

Administrative Council Meeting Agenda

November 21, 2013

Present Lori Randall, Jim Naatz, Melinda Taylor, Darrell Taylor, Sunny Ahn, JoAnne Gregorash, Jeff Greenwalt, Marianne Rogenski, Rich Hill, Jon Montgomery, Marshall Nuystrom, Jerry McDaniel, Bruce Bedingfield, Steve Miller.

Call to Order Lori called the meeting to order at 6:35.

Introductions Everyone introduced themselves.

Opening Prayer Lori offered an opening prayer.

Devotions Melinda read the devotion prepared by Carolyn Meneely, taken from the book Horizons: Exploring Creation by Luci Shaw. It was about seeing God in nature, particularly the mountains of the Pacific Northwest. Jill will do next meeting's devotions.

Administration

- Jerry had December and January calendars for everyone to review. Changes should be sent to Donna. December 12 is the newsletter deadline.
- Steve moved, JoAnne seconded, approved the minutes from September meeting on voice vote.

Sharing:

- **Senior Pastor's Report** – *Sunny sent the report below.* The spirit of next year's worship will be Jubilee (because of 50th anniversary)
- **Youth Director's Report** – *Marianne sent the report below.* Marianne will be on vacation starting this Saturday for one week.
- **Staff Parish** – Jeff reported that the staff evaluations were completed and approved; got a good survey response. Sent out the staff gift letter. Don't meet in December.
- **Finance** – Rich reported that the Finance meeting was long, will need to meet again in December. Covered the October YTD report. We are breakeven, but that is due to \$9k in CD increase in value, a sizeable gift received in October for trustee expenses, October apportionments not paid (will be paid in November), and keeping expenses low overall. Reviewed the budget with expenses as submitted by committee, which shows a deficit of \$65k; regular envelope giving pledges are \$280k (down from \$300k last year's forecast). Suggestions at the meeting to cut costs included reducing by half our apportionments (\$19k), no Rainbow Covenant (\$1200), no hiring of second pastor above what Marianne is paid (\$8k) resulting in a deficit of \$37k. Finance is higher based upon projected mortgage payments on a mortgage we will need to replace the roof. We think

the pledge number is fairly accurate, but need to confirm that. Trustee budget is up due to repairs and tree replacement. Finance is asking all committees to really look at budgets, without sacrificing the investment needed for our future.

❖ Much conversation about growth and finances:

Bruce commented that perhaps the congregation needs to hear the situation (stated carefully), because instead we heard how wonderful our stewardship campaign went; Steve agreed – we need to find a balance, not doom & gloom, but an accurate picture. Marianne commented that there are fewer people in worship, so it follows that the pledges have gone down. Rich noted that we need 10 younger givers to replace each older giver. Jeff added that we all need to bring in friends to grow our congregation; members have increased giving on an individual basis but at some point, reduced membership simply will not be able to sustain a church. Bruce commented that we could ask people to increase their pledge before January if they can. Some discussion about where to tell about the financial situation (worship service or newsletter?), need to give a complete message (people doing ministry, not just bring others to Sunday service), want to grow for reasons beyond the financial numbers. Jeff spoke about letting people know we are a small church that does many things well, but we need a push to let people know all that we do, while also letting them know we can't stay in existence while continuing as things are now. Bruce brought up that the 50th Jubilee Anniversary has great potential to be a positive stimulus. Melinda suggested that committee members could be told about the financial situation, while the message from the pulpit or the newsletter could be about all the positive things we do. Jill & Jon commented that we need to be honest while also being in a growth mindset, but Jon said he is not sure what the unified message is. All agreed that we need to address the underlying issue of reduced worshippers/members. Jon added that after finance & stewardship complete their work, we can work on the message that we want to share. Finance can meet on the second Tuesday, and Ad Council could meet on Dec. 19 just to address this issue. Jerry said that we should look at why we have lost members, what should we do differently. Jon said we should think about goals going forward, look at what is working now (such as a few who came to Trunk or Treat, and now kids are in Cherub Choir). Marianne shared story about Blackwell Kids Hope breakfast, and due to conversation, someone is now considering coming to church here. Julie commented that we could use a task force to drive this. Jeff commented that the congregation is the committee because we are small. Jon & Steve discussed the role of a task force to organize the effort. Sunny said that we had a visioning process in 2011, need to do so again.

Sunny moved that the January meeting be a visioning meeting of the church; Marshall seconded. Steve said that maybe we need to be more of a leadership group, and give specific direction to different committees. Bruce remembered that we used to split the tasks between Ad Council and Ad Board. Marianne suggested that we invite other leaders of the church who don't usually attend. Steve commented that after we have our vision, we ask each committee what they will do to reach those goals. Jeff cautioned that we not be careful with volunteers. Jon added that the process of Ad Council is likely to change. Jim suggested that we jot down the ideas we have to bring to the January meeting; Julie agreed that we all bring our insights. Sunny's motion was indirectly approved by discussion (no motion actually needed to focus meeting on this).

- **Trustees** – Darrell said that we are changing our cleaning service to a previous cleaning service; they will have stricter guidelines. Still looking at bids for the parsonage and the church roofs. Will be removing 6 ash trees and 11 stumps; already accepted bid; we received a donation to cover the cost of the tree removal.
- Nominations – no report
- **Imagine No Malaria Campaign & Daily Herald Article**-Bruce passed out a flyer outlining the Methodist program, asking individual churches to raise funds to fight malaria. Methodists were asked by the UN & Gates Foundation to join this cause because UMC is a big presence in these areas. Asking for pledges at this point. Bruce felt called to lead this because of his medical background and Micah Ministries; Jon & Edie Machonis are also interested. It asks us to host events, engage the community, advocate, pray. Malaria nets cost \$6. They also educate people. They ask for a commitment by April. Bruce then passed out a newspaper article about megachurches for atheists. Even atheists yearn for what we have in church, so who else in our community might be interested? There are many who don't have a church home.
- **Anniversary Task Force**-Bruce said that we have invited past pastors to come speak; Wayne MacArthur has agreed. The celebration will run from Palm Sunday to Oct 12 (the 50th anniversary of the chartering). Wayne MacArthur will speak Palm Sunday, Fred Rickliff in May, Peter Lovell will speak in June, July will be Jay Walkington, August will be Orrell Ruth, September would have been Pastor Bill so Tim will speak & Daniel will sing. The grand finale will be Oct. 12th worship; they will come back, and the bishop & D.S. will come also. Jerry noted that we want to notify past ORUMCers, so he & Bruce encouraged us to include the notecards in Christmas cards to be part of the celebration. Mary Zalay designed two great banners. Bruce said that they would need around \$5,000 to fly in Rev McArthur, a luncheon, and other expenses. JoAnne suggested that we put a line item on the online page for the Jubilee celebration; people could give

a one-time gift. Rich asked if everyone thought we should add this to the budget? General response was yes. Jeff suggested that the Malaria campaign could be added as well to the site; maybe send message to kids, grandparents might help.

- Jim said that there is an ad in the Daily Herald asking for Christmas service advertisements. Who would be in charge of this? Evangelism. JoAnne will pass it along to Ronda Wilkes & copy Donna on it – deadline is Monday.

Member Committee reports

- **Caring Ministries** – Bruce stated that the blood drive is coming up two weeks from today. Jill said that yesterday she was part of a district conference call about tornado relief. They have been getting lots of goods, but actually need money; later on they will need help. Can give money through UMCOR and designate the cause. Would like to have a mission team to go down and work at some later point. Jim commented that people going on their own is not what they need yet. It was suggested that we add an announcement on Sunday, and maybe a newsletter article, explaining how/where to donate.
- Christian Corner - none
- **Education** – *Marianne sent the report below.*
- Evangelism - none
- **Lay Leader** – JoAnne said that she thought this was her last meeting, has felt privileged to be lay leader for 12 years. Feels blessed to have us as her family. Bruce & JoAnne are certified lay speakers; the church is changing the role to lay servants. There will be more meetings in the conference; everyone in this room should attend at least one of these meetings. People who would like to learn how the Methodist church functions should go, too. Will get the word out when she knows when the meetings are; they emphasize that the church values all of our service. The new co-leader is Stephanie Edwards (along with Julie Gorvett).
- Memorial Committee - none
- **Micah Ministries** – Jon said that they are doing the Heifer Project on Dec 8, 15, 22; typically raise over \$2500, even \$5,000; will be looking for others to help him behind the counter in the narthex.
- **Music** – Jill said that this Sunday (keyboardist) Colin's father will be playing the trumpet. On Dec 15th is Music Sunday, then there is a concert at 4:00 with (choir director) Cathy's group (Heartland Voices). Jill commented that Colin is a real gift to our church. Jerry commented that the choir sang from memory (no music) last week.
- **UMM** – Steve said that the pizza sale was successful; starting snack sales this Sunday taking orders, will deliver the 15th & 22nd. Will attend the advent breakfast on Dec 7 at the Barrington UMC at 8:00 a.m.

- **UMW** – This weekend is our Heavenly Treats event. We have 23 bakers, so hopefully we have enough hungry congregation members to buy our goodies. Our next meeting will be Tuesday, Dec 3 at 6:30.
- **Worship** – Jill said that the church is being decorated on Saturday, Nov 30; need lots of people from 4:00 to 5:30. Also need people (12 years on up) to light Advent candles; can be any pair – 2 youth, parent/child, husband/wife, friends, etc. Dec 8, 15, 22, 24th. Jill will give you the script & it will be on the screen. Luke Pepper preaches at Kingswood UMC in Buffalo Grove on Jan 5th & in February.
- **WTTF** – Steve said they will be hiring out a consulting company to get bids for installation of the sound system. Ivan Gomez will upgrade church network (\$1003), to begin ASAP (already in budget).
- How many members have given email addresses? Should have an announcement asking people to put their email address in the attendance form (if you have not been receiving emails from the church). Jill will let Donna know to add to announcements. Jerry noted that an email went out about orumc@orumc.org being spammed, don't use it (now goes to trash). Marianne said that's why she took hers off the website. We need a spam filter for emails, because we do need a contact email address on the website.

Next regularly scheduled Administrative Council Meeting – Thursday, Dec 19, 2013 at 6:30 p.m.

Closing Prayer at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Melinda Taylor
Secretary

PASTOR REPORT TO ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL (11/21/2013)

By Rev. Dr. Sunny Ahn

MINISTRY OF WORSHIP & PASTORAL CARE

- **Pastoral Care:**
 - *Death:* Ding Victoria's brother
 - *Critical Care:* The persons who do not want to be known in public
 - *Need of Special Prayers:* The Schmidt family, Nona Schlinker, Justin Miller's family & those who do not want to let anyone know about their critical situations in public except the pastor

- o *Hospital visit at least once a week, and home visit at least one family per week*
- **Worship:** Had the worship meeting on Saturday (11/16) at 10:30am
 - o 11/24 (Thanksgiving Sunday)
 - o 11/26 (T, 7:30pm, Roselle UMC): Joint Community Thanksgiving Service
 - o 11/30 (Sat, 4pm-5:30pm): Hanging of the Green
 - o ADVENT SEASON BEGINS on Sunday, 12/01 with “Unlikely Characters of the Nativity” Sermon Series (12/01-24). Jill ordered “Glowing with Advent” booklets for Advent Candlelight
 - 12/01: Communion, **No** Children’s Choir singing at 9am
 - 12/08: Doug Meneely & Jon Montgomery will preach together (so called in a “dialectical preaching” style), Children’s choir will be singing at 9am
 - 12/15 (Christmas Music Service)
 - 12/17 (Blue Christmas Service at 7pm): Alexian Brothers Hospital Hospice Department, Our Saviour’s UMC and ORUMC will jointly lead the service. Colin will be the accompanist.
 - 12/24 (Christmas Eve Services)
 - 4:30pm Family Service with the Book of Acts & Colin (Sleepover at the Stable)
 - 7:30pm Candlelight Service with Choir Ensemble & Colin
 - 11pm Candlelight Communion Service with Colin
 - o 12/29: We will experiment a new style of worship at both 9am & 10:30am which will be led by Young Adults Praise Team. A Taskforce Team was formed [Marianne Rogenski, Steve Miller, Marshall Nystrom, Ron Zemke, and Pastor Sunny]. As of now, we are thinking about having this new style of service on the last Sunday of the month at 10:30am.

MINISTRY OF ORDER

- 11/19 (T, 6:30pm): Board of Trustees
- 11/19 (T, 7pm): Finance Committee
- 11/21 (Th, 6:30pm): Administrative Council

MINISTRY OF SERVICE

- **Within ORUMC**
 - o Prayer Shawl Ministry; Bowling League; Hanging of the Green; Children’s Advent Festival
 - o 50th Anniversary Celebration Taskforce Team (11/17 at 11:45pm)
- **Within Community**

- o Cook's Corner Clergy Cluster (11/19)
- o Community Communion Service at Friendship Village (11/26, 1pm)
- o Thanksgiving Service at Friendship Village (11/26, 2pm)
- o Joint Community Thanksgiving Service (11/26, 7:30pm, Roselle UMC)
- **Within District/Conference/Denomination Connectional Ministry:**
 - o Advocacy Worship (11/12-13)

ADULT EDUCATION

- Sunday Mornings (9am, Room 2): led by Marshall Nystrom & Inez Morgan
- Monday Evenings (New Life Bible Study) (7pm, Room 2): led by Marshall Nystrom, Ellen Kobylewski & Sara Naumann.
- Tuesday Morning Women's Study (10am, Room 2): by JoAnne Gregorash & Jill Wood-Naatz.
- Beginner's Bible Study (7pm, Room 2): This class meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month led by Mert Rutledge
- Wednesday Morning Bible Group Reading (10am, Home of Inez Morgan)
- Job Search Seminar led by Doug Meneely. It offers to those who need help in finding jobs or enhancing interview skills or preparing a resume. Please contact Doug at 847-428-5622 (Home), 312-968-6470 (Cell), email (meneelydoug@gmail.com).

(Melinda's note: there is also a couples study group that meets the 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month at rotating members houses).

SUNNY'S VACATION (12/03-14)

Youth Director Report

Here are my ad council reports...

Youth Report:

- *Jr. High went to soup kitchen last month
- *Sr. High will go to soup kitchen on Sunday
- *We will have one activity (yet to be determined) over winter break
- *We will be going skiing one weekend day in January just like last year
- *30 Hour Famine is February 21-22 with Famine Sunday on February 23

Education Report:

- *Trunk or Treat was tons of fun—we had 12 cars decorated and about 75 kids who came to get treats! We have talked about expanding a bit next year and having a plan B in case

it rains.

*One Room Sunday School continues to go well and communion is going well also. In December the kids will go back into the sanctuary to take communion with the whole church family (I will get them when it is time.)

*Advent Festival is next Saturday, the 30th, 4-5:30pm

*We will have an event in January, called Kickoff 2014—this will be a dropoff event for Sunday School kids and their friends and will be on January 4 from 5:30-8pm. We will have nail painting for the girls, LEGO building for the boys, TV setup with Wii games, food, etc. We are going to ask the youth to help.

I think that is it!

Thanks,
Marianne