

Christian Education Committee
Thursday, November 8, 2007
7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Eileen Denne, Nancy Hall Berens, Patrick Hunnicutt, Clara Beth Van de Water, Elizabeth O'Brien

Welcome

Eileen Denne welcomed everyone to the meeting and offered the opening prayer.

Child Protection Policy - CE Perspective

The committee discussed the National Capital Presbytery Policy of requiring six months of membership prior to allowing new members to teach preschool and Sunday school. While the policy makes sense from an insurance and liability perspective, we would also like to quickly invite new members to be part of the worshipping and volunteer community.

Committee members agreed that as long as the new member can be vetted with recommendations from current members, we will be acting responsibly. Eileen suggested that Nancy and Casey get together to draft the policy for the CE Committee, as there is currently no official policy of the Session. Eileen will follow up to arrange for a meeting with Nancy and Casey during the week of Nov. 26.

2007 Budget – Actuals and 2008 Projections

The committee reviewed the Year-to-Date 3rd quarter actual budget, as well as the projected 2008 budget for Children's Education, Youth Education and Adult Education. For the most part, staff members said they would be spending the amounts allocated for 2007, and requested the same amount for 2008. The committee suggested that the Library budget be moved into its own category, and that the \$300 added to Adult program for 2007 for Young Adults and Singles be moved to its own line item.

Eileen will forward requests to Admin. and Finance prior to the Nov. 28 Session meeting.

Updating WPC website

Members discussed the content on the current website and talked about the CE Committee's recommended changes. Patrick will request that there be only one section for Youth Program information, instead of one that links from the home page and one that links from CE. Staff will update pages as needed and provide the information directly to Brian.

Fall Programs and Program Needs

Adult Ed- Clara Beth reported that new classes had started on Nov. 4 – a parenting class and Ken Bohler on Mormonism. She was still looking for a speaker on the Pentecostal church.

Youth- Patrick said that the Youth dinner and Silent auction raised \$11,500. He has about \$700 left in the decorating budget for Youth Rooms and planned to purchase a new LCD projector and DVD player.

Children's Ministries- Nancy reported starting the transition to Casey. They hired a new nursery worker, Shannon Dye, to replace Queenie. Barbara has requested a microwave to heat bottles and other things. Nancy planned to create an instruction sheet for parents to sign. Elizabeth suggested that we revisit the food allergy policy as well. Casey will plan Advent activities.

Christmas Pageant and Dinner

Prior to the Christmas dinner on Dec. 9, Casey and Paul will organize the traditional Christmas pageant for children and then a short opera. The dinner will start at 5:45 p.m. Congregation Life members are volunteering to help with collecting fees for the meal - \$10 Adults, \$3.00 for ages 6 and under. They will also help with set up, serving and clean-up. The committee decided to use the china plates for the dinner.

Next Meeting: Thursday, December 13, 2007

The next meeting of the Christian Education Committee will be on Thursday, December 13. Eileen invited members to come to her house at 6:30 p.m. for dinner and a short meeting.

Closing Prayer

Patrick gave the closing prayer and the meeting was adjourned.

Christian Education Committee
Thursday, September 13, 2007
7:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Minutes of the Meeting

Members Present: Eileen Denne, Nancy Hall Berens, Patrick Hunnicutt, Clara Beth Van de Water, Elizabeth O'Brien

Welcome

Eileen Denne welcomed committee members and opened the meeting with a prayer.

Sept. 9 Follow-up

The committee discussed the Sept. 9 Community Fair and how it went for each of the groups represented. Clara Beth said that the Adult Ed table got more individuals who signed up for the Christian Believer class. Only a few stopped by the Youth and Children's Ministries tables to talk. At the Open House in the afternoon that day there was a good crowd and about 18 people did go upstairs to see Creation Station. About 35 Youth attended the Pancake Breakfast that morning and there were about 100 altogether including parents and siblings.

Sept. 16 Expectations

The committee then turned to the September 16 Volunteer Fair and what needed to be done prior to the fair. Nancy said that she had leftover giveaways to hand out, and had a sign up sheet prepared for volunteers. Patrick said he would bring one of the Youth T-shirts to show. For refreshments, Eileen said she would bring Teddy Grahams and M & Ms, and Nancy said she would bring popcorn down from Creation Station.

Fall Programs and Program Needs

Nancy talked about Children's Ministries and recruiting for the future. She said she would write up the rules and checklist for all the volunteers in Creation Station. Patrick described an online curriculum for Middle School that Nancy and Doug Todd are teaching. The Goodwins hosted confirmation orientation for 9th graders. In Adult Ed, Clara Beth said that the Bruce Douglas class was well-attended and the New Testament class had about 6 people.
Youth

Christmas Pageant

The committee discussed organizing a Congregational dinner following the Children's Christmas Pageant. Eileen said she would call Linda Harkness of Tasteful Affairs Catering to check on availability. Publicity would need to go in the Chronicle by November 7, with reservations to be made by family on Nov. 25 and Dec. 2. Nancy said the Congregational Life Committee could probably help with set-up, clean up and decorations. The Pageant will include costumes again this year, and any one can take party. Molly Roden and Paul Stetsenko are planning to do an opera piece. Timing for the pageant is 5 p.m., with dinner following at 5:30 p.m.

Update on Director of Children's Ministries Search

Elizabeth reported that the search for the new Director of Children's Ministries is moving forward.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, October 11, at 7 p.m.

Closing Prayer

Patrick offered the closing prayer and the meeting was adjourned.