

Union Church General Committee 10-19-09

Present: Debbie Brown, John Culp, Joan English, Jeff From, Betty Hibler, Doug Hindman, Wyndee Holbrook, Teri Mehler, Hazel Morris, Patti Smithson

Wyndee offered the devotional, reflection from a friend, "Pondering Parenting."

Sept. minutes approved as distributed. WEKU item revisited—Wyndee reported that our "spots" will start soon (after WEKU's pledge drive) and run until the end of the calendar year. Work Team rosters discussed (att.). Follow-up meeting with coordinators Nov. 3.

Agenda addition: news from the Kentucky Council of Churches Annual Assembly attended by Betty and Carla.

Merlin Kindel's ideas discussed—agreed that our building can be used in many ways. Possibilities - White's Memorial, LDS (Teri has contact name), film festival/dialog sessions. Jeff suggested that Merlin be invited to look more into the possibilities, agreed. We also must be aware of possible wear & tear or overuse on our building as well. Opening the building for other uses, to other people, also may increase our membership. We should consider trying to figure out why people who don't stay at Union, don't.

Budget. Re: General Committee line item: rationale is that the General Committee frequently has a need for funds; ex., recent ordination gifts for our former interns, perhaps evangelism & advertising, start-up money for the Work Teams, other needs not yet foreseen, for which a line item would be helpful. Suggestion that child-care, outside of CE's supervision, might be included

Betty proposed that General Committee be added to the distribution of Undesignated Gifts. Currently, according to our Financial Policy, 5% goes to each Board's assigned line item, 80% is for Trustees' administration. This proposed change to the Financial Policy, to 25% being distributed first, would need to be voted upon at a Congregational Meeting. Consensus to table the idea until November.

Moved & Passed: A line item of \$2000 for General Committee use be added to the 2010 budget.

Discussion of need for funds to do preliminary work to assess Capital Campaign expenses as advised by experts—this would be a one-year line item.

Moved & Passed: A \$5000 one-year budget item be added to the 2010 budget, related to assessing the costs of a Capital Campaign.

Multi-year budgeting affirmed as a good suggestion. Betty advised Boards to keep the Mission Statement in mind as a guide in budgeting process.

Schedule for making/voting upon 2010 budget:

Boards compile their budget requests at October meetings, give to Trustees by October 31

Pledges will be received on November 1

Finance and Trustees will make budget

Discuss with General Committee at its Nov. 16 meeting ; revise as necessary

2010 Proposed Budget available Dec. 9

Budget will be voted upon at a Congregational Meeting December 16, 6:30, after WNL supper.

CE Building lock-up on Wednesdays -Joan has asked Gina to lock up after bells, after informing Bob Berger's class in 204.

Safety concern from CE—discussion of issue of youth (primarily middle-schoolers roaming the halls during worship and WNL) and publishing this statement: Children and youth, middle school aged and younger, must be accompanied by their parent(s) or another adult at all times when in the church building, on the playground or on church grounds.

Some thought the statement was scolding in tone, suggested that the parents be spoken to first. It was affirmed that there is programming available for all age groups.

Supplements to Written Reports

Deacons—WNL is going fine

PRC—Pastoral Evaluations have been mailed

CE—they have hired someone to staff Childrens Church weekly, still need a volunteer in the room. She is a non-trad named Florence. CE will ask for more money for '10 in the budget for staffing. Would like to add 5 hrs. a week to Wyndee's position for Nursery supervision. Request that the cleaning of Nursery toys be added to a Work Day.

Mission: Bazaar very successful earned over \$8000 (this is a correction, after the meeting, to the figure reported). Items will be auctioned at the Alternative Giving Market 12-6. A Chair is needed for next year, he or she can count on plenty of help.

Back Bay Mission trip will be Nov. 15-21, please respond to request for 1-on-1 support as you are able.

GC Chair—Betty and Carla attended the KY Council of Churches Annual Assembly. Met the new director, Marian McClure Taylor, whose search committee Kent chaired. The theme was water. One of the suggestions from the Action Plans was that GC select a study issue each year for the entire church to explore. Betty suggested WATER—GC will discuss at January meeting, perhaps propose an issue to focus on.

Next meeting November 16.