

Aldersgate Church Council meeting was held September, 2011. More than 40 people were in attendance. Council Chair Bill Phillips opened the meeting with prayer.

Staff/Committee reports are as follows:

STAFF PARISH - BETH FISHER

Tina Lancaster is helping with church finance matters during our search for new Church Administrator. She has also agreed to train the new person.

Intern program continues to grow. Men's house has 4 and women's has 2.

FINANCE - ED WICKER JR.

Our giving through August including a special Easter offering is \$511,000, budget was \$502,000. Giving is better this year, but we are not out of the woods yet.

Building Fund pledge period expires December 31, \$60,000 remains uncollected. If this amount is collected, our building fund will run out in August 2012, if not earlier. Our general fund will then have to cover both principal and interest payments on our building loan.

The bank has asked the committee for reassurance on our ability to cover our payments. The committee has come up with the following to pass on to the bank:

If 2012 expenses should exceed projected income, the committee would look into 3 areas for possible expense reduction:

- 1) Reduce ministries
- 2) Reduce staff
- 3) Sell one of the rental houses
- 4) Or a combination of the above.

After much discussion, a motion was made by Ed Wicker and seconded by Dawn Jeffers that this information is appropriate to give to the bank. Motion passed.

STEWARDSHIP - AL STOCKS/JOHN PINSON

The stewardship campaign, based on the book "Practicing Extravagant Generosity" will take place the last two Sundays in October and the first two in November. Individuals will be asked to sign up to remember this campaign in prayer. Each giving unit will be given a copy of the study book. We need to build a wave of enthusiasm in the congregation. We must look at the whole apple and not just leave the core for God.

MUSIC MINISTRY - LINDA BRADBERRY

More children are needed for the children's music ministry.

New hand bell choir is being formed, if interested see Pam Dutch.

Thanked everyone for the support and wonderful comments on the 9/11 concert.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE - WENDY CROWELL

Ministries Fair scheduled for Oct 16 between services in Sanctuary courtyard. There will be booth displays showing the various ministries and information on how to get involved.

Senior Saints will meet on Sept 22 at the Honey from the Rock Café. Shelley Martin will speak and give her plans for youth programs through May.

CHILDREN & FAMILY MINISTRIES - DAWN JEFFERS FOR JULIE LEWIS

Promotion Sunday was August 14, bibles presented to 6 3rd graders.

Kidz Zones kicked off on September 18. Bible Zone meets Sunday evenings and Power Zone on Wednesday evening.

Children and Youth Sunday is October 11.

Trunk or Treat scheduled for October 30.

Advent Workshop will be November 13.

YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS - SHELLEY MARTIN

Youth Bible Study meets at Shelley's on Wednesday evenings 7-8 pm.

Middle School youth meet 4-6 on Sunday evenings and High School 6:30-8.

Shelley's focus for the youth groups is studying God's Word and building relationships with the students.

Pumpkin Patch fundraiser will start October 15, volunteers are needed!

Young Adult ministry includes 5 interns who meet on Monday nights for Bible Study. Currently they are working on their schedules and their areas of ministry. Goal is to find out their areas of gifting and mentor them spiritually.

ENCOUNTER - SHELLY MARTIN

Shelley reported on Encounter, Series for September and October is "Guardrails".

Encounter has come a long way since their first meeting in May of 2010. There is a definite need for this type of service for the unchurched, those hurting, those apprehensive of a traditional sanctuary setting.

COMMUNICATIONS - JILL SESSIONS

Jill reported on the new tear off tab on the Sunday bulletin. This tear off is for first time visitors, for Sun. and Wed. night supper reservations, prayer requests and pastor visitation requests.

A weekly email continues announcing church activities. If you are not receiving the weekly email, please send Jill your email address.

TRUSTEES - CELESTA SARGENT FOR ROB SHERMAN

612 Aumond lease has been renewed.

Draining issues on playground are being discussed.

Lake lease has been renewed.

LAY LEADER - EMILY TRUAN

Thanked everyone for all they do for the church.

WORSHIP - JUDY BENTLEY

Worship Committee is in support of the Encounter Ministry.

HOSPITAL VISITATION - JIM SHOWMAN

Volunteers needed for this ministry.

Carol Grantham and Beverly Calvert are restocking bereavement bags.

MISSIONS

Military Missions: \$1,500 donated to Fort Gordon Christmas House; Military Appreciation Thanksgiving Fest will be November 16; Christmas Party at the VA is being planned for December.

USA Missions: Mississippi trip Sept 25-Oct 1; Augusta District may plan a drive to collect flood buckets; Disaster training at Trinity UMC, details later; Sherri Rivers leading mission to Camp Glisson in April.

Foreign Missions: Trip to Guatemala planned for June 23-30, 2012.

Action Ministries: Coat drive being planned for this fall, Julie Lewis coordinating; John Moeller is new CEO of AMA; Golf Tournament Oct 7; White Christmas distribution Dec. 10, volunteers needed; Furniture Bank in need of furniture; Chain Reaction bicycle shop needs bikes; Broad Street Ramble scheduled for Oct. 19, volunteers needed.

PIE MINISTRY - DONNA FORD

We have contacted/visited 10-12 people to date, 6 pies have been delivered.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

We have received 1,100 cookbooks (1,000 ordered and 100 overrun). Cookbooks are totally paid for as of September 10. Cookbooks are available for \$20 in Room A7 on designated dates.

Women of Faith Event at Trinity UMC on October 8.

Taste of Aldersgate Dinner will be Oct. 16. Covered dish dinner featuring dishes from the new cookbook. Church will provide meat and drinks.

Holiday Evening of fun and fellowship at home of Dawn Jeffers scheduled for November 7.

Women's Retreat at Camp Bishop Gravatt January 6-7, 2012. Guest Speaker is Rev. Katie Strals.

Sue is seeking a committee to assist her in planning events for 2012.

50th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION - DAN HAMILTON

Pie Sunday on August 21 was a huge success.

Goal of the committee is to have 50 new members by September 2012.

Also hope to give \$50,000 to the District Committee on Church Development. Ed Wicker reminded everyone all major fundraisers must come through Finance Committee.

NOMINATIONS - JOHN PINSON

Committee is currently completing the task of filling vacant Leadership positions for 2012. May reinstate Nurture, Outreach and Witness Chair positions.

UPWARD BASKETBALL - MIKE HARRISON

Mike gave overview of this program and what would be involved to have a successful program. Full program runs Jan 1 - March 31 with three age groups K-2, 3-4, 5-6 and could total over 200 children.

Much discussion evolved regarding logistics, Family Life Center schedule, number of volunteers needed and possibility of having this ministry on a small scale rather than the full program.

Jerry Jeffers moved we act on faith and move forward with this ministry. Motion was seconded and passed.

OTHER ITEMS

Russ Holloman is working on 5 years of Aldersgate history. He recommends future annual reports be prepared in a specific format.

John thanked everyone for all they are doing and asked that we remember Mike in prayer as he moves forward with the Upward Basketball Ministry.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Ford, Secretary