

**Evangelism Committee  
Brecksville United Methodist Church  
February 8, 2010**

In attendance: Ruby Ludwig, Becky Gezze, Dave Podolny, Karen Oehl, Kathy Goebel, Craig Czarnota, Doug Huth

Ongoing business:

Visitor contacts continue, no news.

Nancy Cunningham is to be added to the Special People list. Keep sending cards. Still working on sign for welcome table.

New business:

**Alpha.** There was a good turnout for the interest/information meeting about Alpha. The visitors from St. Basil's showed a lot of enthusiasm, which was catching. That being said, we'd like to move forward at running a pilot Alpha program this spring, this time for people in our church to experience it, before we start inviting others.

Tentative dates and times: Sunday evenings, April 11-June ? 5:00-7:30. Retreat on May 22, on which day you do 3 sessions.

Alpha tasks for Evangelism Committee members

Kendall—spiritual side; questions, opening, presentations (by DVD this time)

Becky—table leaders, one training session for them before we begin

Dave—promotions

Craig—meals, child care, music

**Evangelism Sunday.**

With the heartfelt encouragement and involvement of Dave Podolny, Pastor Karen has planned worship on March 14 as a special day to emphasize the gospel message and invite the congregation to make or renew their commitment to Christ. The scripture for the day emphasizes forgiveness, and the main story is the story of the man with two sons, or the loving father (also known as the prodigal son story, but we are emphasizing the father's role). There will be a time in the service for people to come forward in recognition of a new level of commitment, and perhaps some other features of invitation and special love for each other. Dave Podolny will share his testimony.

How the committee can help:

Start praying for the effectiveness of this worship now!

Consider being a prayer partner with someone that day who would like to talk about their commitment. (Stationed in sanctuary during service, with follow up afterwards, perhaps.)

Chapel prayer support during worship.

This will be discussed in more detail at the March 8 meeting.

**Chrysalis**—pray for 2 attending from this church this weekend. One has some health concerns. (Note as minutes were transcribed: they did not end up attending as one withdrew because of health and the other did not choose to go alone.)

**Missing folks**—we will resume the practice of asking the office for people we've not seen for a few weeks so that we can follow up with calls.

**New members**—next class will be in June, with classes beginning at the end of May. Evangelism is still very interested in helping to facilitate and support sessions, especially the one on getting involved in the church and spiritual gifts inventories.

**Spiritual retreat**—Still considering dates. Probably not spring, because of Alpha, so maybe some time in the summer.

**Easter visitors**—thinking of a way to greet them as we did at Christmas with the candy canes. Daffodils? Dave's suggestion for the label was "He is risen. He is coming again. Why don't you?"

**Fellowship meal on Maundy Thursday.** Jenny and Karen are working on a program, Evangelism can help with the meal.

**Next meeting: March 8, 2010, 6:00 pm.**