

Epworth United Methodist Church
Church Council Meeting – January 20, 2008

The Church Council of Epworth United Methodist Church met on January 20, 2008 with 33 members in attendance. The meeting was called to order by Ron Wilson and devotion was led by Jim Wilson. The minutes from the last meeting were read and approved.

Ron Wilson asked that we take the time to review the Church website and make suggestions for any changes or updates that are needed. We will begin to post the minutes of each Church Council meeting as well as written reports received from committee members in 2008.

Rev. Chip Hunter reminded all to forward a list of any items that need to be on the agenda of future meetings to the office a week prior to the monthly Church Council meetings. He expressed his excitement at the changes we are putting in place for our meetings and notes that this should allow God's love to take precedence over individual agendas.

Brad Fiscus reported for the Youth. They continue to work on including the youth as part of the active Church. Plans are in place over the coming months to work together on many projects. The Warmth in Winter conference will take place in February and currently they have 36 signed up to attend with the possibility of 40 plus attending. They are striving to reach out to others and make a difference locally and in our world by holding each other accountable in their daily decisions.

Ellen Bryson offered a report on the upcoming Global Outreach Seminar taking place Friday February 29th and Saturday March 1st and concluding with participation in our services on Sunday March 2nd. A copy of the agenda and plans for involving as many of the congregation as possible are attached to the minutes.

Melody Sipes presented the current financial report which is attached to the minutes.

Mike Ketchum reported for Finance. He expressed his appreciation for the great job that Melody does as Treasurer. We are all reminded of the voucher system that is in place for paying the bills and reimbursement for expenses within the budget categories. Each work area is responsible for adhering to their budget and obtaining the signature of the chairperson on the voucher request in order for disbursement to be made. This should be done on the front end when purchases are needed so bills can be paid in a timely manner. Vouchers are available in the office or on the wall outside the office door at the historic site or in the financial office at the new site. Once completed, the vouchers can be left for Melody Sipes in her box in the office. In order to control cost of our orders from Cokesbury all orders must be authorized by Aline Wesley, Angie Ketchum or Rev. Chip Hunter. Also keep in mind that shipping charges can add unnecessary cost to our material purchases. These persons have also volunteered to coordinate picking up the items to avoid these charges.

Ron Wilson passed out copies of the current 3 month calendar that was updated at the January 13th planning meeting. All are asked to review the calendar and advise of any updates so they can be included.

Cindy Kurzrock reported for Missions. They are tentatively planning a craft fair in November that will highlight the craftwork of Brightstone and Henderson Settlement. This will be open to the community. More information will follow in coming months.

A written report for the Nurture committee was presented by Teresa Locke. Caroline Williams is the get well card volunteer and will send out cards to those within our Church and community to let them know we are keeping them in our prayers. Teresa will be the coordinator for providing get well gift cards. The gift cards are purchased from Cracker Barrel in the amount of \$10. These are for persons who are hospitalized and a member of the Church. Judith McLean has volunteered to send out birthday cards for those within our Church family. Teresa asked that we let her know of anyone in need of any of these services.

A written report for Evangelism was presented by Buddy Peden. A copy of the report is attached. They are currently planning a new visitor game plan, staffing an informational desk in the narthex and other ways to reach out to visitors. They are also working with the prayer chain and prayer room volunteers to have them visit adult Sunday School classes in 2008 to explain these services.

The meeting was adjourned with a special prayer by Rev. Chip Hunter.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Wilson
Secretary