

## Hoy Memorial UMC and Lithopolis UMC Partnership Chronology

### Hoy history

- 1808 log church built on donated land/shared by Lutheran & Reformed congregation meeting alternate Sundays
- 1816 first minister sent to Hoy from Evangelical Society
- 1852 larger brick building constructed and dedicated as Bloom Chapel
- 1920's Bloom Chapel Evangelical purchased the site and changed name to Hoy Memorial
- 1946 Evangelicals merged with United Brethren becoming Evangelical United Brethren
- 1968 Evangelical United Brethren merged with Methodists becoming United Methodists

### Lithopolis history

- 1822 a group of Methodists started meetings in private homes
- 1838 Lithopolis Circuit was formed
- 1840 Methodist Episcopal Church built
- 1939 Methodist Episcopal Church became Methodist Church
- 1960 education wing added
- 1980 narthex, kitchenette, offices and 2 additional classrooms added
- 1991 new sanctuary added seating 400 – old sanctuary became a fellowship hall
- 1997 old sanctuary was divided into a chapel, meeting rooms and library
- 2004 Multi Ministry Center with full commercial kitchen, showers, gymnasium or 300 person dining space

### The Hoy/Lithopolis Partnership in Ministry

- 10/23/08 Hoy approached Lithopolis regarding a merger and provided discussion points
- 11/16/08 Lithopolis formed ad hoc committee to consider possibilities & documented discussion points
- 01/19/09 Partnership in Ministry formed with representatives from both churches meeting for the first time
  - Purpose was to review all discussion points and decide next steps
- 02/23/09 Second Partnership in Ministry meeting
  - Purpose was to explore ideas to get individuals and congregations from the two churches together
- 03/16/09 Third Partnership in Ministry meeting
  - Purpose was to become more intentional and specific on joint events
- 3/26/09 Lithopolis developed an opportunity worksheet
  - Three opportunities:
    1. Enhance direction and biblical teaching for youth ministry
    2. Expand our community ministry outreach through the Partnership in Ministry
    3. Potential to attract a better qualified candidate with more experience

#### Steps:

1. Search was begun to find a youth minister
  2. Pastor Ben was hopeful that the candidate could also preach Lithopolis 2<sup>nd</sup> service
  3. Pastor Ben would be freed up to preach at Hoy
  4. Job posted on internet – many applicants
  5. Narrowed applicants to 3 for formal interviews
- 05/04/09 Extensive interview process completed and a candidate selected
  - 06/01/09 Bill Weaver started as youth pastor
  - 08/25/09 Joint meeting Hoy PPRC & Lithopolis SPRC
    - unanimously approved agreement to formalize the Partnership
  - 08/30/09 Bill Weaver will preach first sermons at both Lithopolis services
  - 09/27/09 Hoy Ad Council - Church Conference approved agreement to formalize the Partnership
  - 09/29/09 Lithopolis Ad Council - Church Conference approved agreement to formalize the Partnership
  - 10/01/09 Joint meeting Hoy PPRC & Lithopolis SPRC with District Superintendent Dr. Stringer
    - to formalize appointment of Pastor Ben to Hoy in addition to Lithopolis
  - 10/11/09 Pastor Ben will preach first sermon at Hoy

From George Tootle – 20090828 (revised 20091003)