

Aldersgate Church Council meeting was held July 19, 2011. Twenty-three people were in attendance. Council Chair Bill Phillips opened the meeting with prayer.

Reports are highlighted as follows:

MUSIC MINISTRY - LINDA BRADBERRY

- August worship will be camp meeting style with a theme song for all to learn.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE/ENCOUNTER - WENDY CROWELL

- Congregational Care team met in May to plan balance of year
- A Congregational Care Fair following a service is being considered to educate everyone about this ministry
- Senior Saints meets again in September
- Encounter is meeting 2nd and 4th Sundays each month. Lori and Randall Newton will lead worship on August 14. A report on full Encounter will be given at the September 19 council meeting

CHILDREN & FAMILY MINISTRIES - JULIE LEWIS

- VBS was a huge success, many participants and wonderful comments. Wesley UMC shared their decorations and we in turn shared with New Hope Worship Center in Milledgeville. Thank you note from New Hope was read.
- Camp "Shiver Me Timbers" was also successful (grades 3-5) July 11-14, K5-grade 2) currently meeting.
- July 27 Family Fun Night to be rescheduled.
- Promotion Sunday is August 24
- Zones begin on Sunday, September 11
- Children's Sabbath is Sunday, October 9
- Trunk or Treat is Sunday, October 30

COMMUNICATIONS - JILL SESSIONS

- Jill passed out the August church calendar.
- Weekly email continues, Church activities are included.

FACILITIES - JAMES BAUGHN

- CSRA Regional Commission on Eldercare Development used Family Life Center in June. Around 250 were in attendance. They want to return in 2012. James catered the event.

CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR - TINA LANCASTER

- Cookbook presales have covered the entire cost of the new cookbook! Additional sales will benefit the 50th anniversary fund.
- Church Pictorial Directory is scheduled for September 20-24.

STAFF PARISH - BETH FISHER

- Organist position now opens, interviewing a candidate on July 25. Laura's last day is July 31.
- James now working about 15 hrs. per week, new title: Church Host/Caterer.
- Jeanna now working full time, new title: Receptionist/Administrative Assistant
- New Youth/Young Adult Director, Shelley Martin, starts August 1
- Intern Houses:
 - (1) Kirby Watson, adult mentor in The Life House arrives July 23.
 - (2) Need female interns.
 - (3) There are two applicants for Lenora Holloman Scholarship. Scholarships will be awarded in the fall.
 - (4) Covered Dish Luncheon will be August 7 after 11am service. We will welcome John back as Senior Pastor, welcome Shelley as new Youth/Young Adult Director, and thank Jeanna and Joy for their assistance with the Youth over the last few months.

FINANCE - TINA LANCASTER

- To meet expenses \$15,000 week needed, giving was under last week. This is expected as giving is slower during summer.
- After October 2012, operating budget will be absorbing both debt and interest payments on building loan.
- Trustees have a check list in place for repairs needed around the church.
- Bill Phillips gave the following information regarding finances:

- (i) Money anticipated from Building Fund receipts will run out in early fall 2012.
- (ii) Many things will be considered when the new budget is prepared.
- (iii) Building campaign is being discussed by finance committee. Total building loan is \$1,200,000.

TRUSTEES - ROB SHERMAN

- The Way and Life houses are generating income and are important ministry of the church.
- House at 610 Aumond needs to be re-evaluated as we move forward with our long term plans.
- Sewer repairs done at 510 and 614, may get some reimbursement from the city.
- Need volunteers to do outside work around the church.
- Has a small project work list, Pat Arthur prioritizing jobs. Jill will publicize that we need help with projects.
- New 5 year renewal with Corps of Engineers on lake property.
- Jill remarked how good the condition of the lake property is.

NOMINATIONS - BILL PHILLIPS FOR JOHN PINSON

- Nomination committee might want to consider going back to having Chairpersons for Nurture, Outreach and Missions.

HOSPITAL VISITATION - JIM SHOWMAN

- Going well, not very busy at present time

MISSIONS - GENIE SPEARS/DAVE BOLYARD

- Belize mission trip was very successful, 1291 people seen in 4 days.
- Mission trip to Gulfport Mississippi Sept 25-Oct 1
- Trip to Mississippi scheduled for Sept 25-Oct 1, can take total of 12
- Thanksgiving dinner for military in initial planning stage, will be the week before Thanksgiving
- There will be a bike ride in August, Savannah Rapids Pavilion to Kroc Center, date TBA

PIE MINISTRY - DONNA FORD

- Not many visitors giving contact info, sending a note when no phone, email is received. Have delivered 7 pies since the first of the year.

- Brainstorming meeting was held in June to share ideas on how to better identify, contact and follow up with visitors. Everyone agreed we need to make contact the same day of their visit to our church. We are going to make guest cards available in the pews and will make initial contact with the visitor the same day and visit them with a pie if they would like that. Church information and a popcorn bag with goodies will be available in the narthex for our first time visitors. During the prayer/praise time of worship John will encourage first time visitors to complete the guest card and put in offering plate.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

- Cookbook has been sent to publisher, proofing will take place in August. Anticipate we will get the cookbooks late Sept/Oct. As of this date, presale money covers the entire cost of the 800 cookbooks being ordered.

50th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION - DAN HAMILTON

- Team meeting is scheduled for August 16.
- Pie Sunday is August 21, 50 pies will be available in narthex for members to deliver to someone they would like to invite to our church. Would like to get 50 new members by our 50th anniversary.
- August 9 is date for Small Group Team meeting. This group will focus on having more small-group settings for new members/prospective members.

UPWARD BASKETBALL - MIKE HARRISON

- Mike gave overview of this program and what would be involved to have a successful program. This program requires 40+ volunteers. Mike, Bill Phillips and Dan Hamilton agreed to meet and discuss how Aldersgate could possibly have this program, perhaps on a smaller scale. They will report at our next council meeting.
- Mike Harrison gave a brief explanation of how this is organized.

OTHER ITEMS

- Dawn Jeffers reported that our children, during Sunday School, made items for our Belize mission team to take to the children in Belize. She also said all teachers are in place for Sunday School, shepherds are still needed. Ruth Joy Circle is meeting next week for lunch and will be preparing school supply baskets for local schools around Aldersgate.
- Bill Phillips gave a suggestion that we schedule a Neighborhood Prayer Walk, visiting homes surrounding the church, leaving door hanger at each home saying we prayed for your home and have information about the church.

- Jill Sessions presented a staff proposal that we change our suppers from Wednesday night to Sunday night. This change would:
 - (i) Maximize time and space
 - (ii) Bring families to church together
 - (iii) Serve one large meal rather than two or three smaller meals (youth/kids/Wednesday night)
 - (iv) Would have a positive impact on the youth and children's budgets for meals
 - (v) Is an efficient use of resources such as heating and air of Family Life Center

Some felt it was not a good idea to discontinue Wednesday nights as many have enjoyed this time of fellowship. James is already in kitchen on Wed. night preparing meals for Asbury Church so it would not be a problem for him. After much discussion, a motion was made to ADD a new ministry of "Sunday Night Suppers" after Labor Day. Additionally, those regularly attending Wednesday Night Suppers would be contacted for their input on a possible total change to Sundays. The motion was seconded, voted on and passed.

A closing prayer was given and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Donna Ford, Secretary