

First United Methodist West Lafayette

# Church Council

September 19, 2011

**Church Council members attending:** Dan Berger, Bill Fornes, David Eichenauer, Judi Forsyth, Mike Heinz, Max Hoke, Doug Morehouse, Bob Nicholson, Jeanne and John Norberg, Dave Ridings, Glen Robyne, Barb Witz and Bob Zink. **Absent:** Jim Beaty, Bill Boyer, Tracy Badgley, Rich Frank, Lowell Gardner, Sally Gustafson, John Jones, Cary Mitchell, Lana Robyne, George Van Scoyoc, John Sorenson, Nancy Wagner.

**Committee chairs and representatives to Church Council:** Ray Buchanan, Shari Bittles, Ginny Dienhart, Neil McTavish, Gail Polles, Mary Welch, Ellen Wilson. **Absent:** Jan Beaty, Eileen Chamness, Tim Delworth, Jim Driskill, Nola Gentry, Karen Logan, Jim Paine, Joyce Pervine, John Polles, Joel Rasmus, C. Virgil St. John and Brian Titlow.

**Others attending:** Kelly Berger, Don Caddy, Bob Day, J.R. Pervine.

**Opening Prayer:** Bill Fornes

**Minutes:** Minutes for the July meeting were approved. Motion was made by Ray Buchanan and seconded by Judi Forsyth.

Minutes and reports from previous meetings are at [www.fumcwl.org](http://www.fumcwl.org) under the News/Church Council link.

President Bob Nicholson announced that in the future, the minutes and reports will be printed only on request. Instead, they will be available as PDFs on the church website under News/Church Council. An email will be sent directing everyone to review the minutes and reports online before the meeting and download as needed.

Committee members were reminded to e-mail their reports to Jeanne Norberg as well as Rhonda Todd before noon on the Friday before the meeting. (Please send PDFs if possible.) Jeanne will then upload them to the website and e-mail the link to everyone.

## **Calendar (NOTE CHANGES!)**

Church Council members are asked to attend the annual conference 3-5 p.m. Sunday, **Nov. 13**, at St. Andrew Methodist Church in lieu of the Church Council meeting that had been scheduled for Nov. 21. A special meeting of the Church

Council will be held at 7 p.m. **Dec. 12** to review the budget proposed by the Finance Committee.

All Church Luncheon Oct. 23

### **Buchanan Pastoral Counseling/The Samaritan Institute**

The council unanimously approved a proposed covenant with the Buchanan Pastoral Counseling, which will establish a faith-sensitive pastoral counseling service at FUMC to serve the Greater Lafayette area. Motion was made by Doug Morehouse and second by Neil McTavish.

Rev. David Holling, director of the non-profit Buchanan Pastoral Counseling, said he will begin recruiting a counselor to fill the position and expects to have one in place in January. The counselor will be provided scheduled space in the church parlor and offer evening hours. Fees will vary with ability to pay and range from \$25 to \$100 an hour, with scholarships available. The center can accept insurance and a limited number of Medicaid patients. The center is attempting to work out a system that will allow it to take Medicare patients as well.

Holling said the counselor will be sensitive to a clients' spiritual needs, ethical values and religious traditions, respecting each individual's faith journey. The Buchanan staff will not attempt to proselytize or impose their beliefs on those who come for help and guidance.

Rev. Dan Berger said he sought out the center to fill a void that concerned him. While he, Rev. Glen Robyne and Rev. Lana Robyne can provide general counseling, they do not have specialized training that is often needed or sufficient time to serve all the needs.

As part of its covenant, FUMC will agree to designate at least one member to serve on the Buchanan Professional Advisory Committee and contribute funds, the method and amount to be determined, to a central fund to support scholarships. Rev. Berger said private donations from FUMC members have already raised \$1,500.

Buchanan is a member of the Samaritan Institute, which is in 500 locations and 389 cities. Buchanan is affiliated with the IU Health Methodist Hospital.

Additional details can be found at  
<http://www.fumcwl.org/ChurchCouncil>  
<http://www.samaritaninstitute.org/>  
<http://iuhealth.org/methodist/behavioral-health/buchanan-counseling-center/>

### **Small Groups Update**

Jane Creswell reviewed plans for a pilot group to begin in October with more groups to begin early next year.

- Steering committee members are Doug Morehouse, Bill Fornes and Jane Creswell and Pastors Lana Robyne and Dan Berger.
- We will launch one small group in the fall to train leaders who will start other small groups starting the first of the year.
- Groups may have different emphasis/goals but will emphasize development of on-going care and connections, accountability, and a deeper relationship with God.

## **Finance**

Dan Berger: (Report on Web.) Highlights:

- We expect revenue to meet spending plan this year.
- Committee requests for 2012 total \$776,000, which is \$62,000 more than this year's operating plan. Some of this reflects the creation of a new position, filled this year by Rev. Philip Klinger. The \$15,000 salary was funded by FUMC's Vision in Action fund, but needs to be worked into the operating plan if it is to continue. The trustees also have requested funds to buy new computers and a projector, totaling \$13,000.
- Jenny Dienhart noted that the People Enjoying People club (PEP), geared to older members of the congregation, is going well. Begun by Rev. Klinger this past winter, it has attracted 50 people to its monthly lunches. About 25 took part in each of two trips, one to Fair Oaks Farms and the other to the Indiana State Museum.

## **FUMC Foundation**

Doug Morehouse: the FUMC Foundation has \$1,336,904 million, up from \$1,311,745 on June 30, plus \$107,002 in the endowment available for our various ministries.

## **New Building Committee**

Dave Ridings: Three proposals have been sketched costing \$1.2 million, \$4.5 million to \$5 million, and \$7 million. Next, the consultant will survey small groups and then the congregation. His recommendation is expected this spring.

## **Lay leadership**

Pastor Dan Berger:

- There are nine people in the new member class. Two attend the WIRED service and seven attend the traditional service. They will be welcomed into congregation Oct. 30.
- The all-church lunch will be held Oct. 23. We have room for 400.
- Our apportionments are paid in full.
- Sunday attendance is up 4% compared to last year.

## **Education**

Pastor Glen Robyne:

- GIFT, originally designed to be intergenerational when it was formed in February 2002, will return to those roots.

### **Youth ministries**

Glen Robyne: (Report on Web.)

- FUMC is establishing a confirmation mentors program.

### **Children's Ministries:**

Shari Bittles: (Report on Web.)

**Village Nursery School:** (VNS is part of Council on Ministries report on Web.)

- Trustees and VNS are working to improve and possibly expand the playground.
- Classes are full except for a few afternoon slots

### **Missions**

Mary Welch: (Report on Web.)

- Missions offers to match up to \$1,500 money donated for repair and renovation of the Wesley Foundation in the wake of this year's fire there.

### **Music**

Ellen Wilson: (Report on Web.)

- Christmas cantata scheduled for Dec.11

### **Trustees**

Ray Buchanan: (Report on Web.)

- Trustees have asked the sheriff to patrol the highway in front of church to help reduce speeds.
- Congregation urged to take care turning into and out of the FUMC parking lot as traffic pattern has changed.

**CLOSING PRAYER:** Pastor Berger

Secretary: Jeanne Norberg