

## Notes

### New Expressions Dinner Meeting January 5, 2026

Participants: Brad Barber, Donna Waterman, Elizabeth Fulmer, Jennifer Terra, Marianne Kirkland

Early discussion and check in touched on family illness, anxiety and the afterlife.

## Updates

- **Darlene Comingore** = new Session liaison for New Expressions. Welcome!
- Anticipate that DCC will perhaps have a **new pastor** by late spring.
- **Santa Store and Make n Take** had a great debrief session on January 2 that included candle, soap, and bracelet making, including **Diane, Catherine, Jennifer, Marianne, Kathryn, Jazmi, Julie, Alice and Elizabeth**.
- **Parent Cafe** was well attended in January. Plans in the works for a Parent mini-retreat
- **Sacred Space** team had a good meeting on Jan 4. We welcomed **Leticia Page** who is interested in Sacred Space and in perhaps collaborating with **Mike** to offer some vocal/chanting for the meditation. Letitia is also entering a certification program for healing breathwork which could be integrated into the Sacred Space format.
- **New March 13 & October 9 Sacred Space evening (6pm) events planned to coincide with both equinox timing and Davis Art About, which aids in advertising.**
  - **Joe Yun** will discuss these new gatherings with Worship Ministry next week
  - **Elizabeth** will reserve the Sanctuary and ask Emma about contacting the 2nd Friday ArtAbout manager re: publicity
  - **Brenda Mohr** is available to provide singing bowls at the March Friday Sacred Space.

- **Gentle Yoga** returns for 6 Thursdays, Jan 22 - Feb 26, 10-11 a.m. in the Sanctuary, led by **Diane Parro and Jennifer Hogan**.

Grant: **Elizabeth** is in year 2 of the 3-year grant with the Presbytery. She will follow up with **Maria Mar** and **Pastor Wes** as the funding for year 3, which would begin 9/1/26 may be more optimistic than previously thought.

## Discussion

### Drawing In

- We aim to treat dinner guests to this meeting, and continue to identify people to join in this small group planning setting. **Marianne** to invite **Letitia** to the next New Expressions dinner meeting as our guest. Thanks to Elizabeth for her email address. More possible future guests: Bahia Yackzan, Mary Draffan or delegate, Karen Leyse, Anthony Palmere, Sally Grace re advertising, others?
  - Invite some of the facilitators to come share - Jennifer Hogan (yoga), Anna Matthews (Mantra Meditation) Jazmin Diaz (Reiki Bienestar)
- There is a recurring **Poppy Preschool/DCC** meeting with Poppy staff Jenna and Liz.who meet with Brad and Elizabeth. **Donna W** was interested in attending sometime in the future.
- **Brad and Michael** have reserved a table for a Poppy Preschool fundraiser (live, silent, dessert auction 6pm Jan 31. Considering who else to invite who might have some history and good memories: Sandra Lommasson, Brenda Mohr, Joe and Susan Young, Paul and Hope Sippola. Jennifer Terra would like to be at the table. Ball is in Brad's court.
- **Elizabeth** has published the **Jan/Feb program catalog**. It is on the DCC website and in the e-news. The DCC printer was not working last week - once fixed we will print hardcopies to distribute in Narthex.
  - a. **Would anyone be interested in sharing some of the print catalogs around town (Library, Mishkas, Coop, etc?)**

## Ideas for Caring Hearts wish-list

- Join us at a Sacred Space ministry dinner meeting to hear about our ministry and share your ideas (First Mondays at 5:30pm at Symposium Restaurant)
- Sign up to provide refreshments at Sacred Space (8:45am Second Sundays in the Narthex)
- Come join us at New Expressions'
  - Death Café (1<sup>st</sup> Monday 10am in Fireside Room)
  - Sacred Space (2<sup>nd</sup> Sundays 9am)
  - Make and Take Crafts Group (find Elizabeth Fulmer or Marianne Kirkland)
  - Here Together (3pm on Last Sundays in the Fireside Room)
  - Try a Reiki session or sponsor a Reiki scholarship (contact Jennifer Terra)
  - Provide breakfast muffins or fruit for Parent Café (contact Elizabeth Fulmer)
  - Write a thank you card to Purple Tree for providing Coffee Connect
  - Write a thank you to a ministry chair for their dedication and creativity
- Volunteer to bring food to a teen event
- Invent a child or teen to attend Sunday School/Youth Group
- Refresh the flowers at Cathy Speck's memorial tree
- Sign up to participate in Pride worship service
- Supply materials for teens to make friendship bracelets with names for unhoused people
- Event with Cesar Chaves dinner?
- Sign up to be part of Youth ministry/teach Sunday School
- Write a thank you note to readers/lectors (including young people)

## Continued reflections on mental models:

People/Relationships approach

Business approach

Other ways to look at?

**Consider all who interact with DCC to be DCC Community Members and differentiate vested DCC congregation as DCC Congregation Members?**

Aim to have pastor participate in outreach to partners?

Aim to have church within community center not be religious-led?

**Main point: Tell the Story about all of the Good things that are Happening**

**Moment for Mission, Stories to DCC e-news, website**