

Advocates for Justice
September 19, 2017
Minutes

Members present were Terry McIntosh, Martha DiCicco, Roger Williams, Karin Delaney, Judy Stout, Larry and Kay Jones

Kay opened the meeting with a reading from the Reconciling Ministries newsletter.

The upcoming Welcoming Statement meeting was discussed and plans made.

The meeting will be Oct. 28 from 8:45 to noon. We will arrive at 7:45 to prepare coffee and set up cookies and fruit. We will come on Friday afternoon at 4 p.m. to set up the classrooms to be used for the small groups.

John Stewart and his 6 facilitators will lead the process for the initial meeting and small groups.

Judy will reserve the rooms we will be using.

Kay will make a sign-up sheet for the Ask Me desk.

Judy has invited the facilitating team to lunch after and anyone who wants to go will be welcome to join them.

Rev. Steve will announce that all LGBTQ people are welcome at our church and that this is non-debatable.

The three questions which will be discussed in the small groups are:

1. Why (or why not) is it important for FUMC to have a welcoming statement?
2. Have you had a relationship (family, friend, co-worker, etc) or interaction with a person from the LGBTQ community? If so, what can you tell us about it?
3. Is it important to specifically name LGBTQ community in a welcome/inclusive statement? Why or why not?

Kay and Martha have agreed to be scribes for two small groups if needed.

Judy will purchase chart tablets and no-bleed markers and card stock for name tents. She will furnish colored cards for dividing group into smaller groups.

Judy will type up the responses from the chart paper.

The all-church meeting will be advertised in the Oct. Profile, "Windows", and by the Revs from the pulpit. Maybe Steve will mention it in his weekly emails.

Kay reported that she and Sharon Stonecipher have been attending the Sanctuary Coalition Churches meetings which are striving to raise awareness of Sanctuary needs in the community. The Unitarian Church in Ft. Collins will soon be sheltering a person in sanctuary and we can help by being a volunteer, similar to Angel House volunteering, or by making donations to help support the person in sanctuary. Kay will forward an email with more information to the AFJ committee members.

Kay and Sharon have also attended 2 meeting sponsored by Together Colorado which is trying to create a Northern Colorado Hub of churches and interested groups which will act in relationship to resolve commonly identified concerns and problems in their communities.

It is time for the church budget to be set. The committee decided to ask for a budget of \$500 for the upcoming year.

Larry announced the Oct. 6 "Tacos for Texas, Frijoles for Florida" hurricane relief dinner that our church is sponsoring for the community. We hope to serve at least 300 people from the community. Proceeds will be donated to the Colorado Foundation. Tacos, beans, and ice cream sandwiches will be served. The meal will be paid for by donations.

The Sunday Denver Post had an article about a book written by a lady who was raised by the Focus on the Family Community and has come out as lesbian. She attends Highland Hills Church. It was felt she would be a good speaker for our Voices from the Beloved Community.

Karin closed the meeting with prayer.