

DISCIPLESHIP COMMITTEE MINUTES

March 12, 2019

7:00 p.m.

Members:

Lisa Bansen-Harp (Deacon)

Sheila Svoboda (DCFM)

Cathy Melver

Rae Leonard

Ed Labbe (Elder)

Marian Wahl (Deacon)

Mallory Gray (Youth Coordinator)

Jon Hauerwas (Pastor)

Opening Prayer

Approval of February 12, 2019 minutes

Agenda: Additions/Corrections

UPDATES:

YOUTH EDUCATION/ACTIVITIES – Mallory Gray

- Vision Team Status: Mallory held meeting on 2/24. Missions trip was discussed. Small number of youth and their differing availability preclude a trip this summer. Instead, a series of local service projects (1 or 2 days) throughout the summer was suggested. Service to members of the congregation may also be part of this.
- Youth will help Mike Grau with the 3rd Sunday Dinner on 3/17/19. So far 3-4 have signed up. Mallory is contacting others.
- Next Youth Event – Youth Service Project and Lock-In – 4/5-4/6/19. A male chaperone is still needed. The event will be cancelled if one can't be found.
 - Hands on project at One-of-a-Kind Pets, holding pets and cleaning cages.
 - A possibility for an activity during the lock-in: painting the Youth Coordinator's office.
 - Kacey Yates-Gable to help organize.
 - Bulletin and Sunday Updates: 3/24 and 3/31/19
 - Pulpit Announcement: 3/31/19
- The estate of Martha Wilson donated \$2,500 to the Youth Program. Scholarships for youth trips were mentioned specifically, but there are no restrictions on the gift.
- The Presbyterian Youth Triennium at Purdue University in July was discussed at the presbytery meeting. Mallory indicates 2022 may be a better option for us given our current and expected Youth numbers.
- 5/19: Recognition of Graduating Seniors during the 10:30 service.

- 6/2: Awarding of Spaethe Scholarship during the 10:30 service.

ADULT EDUCATION - Rae Leonard

- February/March – Rae: “Amos Said What?!!” examines the role of the Old Testament prophet Amos, who dealt with social justice issues. The classes have solicited a lot of discussion.
- April 7 & 14: Jon will teach classes on the theme of ‘Images of Lent,’ the same theme as the Lenten evotionals.
- Rae will offer a class for the adults on Easter Sunday, as there are often parents around while their children are busy with the Easter Egg Hunt. The title of the series that will start this day and go to May 26 (the end of the Sunday School year) is “Who is God?” It will include how ancient cultures saw God, and the question of God’s justice vs. God’s love, among other topics.

PRAYER QUILT MINISTRY – Marian Wahl

- Claude Wilton received a quilt this week.
- Quilts for Frank Holub Jr. and Moss Rutan will be displayed in Wright-Herberich Hall this Sunday.
- The quilters will check with Lynn D’Avello to see if she would like a quilt.

CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRIES - Sheila Svoboda

- Parenting Speaker – 2019
 - 40% (\$384.40) of last year’s Pentecost donation went toward the event (3/1-3/2).
 - Godly Play training double-header with Rev. Emily Griffith: The event provided a full day of training for the Sunday School teachers plus an evening session with parents on how to support their children’s spiritual development in the context of the Godly Play curriculum / approach. The parent session was well-attended and productive. The teacher training allowed current Godly Play and Bible Story Room teachers to dive more deeply into the methods of and philosophy behind the program.
 - Sheila invited other local churches to participate, but none attended. Need to resolve lost revenue in budget. Shelly K. indicated that the shortfall will probably be made up by monies left in the CFM budget at the end of the year (there usually are funds left, due largely to Sheila’s careful stewardship and development of materials in-house).
- Library Conversations – Lenten resource from Illustrated Children's Ministry to help focus on a weekly prayer time for families.

- March 10. The Lenten collection fish-shaped boxes were distributed to the children during church.
- Easter Egg Hunt – 4/21/19 10 AM
- Tween Earth Day Service Event – 4/28/19 Noon – 2 PM @ Hardesty Park.
The tweens will walk to Hardesty Park after pizza at the church. Interested adults (and youth) are invited to join the clean-up.
- VBS: ‘The Gospel According to Dr. Seuss’ - Curriculum is in development.

CHURCH-WIDE DISCIPLESHIP EVENTS

- Chili Cook Off and Talent Show: March 9, 2019. – Review
 - Attendance was good—approximately 90 people of all ages. We’ve had very positive feedback on the event. It has been suggested that we repeat it next year, but Discipleship believes it should go into a rotation of events—perhaps every third year.
 - A practical suggestion for similar events: use smaller bowls and have multiple, smaller serving stations.
 - Lisa will contact Wayne Green to see if he has pictures of the event.
 - Deacons helped by baking cornbread / corn muffins, loaning crockpots, and helping with clean-up.
 - Discipleship provided the chili trimmings. Sheila purchased.
 - Dinner was at 5:30, with performances starting 6:15-ish for an hour or so.
 - House band: James Gray, Alcee Chriss, Walter Hayes with Jon as M.C. The band (and M.C.) added a special touch to the evening and were much appreciated.
 - Lisa typed up the program and coordinated all the details.
- An idea for next year: Soup Fest and Jeopardy, Westminster Edition
 - Jeopardy teams would be multi-generational.
 - The categories would be largely based in the people, classes, and history of Westminster. Some possibilities:
 - Sacred Art (including some of the items in the current Lenten evotionals / class)
 - Westminster History
 - Sunday School (questions about the adult and children’s classes)
 - Sacred Music (some questions could revolve around the hymnal)

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Library refresh - Cathy Melver
Need a survey to include questions pertaining to how Library Conversations on Sunday morning affects library use. Cathy will have a draft of the questions for the next meeting.

- Cathy indicated that the closets will need to be cleared out. The TV, out-dated furniture, and cabinets will be moved out and donated soon (April 13). Items marked with blue painter's tape are slated for removal.
- Educational Program at Weathervane Playhouse. They have a contact in the Cleveland area and jointly present an artistic/educational program about Teen Suicide. The program is \$200 and this would be a possibility for the local Pentecost project in 2019. We could consider this for late fall 2019—perhaps Nov. Mallory is the contact since she is involved with youth. With this topic, we would need to reach out broadly in the community with publicity. Before deciding, we will need more information on the program and its approach.
- Mallory has noticed a number of young couples who drop their babies at the nursery and go to church. She suggested starting a discussion group that is couples / relationship-based (similar to the Library Conversations for parents). Perhaps run it as a once-a-month class in lieu of the Library Conversations. Mallory could lead. We would need to take the idea to Session for discussion. Idea: run a couple pilots in the spring before starting a series in the fall?
- ADULT FELLOWSHIP (and kids too). Cathy will start it off with a call to join other WPC folks at a fish fry during Lent (in the bulletin and Update on March 10). The list of venues is published in the Akron Beacon Journal on Ash Wednesday. First fry: March 15. The goal would be to gather people every two months or so for an outing or dinner. Cathy brought a list of the venues. She will send the schedule to Claudine so it could come out in the Sunday Updates as well as appear in the Script.

Other ideas:--Firestone High School musical

--Weathervane productions

--Shakespeare Festival (at Greystone Hall or at Stan Hywet)

--Rubber Ducks games

--Blossom concerts

NEW BUSINESS:

- Need someone on the Discipleship Committee willing to sign expense vouchers in the case of Ed's absence. It cannot be a staff member or the pastor. Lisa will do. Rae will be back-up signer as necessary.
- April-May script will be distributed on Sunday, March 31, 2019. Please have your articles and pictures about activities sent to wpcoffice1250@gmail.com by noon on Tuesday, March 19, 2019

Closing Prayer

Next meeting – April 9, 2019 @ 7 p.m.