

Minutes—Membership Mtg. Thursday, February 27, 2020 at 6:00

Attendees:

Pastor Deb
Den Penrod
Terry Vogt
Ann Gerteis
Jim Ament

A prayer by Pastor Deb, and a C. S. Lewis passage read by Jim Ament opened the meeting.

Pastor's Report:

Sharon Sturm, a member of our congregation recently died. Winter weather has definitely affected church attendance. Youth will be taking a more active role in Sunday services. Some growth is being experienced from younger people.

Special Events:

Critique: The participation of the Baroque Folk on February 16th was a hit—nothing but positive comments. We'll try to have them again between mid-January and mid-February, 2021.

Upcoming Events:

A Celebration of Music: Wednesday, March 18, 2020—Jan reported via email that the concert is listed in Happenings, flyers were made and posted on the front door of the medical building, front door of Evergreen Fire, Safeway, King Soopers, ECHO, and an apartment bldg. Ruthanne picked up the rest of the flyers to distribute and 3

people have flyers to put up elsewhere. The supper time was changed to 5:30 to avoid such a long interval before the concert. However, Canyon Courier failed to get it changed so notice still says 5:00. Notice will be in each Wednesday until the 18th. Ruthanne is also trying to contact Hopie Moore, an opera singer, to sing.

Inter-service Pancake Breakfast: Scheduled on the Sunday following Easter, April 19, 2020. We'll have 2 shifts of volunteers (8 am and 9:15 am) secured by the passing clipboards on March 29 and April 5, which is Palm Sunday, but *not* on Easter Sunday, April 12.

Visitor Contact—Ann Gerteis, reported that she sent notes and emails to visitors in February and Carolyn Hohne will handle March.

New/Old Business—Discussion on how to proceed with Andrew's (or Andy's) Team—Affirming the work that the Membership Team is doing to reach out to visitors and new people, e.g. via visitor contacts, and Bill Graf's efforts, there's a sense that it takes more than a few motivated people or one team—it takes a whole congregation dedicated to bringing in and integrating new members and constituents. Perhaps *we*, the congregation, need training or at least a cadre of stalwart people dedicated to help the whole congregation become more engaged in making disciples of Christ.

The following was handed out by Pastor Deb, which suggests...

Some approaches other churches use for laity to bring in and integrate new members/constituents {2-26-20 ed}

1. Do an ambassador program to visit some other thriving churches in the community to see what they seem to be doing well & to consider adopting. Different people assigned to different churches for a Sunday visit. Pastor provides guide sheets on what to look for.

2. Do a listening session with members who joined in the last year or two around their experiences and suggestions.
3. Have speakers/programs community is interested in – Dave Ramsey’s Financial Peace or Love & Logic Parenting or Divorce Recovery or special speakers.
4. Visitors want something in writing as to the spiritual pathway[s] in our congregation.
5. Conduct a listening session around bringing in & integrating new people {see attached}.
6. Train people in the aspects of what goes into being an inviting and welcoming church.
7. Train the congregation & implement the FRAN Plan {see attached} – or other ways to invite people.
8. Partner with a school in an ongoing, visible way.
9. Stream the worship service.
10. Use the rule of 3 – only talk to visitors or people you don’t know the first 3 minutes after church – not your friends. Visitors tend to exit asap.
11. Use the rule of 10 – be sure to greet all within a 10 ft radius of you.
12. Have a regular membership inquiry class.
13. Do a special observance when people join the church.
14. Have people invite new people to be part of activities.
15. Be visible in the community as an active part of community festivals & the Chamber of Commerce.
16. Examine what people need rather than what we want as the church & then act on that input.
17. Offer to drive people to worship.
18. Have “Welcome, glad you’re here” signs inside entrances. Have wall banners in rooms with a focus saying such as “We do what we do for Jesus”.
19. Have a regular coffee or gathering monthly as a get acquainted opportunity for new visitors.

20. Have someone drop off something at folks' home after their second visit – just a hello at the door, their contact info printed out & gift {i.e. bread, brownies, local specialty}.

Please consider the above approaches for further discussion.

The next step is that Pastor Deb will discern what she thinks is the correct way forward and may call a special meeting for discussing options and implementation.

Next Meeting—Thursday, May 21, 2020 at 6:00. We will *not* meet in March or April at our normal schedule, but a special session, as noted above may occur.