

## Minutes of the Membership Team Meeting on May 30, 2019

There were no objections to accepting or changes to the minutes from the last Membership Team meeting of April 25, 2019, and they were approved.

**Present:** per phone conversation this evening: Bill Graf  
Ann Gerteis  
Pastor Deb  
Terry Vogt

**Pastor's Report:** Pastor Deb

**Special Events:** Terry Vogt

- **Lenten Concert Series critique** ~ This year, the attendance was the highest for this event so far. Clyde Sack's lunch was quite successful. Membership would recommend doing it again next year, unless the Brainstormers, which meet in September, tweak it into something else (we'll have a new preacher, who may want change, especially in the Lenten Season).
- **The remainder of the other Special Events are all on track**

**Projections:** (Dianne Donelson in Texas)

We are entering a new age for projecting ourselves to the community, where so many of the old ways (putting out expensive ads, posting notices at public places, and much of the involvement from newspapers) are going by the wayside, and must be replaced by a new face. After some discussion, the Membership Team recommends:

- First, **retain what works for us now:** We need to get the word out in The Canyon Courier, Your Hub, *My Mountain Town* ~ These publications are generally free & are sympathetic to us.

We should request that The Canyon Courier conduct an interview of our new pastor, Deb Olenyik, along with a picture of her. . . not just a bio, but why & how did she get to Evergreen?

- **Social Media should be given first priority ~ This primarily involves the emc website/ The Happenings.** Facebook (preferably from the Pastor) should also be included, as well as other social media as it is feasible and appropriate.
- **Streaming** of Sunday sermons, Memorial services, weddings & other special events should be adopted. Bill Graf has been spearheading this drive to obtain streaming.

The Membership Team needs to stay involved with the Streaming project, but we realize the following considerations:

- The Trustees must also be involved, since it requires a capital expense in equipment which must also be maintained.
- Technical talent for this project may involve individuals not on the Membership Team.

**Visitor Contact:** Ann Gerteis

Ann (active April & May) & Marlene (active in June) are making calls with good success. Jan Thurling contributed some suggestions for Visitor Contacts which are used by her Methodist Church in Florida, which included a threaded cross bookmark made of golden strands; a small loaf of banana bread is also given to return visitors.; and the customary contact letter/phone calls are made. They appear to do well at Jan's Florida church, and this stimulated some discussion. Ann will go over this with the others at Visitor Contact, and we may revisit giving out microwave popcorn to our visitors (we had the ushers give it out during the service, while introducing the recipients in the past, a practice which was considered quite successful).

**New Business:** **Should we revive Retention of Members?** This discussion by necessity involves the new preacher ~ knowing the congregation will be, and always must be, a challenge to a new preacher. Who is present and who is missing church may take time to become comfortable knowledge. It may not be appropriate for a woman to show up at each parishioner's door, at least alone, and the following suggestions were offered: At this time, consider reopening the Dinners for Eight (or its equivalent), or use Shepherding Groups (based on geographic areas) to introduce the new pastor.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:54 pm.

Our next meeting will at **6 pm on Thursday, May 24, 2018.**

Terry Vogt

