

District Council Minutes
January 16, 2003
7:00 PM
First United Methodist Church
Sikeston, Missouri

Rev. Ron Watts, chairman, called the District Council meeting to order with prayer. He turned the meeting over to Brent Mustoe, District Superintendent, who conducted the meeting on the Council Budget.

Rev. Mustoe reported that there was a 92% pay out from the district to the conference last year. He also reported that the District Apportionments have remained the same from 1998-2002.

The Bishop asks that each ordinand have \$1,000 paid for him/her either by their home church or by donations from church members of former churches where the minister has served. Rev. Rick Lasley is the only ordinand from our district this year. The council voted to place the \$1,000 in the District Budget as a ministry line item.

Rev. Mustoe explained about delegates to Annual Conference. The number of delegates from churches in the district is determined by the size of the church membership. There may be 11-18 Delegates at Large from each district, depending on the size of the district. These delegates are selected by the district superintendent.

Money from the sale of the Poplar Bluff-Sikeston district parsonage in Poplar Bluff was placed in a Southeast District Parsonage Account. \$70,000 of the funds was placed in a 4-year CD at 8% interest. Another \$10,000 was placed in a 1-year CD at 2.25% interest. \$25,000 of the District Parsonage funds was needed to assist in the purchase of a new parsonage for the Wesley Foundation Director at Southeast University, Cape Girardeau. The money was borrowed from the Southeast District Operating Account, to be paid back upon maturity of the Parsonage Account \$70,000 CD. This allows the 8% interest to continue to accrue without penalty until the maturity date.

SE District Mission & Church Extension Society

2002 Year-end balances

Loans	\$437,877.77
Cash	\$169,442.30
2001 Interest earned	\$20,456.87
2002 Interest earned	\$17,330.00

The condition of the district parsonage was discussed. It was also discussed whether it is best for a church to own a parsonage or pay the minister a housing allowance. Jerry McClanahan, Trustee/Church Location and Building Team chairperson, made a statement he was asked to repeat from a previous meeting, "A parsonage needs to be replaced with a new or upgraded building every seven years."

Possibilities of ways to save money were discussed. One suggestion was to have volunteer treasurer.

Rev. Mustoe suggested we include moving expenses for a district superintendent in our budget plans.

Hispanic Ministries

Hispanic Ministries was discussed by the group. It was emphasized that if we do not all (churches in the district) support this mission it will not succeed.

The Hispanic Ministries will receive support from the Conference 2003-2005. Plans will have to be made for the when the Conference will release the support of the Mission back to the District at the end of 2004.

Hispanic Ministries Budget for 2003:

Salary	\$25,533
Housing	\$8,700
Health Insurance	\$4,804
Utilities	\$2,400
Travel	\$3,600
Building for Worship	\$10,000
Program Expenses	<u>\$5,963</u>
Total Budget 2003	\$61,000

The plan for raising apportionments is being studied. It was asked that Rev. Mustoe contact Reuben Wilbur, Conference Treasurer, and ask him to figure apportionment cost on \$55,000 -- \$65,000 -- \$75,000.

Another meeting of this committee was set for April 10, 2003, at 6:30 PM at First United Methodist Church, Sikeston. Paul Lanning will be asked to attend this meeting to report on the Hispanic Ministry in our district.

Ralph Maxton, Lay Leader, reported that he had attended a meeting where plans were made not to have an Outstanding Lay Person this year, but they will have a Lay Program.

The meeting was dismissed with prayer by Suzan Culver.

Respectfully submitted,

Eloise Marsh, Secretary