

Wesley United Methodist Church
Witness Committee
Minutes for Monday, April 6, 2009

***The purpose of the church is to make and form disciples for Jesus Christ.
Evangelism . . . evangelizing is the work of the whole church.***

Pastoral Leadership: Russ Smith

Team Leader: Marilyn Olsen

Committee Members present: Sam Edsall, John Hobbs, Pam Barclay, Bill Cupples,
Gina Anderson, Sue Jersey, Larry Monninger

Rev. Russ Smith opened with prayer. He updated the committee on the MAPP process. All Discernment Bible Studies have been completed. The MAPP Team will have a retreat later this month and the consultants will have a concluding workshop at the Church. More information will be available after those two events.

Witness Committee's Areas of Focus

1. Visual signage for promoting our presence.

The electronic sign has been put on hold by the Trustees as they are involved in a mechanical survey to see what areas of the physical plant that will need to be replaced in the future, e.g. boilers, air conditioners, etc. The Trustees are continuing to address the water problem which greatly affects the Day Care and east parking lot (especially in the winter with ice). Although the sign is on hold, the Witness Committee still favors an electronic sign as it would enable the Church to advertise and promote events at the church to those passing by on Adams Street.

Another sign that has been brought to the attention of the Witness Committee is the one downhill from the red parsonage. The door no longer stays closed due to a tree falling on the door, and the sign itself is in disrepair. The Witness Committee will send a recommendation to the Trustees regarding this sign. One suggestion was to have it removed completely. Another suggestion was to replace with another sign closer to the sidewalk and add signage that promotes the Korean worship service.

It was noticed that some of the parking lot banners need to be readjusted. It was discussed that new banners could be added to highlight various celebrations—Easter, Pentecost, Thanksgiving, Christmas, etc. These new banners might be rotated in and out as the seasons change. Sam will be working on a new design and hopes to have it ready by the next meeting.

2. Pictorial Directory

Olan Mills will be here April 20 – 25 to take photos. Marilyn will be contacting people to serve as hosts/hostesses during the photo sessions. Currently there is a signup table in the Atrium, and many people have signed up to have photos taken. Those members who are not able to have their photo taken by Olan Mills, but want to submit a photo for the directory, may do so for a \$5 charge. Suggestions were given for types of collage pages to include in the directory—education, worship, music, missions, Mexico trip, youth/children, VBS. John will take some photos on Sunday that can be used for some of these pages.

3. Newspaper Ads

John and Pam have completed the newspaper ads with new faces project. The ads will run in the newspaper until the Church gives the newspaper direction to discontinue them. Rev. Russ stated that he has had positive comments about the most recent article and faces about the church which appeared in the pamphlet about Western Illinois.

4. Website Suggestions

Members of this committee gave suggestions for updating the website. These suggestions will be passed to the office. The following is a condensed version of the comments that were given for the website.

1. Keep the information current
2. Add more pictures—individual photos of all staff members
3. Add information about the pastors—blogs on sermons, current projects
4. Keep bulletins and newsletters for two months
5. Have church's information (address, phone number, fax, email) on every page
6. Personal prayer requests that can be added by user
7. Up to date information on the Youth Pages (Senior High has own website and incomplete info on church site)
8. Hire a WIU computer/graphics arts student (part time) to keep site updated

The next meeting is scheduled for June 1, 2009.