

Outreach Committee Minutes

June 10, 2008

Attending: Judi French (chair), Patty McClintok, Hazel Summers, Rich Mueller, Daryl Monk, recording secretary. Thanks to Patty for providing her beautiful home for our evening meeting.

Meeting was opened with a prayer from Judi.

OLD BUSINESS

VIM Scholarship Fund SSO in May - \$300 donated.

Linn-Benton Food Share (LBFS) (July 13) – Discussion centered around the challenge letter, advertisements, identification of church groups to issue challenge & “nuts & bolts” of how this food challenge would be conducted. It was decided instead of a food challenge, we would still have a SSO, but have an educational campaign around some questions about their program. Judi would get a speaker. Questions for the speaker to address included, but are not limited to “Where does food share get the food?”, and “Who do they distribute the food to?”. Daryl will re-write the challenge letter to be included in The Methodist, June 29 issue. A follow-up article for The Methodist will include a summary of LBFS and a reminder to donate \$ to help those who are hungry.

STONE SOUP – The Methodist Church will be responsible for the 1st Tuesday of each month. Rich will call Pat Gurski to confirm. Will LoErna be in charge to organize food prep? *<Editor’s note: Who was to call LoErna?>* Need an opportunities call to be inserted in the bulletin.

“Recipe for Enough” program – Judi spoke about this program coming from Bishop Hoshibata. Was to be summarized at Annual Conference, but got waiver if we do something in the fall. This program will be on a Tuesday night (with a simple meal) in Sept. Program’s goal is to raise awareness on hunger. The “Appetizer” would showcase our food drives, the “Dessert” would be a LBFS speaker. For the next 3 months, the church needs to go over the program and fill in the details. Judi will recruit a special task force to do this.

NEW BUSINESS

Mail – Judi wanted us to know that we get solicitations quite frequently. Two recent ones: New Orleans Emergency Women’s Shelter and Jackson St. Youth Shelter.

District Newsletter – read by Judi. This newsletter highlighted Albany’s experience with growing garden vegetables for a local gleaners organization and Philomath’s experience in providing meal(s) <*similar to Stone Soup?*> to their community. Discussion arose about making raised beds in our church “yard” (between the Jackson St. parking lot & the north wing. Bill Proebsting is now investigating ideas about planting low-water plants and has submitted a plan to the trustees. The need for irrigation at that location might be a problem for some solutions. Rich will talk to Bill about using this space for raised beds. (There is a faucet & hose nearby.) Also discussion about serving meals for homeless & others in the Community Center.

Mission Statement – Daryl brought this up to confirm our mission statement as shown on the kiosk for the web page:

“To offer opportunities to love one’s neighbor as oneself.”
And our goal of the Outreach Committee “is to provide opportunities for service locally, regionally and in the greater world”.

Hispanic Ministries – Rich is working with the Ore-Idaho Hispanic Ministries to define a “First Steps” workshop to be held in Eugene and Medford. Corvallis will be involved in planning and attendance. The First Steps workshop will increase awareness of Hispanic needs / wants (spiritually).

NEXT MEETING: Monday, July 14, 7pm at Patty McClintok home