

Membership Committee Meeting Minutes

January 10, 2019

Participants: Rev. Jim McConnell, Lisa Fuller and Joanne Krettek

Minutes Submitted by: Joanne Krettek

1. March 23rd UU AllComers and March 24th Ingathering Service

- Emphasize the UU AllComers dinner is for EVERYONE, mention from the pulpit and in the Announce, we want members and friends to get to know each other.
- How many dinners do we want this spring? UU AllComers in March, Anniversary Dinner in April. Do we want to combine the Pledge Dinner and Cabaret and hold these in May? How about May 18? Let's get board input.
- We will plan the menu and chefs, speakers, etc. at our next meeting in February.

2. Circle Suppers

- Joan is getting a jump start on these, planning a Circle Supper in January and inviting BUUF members who live in Bridgman to her house.
- The larger intent of these suppers is to bring together people who wouldn't ordinarily get together on their own. Participants would typically sign up and be matched more or less randomly to a group.
- We discussed the possibility of providing child care and decided we do not have the resources at this time.
- We will discuss more of the Circle Supper mechanics at our next meeting in February. We are working on so many initiatives right now and we don't want to lose focus.

3. Service Greeters

- Let's move the name tags into the hallway and print out new nametags for all regular attendees featuring the 60th Anniversary BUUF logo. Attach the name tags to lanyards so they are easier to wear. Lisa will look into the cost of buying lanyards. Jim will consider how to build hooks into the hallway wall for hanging lanyards.
- Greeters to greet attendees and remind them to wear their name tags. Ideally, children can help adults as greeters.
- Use stick-on name tags for the anniversary dinner to minimize costs.

4. Attracting New Visitors

- We don't really have a Marketing Committee at the current time.
- How do we use the new BUUF video for marketing purposes? (Discuss at February meeting. Also review the BUUF website at February meeting.)

- Lisa wants to focus on whole congregation worship and improving our music program in order to attract new members. Let's also start setting up more chairs in the sanctuary so it's apparent we have room for new guests and visitors.
- Let's also do a better job of incorporating children into the service. Have children light the chalice and lead the chalice lighting words. Have them lead the Change-for-Change introduction and collect the change. Children to also lead the affirmation. Jim will start the process with future services, inviting children to light the chalice and assist with these other parts of the service.
- Jim suggested opening up the Parents' Night Out event to friends of members. This would require a more structured approach to the event, with parents filling out forms with contact information at the time of drop-off, an insurance coverage review, etc. We will explore this idea further at future meetings.

5. **BUUF Breakfasts**

- Jim indicated regular Sunday morning breakfasts were a key element to helping his previous fellowship grow exponentially. He would serve breakfast weekly and charge a minimal amount per meal, with kids eating free. This helped build community and led to the generation of new ideas for growth and ministry.
- BUUF may want to introduce a monthly breakfast (on a different week than the potluck and board meetings). Again, let's revisit at our next committee meeting.
- Joanne raised the possibility of making this a fundraiser, but that is not the initial intent of this program.