

**Epworth United Methodist Church
Church Council Call Meeting – January 28, 2008**

A call meeting of the Epworth United Methodist Church Council was held on January 28, 2008. The meeting was called to order by Ron Wilson and turned over to Frank Swezey to offer a report from the Trustees regarding the investigation into the purchase of a church bus.

The Trustee report is attached to the minutes. A 1993 model bus that was previously owned by a Methodist Church in Illinois has been located and several of our members have looked at the bus and find it to be in good condition and suitable for our needs. The bus has approximately 93,000 miles on it and the cost of the bus will be \$8,500. In addition to the initial cost of the bus there would be another \$1,500 needed if we decide to install seat belts. The floor was opened for questions to the Trustees.

It was confirmed that the approximate gas mileage for the bus would be around 10mpg and that the bus is diesel fueled. A question was raised regarding the license requirements for operating this size bus and it was determined that a CDL is required with an endorsement for passenger transport.

Mike Ketchum asked what funds would be used for the purchase. It was noted that there is currently \$3,998.21 in a “bus fund”, \$4,300 in 2006 Summer Festival funds remaining in addition to the 2007 Summer Festival fund designated to be used for the purchase of a vehicle. It was noted that we may need to also set aside an additional amount of money over and above the purchase cost for future maintenance issues that may arise.

A question was asked regarding the use of the current van owned by the Church and whether it would be sold. The Trustees feel like the current van would have little value if it were to be sold and could be used as a transport vehicle for trips like Mountain Top to haul tools and equipment.

Buddy Peden noted that the Epworth Men’s Group would like to work on a plan for the future to coordinate transportation to Church services for children, youth, elderly and those in the area without transportation means.

After discussion and review of the recommendation a motion came from the Trustees to purchase the 1993 bus from Taylor Bus Sales. The funding for the purchase will come from the \$3,998.21 currently in the bus fund and \$10,000 from Summer Festival Funds. After the initial purchase cost of the bus the remaining balance will be placed in a fund for installation of seat belts and future maintenance issues as they arise. The motion was approved. The meeting was adjourned with a prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Wilson
Secretary