

ASBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
COUNCIL MEETING FEBRUARY 22, 2010

The meeting of the Church Council was called to order by Council Chairman Marshall Ross at 7:00 p.m. Larry Thompson opened the meeting with a prayer.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

STAFF- PARISH RELATIONS: Bruce Albertson reported their committee has received letters of resignation from Penny Driediger who has served as Asbury's Associate for Membership Care and Visitation for the past 4 years, and also from Amanda Garber's Board of Directors of the Wesley Foundation with her resignation from being affiliated with Asbury Church. (copies attached) With the omission of these two positions a motion was made to approve our Associate Pastor to a full time position in 2010. Ilene Smith seconded, motion passed.

FINANCE: Don Bowers reported for the Finance Committee. (copy attached). He motioned that \$47,000 remaining from the Lindsey Estate be put into the General Fund. Gene Knicely seconded the motion carried.

TRUSTEES: Have met and organized. No report.

BUILDING COMMITTEE: David Barnes reported for the building committee. Now that the Day Care has moved out the committee will look again at renovating the present building. They will be thinking about other options for the future. The parcel behind the Quilt Museum, which is owned by the City and has been used for a playground by the Day Care, may be available for the Church to buy. This idea will be put forward. Motion made to move forward on purchasing the property was seconded and passed. The motion approved in December for funding of \$71,000 for architectural design work and planning will be left as originally motioned. Bill Conglin seconded and this motion passed. No contract has been signed for any of this work.

LAY LEADERSHIP: Larry Thompson: No report

PROGRAM AREA REPORTS:

ADULT MINISTRY: Frank & Sherrel Hissong Chair: No report.

WITNESS: No report

WORSHIP: Cathy Soenksen Chair: No report

OUTREACH: Tim Thomas Chair: Health Kits can be made in Room 103.

HOSPITALITY: Rachel & Ian Linden Chair: New name tags are being made in the parlor on Sunday mornings. (copy attached)

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN: Ann Knicely no report.

UNITED METHODIST MEN: Bill Conlin: No report.

BETSY PETERS: Care Ministry will have blood pressure checks on the second Sunday of each month.

JOHN TINDALL: Copy attached.

LAURA DOUGLASS: Voices of Youth chosen are: Margaret King, Allie Burkes, Jay Horton and Caitlin Kelley.

BOB TALBOTT: Appreciated vote to keep him at Asbury.

LARRY THOMPSON: We will have a celebration for the Wesley Foundation soon. Thanked Hospitality for the Fellowship Banquet which was well attended. Change is coming and change is hard. It's important the Council be transparent in meetings. This will be 35 years for him as a pastor.

Bob dismissed us at 8:15 with prayer.

ANN KNICELY, SECRETARY

PRESENT AT THE MEETING:

Bruce Albertson, Dave Barnes, Bill Blessing, Don Bowers, Bill Conlin, Tom DeVore, Laura Douglass, Amanda Garber, Danny Hales, Frank & Sherrel Hissong, Ann & Gene Knicely, Rachel Linden, Dianne Little, Ellen McDorman, David Peters, J.C. Powell, Dwight Miller, Marshall Ross, Ilene Smith, Larry Thompson, Tim Thomas, Bob Talbott, Dale & Joan Wallenbeck and Kathy Whitten.

6

John Tindall
Church Council – Feb. 22, 2010

The Sunday eve fellowship dinners made a triumphant return this past Sunday. A large crowd enjoyed a prepared meal of chicken, pasta, salad and more by Brett Horton. Diners could then move on to UMYF, Explorers, Discovery, an adult class with Dave Peters, or CRAVE at 7:00 pm.

Soup for the Soul -

The UMYF is raising funds for their upcoming Lock-In at the JMU U-Rec center, as well as other youth activities, with the help of the Open Forum Class by selling homemade soup and loaves of bread for pick-up on March 7. The soup is \$10 for a 32oz container, \$5 for a loaf of bread. Contact John Tindall or any of the church youth to reserve yours now.

Book Sale Bonanza – The UMYF are also raising funds to benefit the Sunday School department by holding a book and media sale on Saturday, March 13, 8am-2 pm. The donations of used books, DVDs, CDs, videos, puzzles, board games and records are being taken until March 11. Contact John.

Sunday School –

The first floor rooms are gradually being transformed into a wonderful, friendly and creative space for Sunday School and other children's activities. The youth have helped by painting 2 of the rooms, while teachers and parents have been involved as well. Along with the age-level classrooms, a few of the rooms will be transformed into a storytelling and drama room, an arts and crafts room and a children's library.

Beginning Palm Sunday, March 28, we will begin offering opening Sunday school assemblies featuring songs, stories, skits, puppets and more in the new first floor storytelling room. After the opening full assembly on the 28th, subsequent assemblies will go from 9:50 – 10:00 am.

John will be attending, along with seniors Kelsey Tate and Eric Humphries, the Pathways Youth Ministry Leader Seminar in Washington DC on Saturday, March 7. The event is sponsored by the Princeton Theological Seminary Institute for Youth Ministry and will have workshops for adult leaders and older youth leaders.

Hospitality Ministry Updates for Church Council:

New and improved nametags have been purchased and distributed to some teachers and leaders. On 2/21 and 2/28 we will have committee members available to personalize the nametags. A suggested donation of \$5 to defray the cost is appreciated. Each member is responsible for keeping their nametag. We hope that those in leadership and volunteer roles at Asbury will especially consider getting a nametag and wearing it each week.

On 3/14 Sunday morning hospitality is taking a new approach and a new space. Special thanks to the Mizpah class for their flexibility and support of expanding the hospitality ministry. We want members and visitors to have ample space to meet and mingle and with enhanced refreshments we hope people will stop for a few minutes and fellowship with one another. Brett Horton is taking the lead on getting things going and establishing a protocol for setting up and cleaning up. It is our hope that in the near future Sunday School Classes or church groups will "adopt" weeks or a month out of the year and be the Hospitality Sponsor. This would involve setting up refreshments (or bringing in homemade ones if desired) and having a couple of members of the group greet visitors etc. We have other ideas in the works for incorporating the mission bake "sales" and other ways to make a central place for announcements, sign up sheets, etc. This will be a work in progress for a while, so bear with us as we make this transition!

We are looking for someone who would be willing to remind greeters the week of their assignment. They do not have to recruit or ask anyone to do it, they simply need to remind them of their pre-assigned date. Please contact Karen Barnes if you or someone you know would be interested in helping with this.

Rachel Kinder, chairman

February 15th, 2010

Dear Members of the Asbury United Methodist Church Council,

First, we want to say thank you! We want to thank all of our partners in ministry at Asbury United Methodist Church for your faithful support of the ministry of the Wesley Foundation at James Madison University. For decades, you generously have given our precious young adults your time, financial gifts and other donations, prayers, words of encouragement and so much more! Our current students, alumni, members of the Board of Directors and other "friends of the Foundation" thank God every time we remember you!


Because of your long-standing support and encouragement, our ministry remains vibrantly alive and passionate about following Jesus! We celebrate the fact that the lives of countless young adults have been significantly impacted because of your faithfulness. We also celebrate the fact that the Holy Spirit is moving in new and exciting ways within our ministry! The JMU Wesley Foundation leadership currently is asking "What if?" and is embracing the Virginia Annual Conference's "All Things New" challenge. We are making every effort to engage the pain and possibility of our community and our world in new and creative ways. We are rethinking what it means to be a faith community that is embracing young adults with renewed passion and vitality. Hand in hand with God and our faithful partners in ministry, we are "launching" a new faith community. God is doing great things at the Wesley Foundation at JMU!

Due to the recent growth of our ministry, and the demands of a new and invigorated faith community, we believe that the time has come to formally end the JMU Wesley Foundation Director's part-time staff position at Asbury United Methodist Church. Our Director, Amanda Miller Garber, needs to be able to spend all of her time focusing on the needs of the JMU Wesley Foundation and the new thing that God is doing among us. We believe that the appropriate time to end the part time Associate Pastor position will be July 1st, 2010. Amanda wishes to express her most sincere appreciation for the support of Asbury United Methodist Church since she arrived in July of 2007. She has enjoyed serving on staff at Asbury UMC, and she hopes to continue a meaningful partnership with the Asbury congregation in the future.

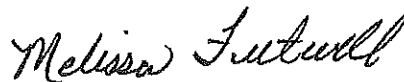
Again, we thank God for your partnership in ministry, and we sincerely hope that our ministry connection will continue into the future. As we listen to God, and embrace God's possibilities, we need your support! May God bless you as you serve faithfully and joyfully!

Grace and Peace,

The Members of the JMU Wesley Foundation Board of Directors



Kathy Whitten, Chairperson



Melissa Fretwell, Vice Chairperson/Secretary

From: Penny Driediger
181 Maple Avenue
Timberville, VA
22853

To: The Staff/Parish Committee
Rev. Larry Thompson
Mr. Bruce Albertson
Asbury United Methodist Church
Harrisonburg, VA

February 11, 2010

Greetings,

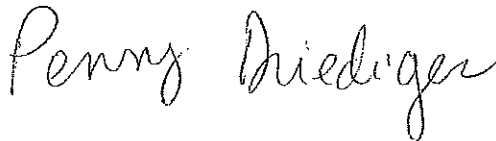
I am writing this letter in regards to my position at Asbury as Associate for Membership Care and Visitation. Recently I have been offered a position at Eastern Mennonite Seminary as *Adjunct Instructor in Mentored Ministry and Clinical Pastoral Education*. This is a wonderful opportunity as it allows me to continue my educational pursuits in Clinical Pastoral Education as well as explore ministry in the context of the hospital as well as at the Seminary.

Because of the expanded time commitment that this ministry would demand, I will be unable to continue the visitation ministry at Asbury. I am deeply grateful for the opportunity that I have enjoyed over the past 4 years, to serve in the context of Asbury. It has been an enriching and growing time for me as I have developed many meaningful pastoral relationships with members of your congregation. It is with much sadness that I leave this position and the many people that I have come to love and care for.

It is my desire to complete my ministry with Asbury by March 31, 2010, which would allow me the time to bring closure to the many relationships that I have formed over the past 4 years.

Thank you so much for the opportunity to be a part of the Asbury team. May God bless you as you continue ministry at Asbury.

Blessings,



Penny Driediger