

BUMC Transition Task Force

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, June 4, 2008

Present: Mary Kotnik, Jeff Hastings, Janet Kleckner, Carol Wilson, Marc Vincent, Bob Lundholm, Alan Scheufler, Joy McGuire, Karen Oehl, Don Krolikowski, Stacy Parker

Sorely Missed: Cathy Buttolph, Kathy Decker, Bob Jaite, Janine Telischak, Betsy Wooster, Lisa Drew

Next meeting: Wednesday, July 2, 7:30 p.m., Room 301

I. Call to Order/Opening Prayer

Alan opened the meeting at 7:35 p.m. with prayer.

II. Approval of Minutes

The minutes from our March meeting were reviewed and approved as written.

III. Education Committee Plans

Commission on Education prepared a document detailing their plans for the 2008-09 program year with regards to birth – 6th grade and adult education. Marc noted that a subcommittee on building usage found that we have more available space than was originally thought. COE is working to place classes in a logical order in order to keep young children in close proximity and avoid forcing older congregants to attend classes on the 4th floor.

There was brief discussion as to why Sunday school doesn't start until the 2nd week of September. The reasons largely have to do with the fact that so many folks vacation during August that it's very difficult to disseminate information and get kids registered until the first Sunday of September. Questions were answered about the movement of kids from Sprouts (children's worship) to Sunday school. Karen also shared additional details about plans for Senior High Sunday school and the fact that there would be additional separation between Junior & Senior High. She also gave additional details about Confirmation: it will be a less involved 6-week program, curriculum is still up in the air, activities will be *encouraged* as part of Middle School programming instead of *required* as part of Confirmation.

Overall, Marc shared how excited COE is about the transition. The committee overall expressed their thanks for such excellent documentation and planning on the part of COE.

IV. Worship News

The hospitality team has been attached to the worship committee according to the logic that worship committee is responsible for the Sunday morning experience. In structure, the hospitality team will function similarly to the current ushering teams. There will be a captain for each Sunday of the month (we'll figure out 5th Sundays), and those captains will be asked to attend worship committee meetings.

Worship Committee will oversee recruiting, the office will keep track of weekly volunteers, and worship committee together with hospitality captains will focus more on tailoring our weekly efforts to fit specifics of that week's worship. There was a strong consensus among the TTF that this is a great idea and an excellent direction for the worship committee.

There was brief discussion about worship style in the fall. Joy shared a little perspective on the styles we currently employ and her projection for the blend this fall. This may need to be discussed further at a later date, particularly in light of marketing the services. Ultimately, we have to be flexible and be prepared to make adjustments.

V. Marketing Team

Marc started out by stating that the marketing team may need to go back to the "why" of this transition and be prepared to share with the congregation the many positive reasons for this change: added flexibility, family worship, importance of having young people in worship.

Regarding parking, Jeff is waiting for a call from the chief of police regarding the allowance of Sunday morning left turns out front. He is holding off on asking for a crosswalk until this is settled. It was remarked that fewer cars have been in the lot recently – perhaps due in part to gas prices? We need to clearly identify and market parking alternatives. We will also make sure that someone is assessing the parking situation for the first weeks of the fall, even if a parking attendant is not a permanent fixture. Again, "regulars" need to be encouraged to park further away.

In general, this will be a drip marketing campaign. A lot of information needs to be distilled and released in a variety of ways. This is also an opportunity to get some publicity into the community via radio, magazines, papers, etc.

VI. Fellowship Hour

Discussion tabled until we see the finished lobby after renovation.

As a final note, Stacy mentioned the need for better usage of the attendance data we gather. We need to do a better job of marketing to target groups and perhaps find ways to follow up with those who are missing. It is clear that the office HAS all of the necessary data – it's just a matter of getting that information into the right hands. Stacy volunteered to learn some of the workings of ACS for the purposes of tracking data. Karen also reminded us that we should ALL be making phone calls if we see that folks are missing from worship.

Karen closed in prayer and the meeting was adjourned at @ 9:02 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Joy McGuire
6/13/08