

Congregational Life Committee Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, April 15th, 2008

The meeting began with a short devotional from Patty Chamberlain. In attendance were Nancy Hall Berens, Jane Ring, Nancy Harper, Nancy McIver, and Dudley Schaderberg. Patty asked if anyone had joys or concerns to share.

Spring Picnic: Ideas were discussed about the upcoming spring picnic on June 8th. We need to plan for between 300-400 people. Nancy HB recalled that some of the previous picnics worked very well when most of the food was already provided (no pot luck). There was much discussion about how we should provide food for this year: catering, potluck or committees providing food. Catering is beyond our budget, and we don't want to charge people for the picnic. The committee decided to have food brought by different group, and Patty will begin to ask different groups to help in providing food. She will also work with Madeline Ramsey. We need to talk with Art Sauer as to where the tents are, and to Jim Buchanan about the number of tables and chairs that the church has. It was stated that the more volunteers we can organize, the better we will be. Patty will work on a poster

We briefly discussed whether we would like to invite the congregation of Agudas to the picnic, but since we won't be providing kosher food, we decided it would not be a good idea. We hope to work with Larry and Rabbi Jack Moline in the winter when we co-host their talks to provide kosher refreshments. .

Palm Sunday Brunch: Attendance was down this year and the committee felt that this was due to the rainy weather as well as the lack of the Palm Sunday donkey. The donkey attracts young families for the brunch and Nancy told us that Casey already plans to have the donkey back next year. There was also a consensus that 9:15 was too early to begin the breakfast which was done to accommodate an adult education class and a new members class. Next year the brunch will be from 9:30-10:30.

MOW: Dudley reported that the Men of Westminster continue to have a breakfast the second Friday of every month at 7:00 a.m. The committee recommended that the Men advertise the speakers for the breakfasts in the Chronicle if they would like to attract more attendees. Dudley also reported that the Men had an outstanding retreat.

Coffee Hour: Nancy HB updated us on the openings she has for upcoming coffee hours. We will try and help her fill them in.

Calendar: Nancy HB passed out a Calendar of all church events and group events for 2008-09.

Faith Groups: Jane Ring updated the committee that two faith groups continue to be well supported and well attended. They will continue in the fall

Living Healthy: Jane Ring reported that the group is meeting weekly and that Clara Beth Van der Water is now the liaison.

Workday: Nancy McIver showed us the animals and pillows her committee makes for pediatric and cardiac patients at Alexandria Inova. The animals give some love to children, and the pillows help the cardiac patients when they have to cough.

Flying Solos: Nancy H announced that the Flying Solos will be going to the North Carolina beach in late June. They have 8-10 people attending. They are going to the Ramsey's home which they purchased in the Youth Auction.

The meeting was closed by Patty with a short prayer.

Next meeting, May