

Minutes
New Frontiers Circuit Charge Conference
North Prairie United Methodist Church
November 28, 2004

Music and worship were emphasized in the year's meeting. Gathering music, a prelude and special music was provided by Lorraine Lange and Acoustic Grace. The Charge Conference then opened with a hymn sing:

Rev. Jerry Lipka, Circuit Leader, gave the opening prayer and welcome. He explained that since our circuit is on the outlying edges of the Conference, it was decided that New Frontiers would be a good name for it.

The North Prairie Choir sang two selections.

The business session commenced, with District Superintendent Dan Schwerin leading. Informational packets from each church were distributed.

1. First order of business was to confirm Linda Woolridge as Charge Conference secretary. There were no objections.
2. Each of the six churches had been asked in advance to choose two hymns to be sung, and to give a brief report highlighting their year. Highlights included:

Eagle - Carrying through with their mission statement; developing a preliminary vision statement; developing effective leadership and committees; outreach ministry of the church (Vacation Bible School and alternative Halloween party); developing a plan of ministry; working on getting a three-quarter time pastor.

Little Prairie - Small, but important to the community. One child and his family have been particularly touched by and have touched the congregation. The church is searching for its future, has hope and a new focus on childlike faith.

Palmyra - Combined the Spirit Song with a reading highlighting some ministries: Vacation Bible School; Outreach Dinners; United Methodist Men and United Methodist Women; Sunday School and others.

Rev. Schwerin shared some thoughts during a "hymn-fo-mercial" on his experiences attending the Annual Conference in Korea and the need to pray for peace for this world.

Troy Center - The Spirit is moving as seen through two very successful fundraisers (to help a community family and for the church kitchen renovations); church seen as a beacon in the community for those in need; outreach is increasing; four baptisms, four new members.

Siloam - The theme this year would be "The Tie that Binds". Highlights - program to reach out to children of prisoners; Club 9 Youth Group; Discipleship Farm; desire of this church to be known in the community as a place where people can turn for help.

North Prairie - Ongoing Companions in Christ program to explore and strengthen our relationship with God; the vibrant music ministry; retirement and recognition of organist of 59 years; parking lot.

The following business was also conducted:

Please see individual packets from each of the six churches for details on the following:

Budgets: Individual budgets were unanimously approved by Eagle, Little Prairie, Palmyra, Troy Center, Siloam and North Prairie United Methodist Churches.

Nominations Reports: Individual nominations reports were unanimously approved by each of the six churches.

Membership Audits: Individual membership audit reports were unanimously approved by each of the six churches.

Lay Speakers' Reports were accepted by the churches to which they were submitted.

Communion followed the business session.

The 2004 New Frontiers Circuit Charge Conference adjourned with a benediction by Rev. Schwerin.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Woolridge, Secretary