

Outreach Committee Minutes

March 10, 2008

Opening Prayer

Meeting was called to order by Chair Judi French and she offered a prayer to begin the meeting. Attending were Judi French, Hazel Summers, Patty McClintok, Julia Howard and Daryl Monk.

Old Business

One Great Hour of Sharing Special Offering netted \$1,122. Special thanks to Hazel for her announcement.

Special Offering Sunday is officially named "Special Sunday with Offering" (*hereafter named SSO*)

Native American SSO (April 6) is a nationwide program for urban ministries in communities with high Native American populations. Also provides scholarships for Native Americans to approved seminaries (Methodist-related). Music by Choirs will involve Children's Time. Patty will coordinate with Betty Busch & Sara Power who will talk at services. Patty will also talk to Jim/Courtney about the Litany.

Peace with Justice SSO is May 18. LoErna Simpson would love to coordinate that SSO.

Linn-Benton Food Share SSO July 13. We want to involve all the congregation – more than just a food drive by the youth. July is a time when many youth are gone to camps and many are not around to do a food drive. So we are going to do a Food Challenge to the various program council & social groups (4Fs, Merrimates, others?). Daryl will write a letter to issue the challenge & invite these groups to participate. Also will need a letter to handout to donors which will talk about where the donated food goes and about cash donations vs food donations.

New Business

Linda Lamb asked (via Judi) to have the open August SSO assigned to support the Community of Welcoming Congregations (CWC). This group is comprised of churches in Washington & Oregon who all participate in the Welcoming Congregation movement. Last year, we hosted their main event, the Transgender Conference, which was very successful. Their budget exceeds their membership dues and needs a supplement. This was decided to table until next meeting. Perhaps Linda Lamb could speak to us about this program at the next meeting. As Patty will not be at the April meeting, she votes "yes".

Another August SSO request came in from the Nursery/Childcare Coordinator, Nancy Osborne. They would like to remodel the nursery to provide new paint, better storage (cupboards & shelves) and make better use of room space. This project would improve the health & safety for children who use our nursery (4Cs, FUMC Childcare & outside groups). This received a “yes” from both councils. This could be a SSO in August or an Alternative Christmas option. Patty liked the Alternative Christmas option. This was also tabled until next meeting.

Patty talked about the use of the Community Center as a Homeless Shelter during cold months at night. Currently there is no permanent Homeless Shelter facility and the Corvallis Coalition for the Homeless is seeking to purchase a facility or build one (similar to a Habitat for Humanity Home?). Patty would like to see us use our CC as a Homeless Shelter, but does see some issues.

- Storage at the CC for homeless belongings during the day
- CC is not really built for partitions (for families)
- Where to put cots and other equipment when not used (ie during the day)
- Impact on other groups who use the building (the CC is used most nights)

Patty mentioned the shelter in Springfield uses a van to move cots & other equipment from church to church (2 weeks at each church).

Next Meeting

Next meeting is 12:30pm on April 14, 2008 in the Roundtable room.