers. Epic will now be a senior high program. There are some programs and events in the works for the fall such as a rock-a-thon for Nothing but Nets.

Koinonia: Jenny Gee gave the report. This has been a busy summer with the Ice Cream Social, Church Picnic, and pancakes. All went well. Koinonia also sponsored an evening at Blossom. A few people went, and then extra tickets were offered for sale during the rest of the summer. There is a hayride scheduled tentatively for October 26 at Hillside Orchard, late afternoon/early evening. We will not be doing an afternoon program of Hanging of the Greens this year, so Koinonia will not be involved.

Church and Society: Jim McBride made the report. As mentioned last month, Church and Society will be sponsoring several programs this year using Cleveland Clinic

speakers. The first program is scheduled for October 20th from 7:30-8:30. This will be a Dr. Moreledge (sp?) speaking on integrated medicine, which incorporates physical, mental, and spiritual wellness. They are looking at another program in January, and one some time in April.

United Methodist Women: Ruth McDonel, reporting. The speaker for the first meeting in September was a great success, telling the story of surviving a torpedo attack on the Athenia at the beginning of WWII. Next month Judy McCrodden will be sharing a travelogue of a trip to New Zealand and Australia. Soup Sunday is scheduled for November 16 and the Cookie Walk for December 13, 10-2.

Evangelism: Dee Lancaster, reporting. The Caring Committee, made up of volunteers who help visit shut-ins and people in the hospital, will operate independently from the Evangelism Committee, under the direction of the pastor of visitation, Libby Kuntz. Evangelism may continue to send cards, hold teas, and do special things for some of those members at other times of the year. Bread was not delivered to first time visitors over the summer but that has now started again. The committee is looking at sending an outreach letter after a person has visited 3 or 4 times. Such a letter may come from a person more or less in the visitor's "neighborhood," and be followed by a phone contact. Evangelism is also beginning to look at lists of those who have not attended in 2 months, making phone contact to check if they are alright.

Staff reports: Joy reported that on September 21 there will be a hymn festival and concert at Oberlin under the direction of Anton Armstrong that will be wonderful. Watch for more information. The music department will be having a fundraiser event on the Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad on January 9. This will help to underwrite a Messiah sing some time this spring. Hiring orchestra, buying copies of the music, etc.

Karen shared that at the request of Staff Parish she will be trying to shift more time to evangelism and church growth. She is now relating to the Evangelism committee and hopes to follow up more with visitors and new members. Worship was also put as a top priority in the coming year. Pastor Karen will be in Pittsburgh on September 21 preaching with her father at the 50th anniversary of Trinity Towers UMC. Rev. McCartney was the founding pastor (a new church start!) and Karen was the first child baptized on charter Sunday, September 21, 1958. Appropriately enough, David Rittgers, pastor of Orchard Path, a new church start, will be preaching here that Sunday. Orchard Path now has a web site at www.orchardpathchurch.org.

Administrative Board October 6, 7:30 pm

Charge Conference October 7, 7:00 pm at North Royalton UMC

Next Council on Ministries November 3, 7:30 pm