

SUMMARY OF NOVEMBER 2011 COUNCIL MINUTES

Pastor Hindman clarified that we are a medium-sized church and should be organized around staff training members to do the work of making disciples rather than depending upon the staff to do all the outreach to members and potential members. He also pointed out that we have a lot of members who come from a different size or style of operation with varying expectations. He noted that we are also operating in a very changed environment than historically as people are not as connected to churches. An extraordinary number of people do not express any religious affiliation. Yet, Methodists are charged with responsibility “to make disciples” which is a step beyond just recruiting more members for the church.

Both Hindman and Stoakley reminded council members of important upcoming activities like the Charge Conference on Dec. 1, at Duncan and the district training on January 6 at Trinity UMC. Also, we were reminded of the changes in services for Christmas because Christmas Day is on Sunday. The children’s service is the afternoon of the Sunday before Christmas. The Christmas Eve service is at 7:30pm. There will be two Communion services on Christmas Day at 8:50 and 11.

Ruth Deaton gave a favorable report on youth group activities. There have been retreats, picnics, hot chocolate during the Christmas parade. They fed homeless at Monroe Park, collected for a food drive; and when they reached their goals for that, they threw pies in the faces of Kendra Swager and Devon Maust as their challenge allowed. In December, they will be babysitting, cookie baking, leaf raking and doing other chores to raise money.

Kelly Jones reported that Staff Parish Relations were completing the application process for the new position and were completing the revision of the job description for it. All were made aware of the grace exhibited by Sandra Stanley as she transitions out of her job.

Sharon Morgan reported the World Thank Offering was celebrated by the UMW. Danny Phillips requested and received approval for two awards for scout parents. Council adopted the timeline for the strategic planning process begun with the retreat held Nov. 13.