

Meeting Jan 23

Att. – Rony, Anita, Jean, Ken, Anita, David, Margaret, Jim, Carter, Jen, Jane, Peggy, Mike, Nancy (part)

Jim/Community Dinner – revisit next month

SOS – Fern. Just finished, went well. Suffered from lack of enough volunteers/burnout issues. Universal feeling - Clawson experienced this in Oct. when they hosted; Mike – discussion about restructuring @ Ferndale next year. Has had conversations with Austin about combining our services, giving more freedom and flexibility. Need to decide by mid-year. Austin is willing to work on that goal. Clawson considering their SOS future, seeing as how some are pulling out of volunteering. Suggestion to combine three weeks into 2. Could stay in Jan. since there are no big church events that month. Clawson may already be signed up for Oct. date, but may be able to switch and be part of our group. Maybe we make COOP nights in Oct. to help Clawson.

Discussion on coordinating back-to-back weeks next year: Berkley needs more people to stay the night through the week. Future note - Relay that someone from that church is there, someone who knows the building, but can we can always use other volunteers. Ferndale can offer classrooms right there for workshops, pressures for SOS needs. Utility expenses shared between coop churches. Nancy – coordinators meeting extremely close to announcing new offices. Not in residential area. SOS hesitant to do as one long term facility due to the need for a “lack of too much comfort” for guests, but Austin said possible 2 week stint instead of 4. Transport between 2 UMC that knows each other and volunteers more plentiful in host church. This would require us planning way in advance and coordinating all coop involvement.

Decision - Dry run to get volunteers (in Aug.) for Oct at Clawson. Nancy suggests get coop day early in week so they feel comfortable later in the week ; Berkley asking to have our week moved up, arrange for coop days with Clawson. We'll revisit March/April mtg. Embry has helped out with meals for other SOS but wants to help, maybe get 2 people from each church go to visit and get involved.

Companions in Christ – Carter and Rony will meet, revisit

Stephens Ministry program –Rochester St. Paul's. Waiting to hear back to see if they are interested in the idea. Clarification that this is a Counseling ministry, a listening ear type of thing, not transportation or elderly care.

Stewardship workshops – Peggy shared a list of workshops for stewardship. No cost to trainer, except transportation (from Grand Rapids); full day 3-4 sessions possible, half day 1-2 sessions. See if enough interest in steward ship financial

training. **Date Chosen – March 26, 2 workshops in am. at Ferndale.**

Stewardship teams, finance, leadership teams, but anyone included. Carter and David will work on picking training programs. Peggy will check times, transportation costs, let Mike know AV, room needed, etc.

Lay Speaker Roster – David sent letters to lay people from Directory, requesting pics bio, etc. Mike needs one, didn't receive one. Isaac from Clawson needs one.

Basically we want a brief paragraph with themes they like preaching on, a picture of them, what they're about. No response yet, but went out last week.

Coop worship service – Apr. 24 is Easter; Discussion to have a Sunday evening service celebration, maybe get Duane to preach; With Change the World Sunday and Duane's retirement May 15 and Memorial Day/Mother's Day, May is tight; June 5th possible date. Cooperative message – group sermon, praise teams, Get team together to help plan, mass choir, something unique to each church. Rony will contact Duane to see if he's interested. We can then go to planning stage. We REALLY need to market the coop to parishes so we can get good attendance.

UPDATE: Duane has agreed to preach on June 5th.

New Business–

Carter – would like to schedule a spiritual gifts study for congregations “Equipt for Every Good Work.” Thought of a 4 session study, could be two days or 4 weeks. Aim for fall, before charge conferences. Need to do it again, if we haven't done it recently. Will revisit at later meeting.

Jane –

“Change the world/recovering the message and mission of Jesus” by Mike Slaughter. Heard him speak, resonated with her and bought DVD/book. It is designed to be a 4 week study or for a weekend. Presented and had discussion about first lesson. Video geared toward “What is your church known for?” More important to send out into world, not thousands who want to be entertained. Does this lend itself to study for workshop or for us? Decision made to not move forward as coop Bible study simply due to time. However, it did get a discussion moving about Change the World Sunday.

With Change the World day, UMC wants us outside of our walls and show what the UMC is doing in the communities. Looking for us all having a commitment to do something. May 14/15 – list of service things, some cancel worship to do these service projects. World changing idea, call to mission, stop getting world into the church and start getting church into the world. Not just us doing mission, but getting community involved/engaged as well.

Need groups to get activities for mission. Maybe get ideas for mission, outreach in our own communities. Go back to congregations and brainstorm ideas for us to use

as outreach. Then we can plan and tell days and work/mission opportunities.
Berkley CROP walk is on May 15th.

Announcements -

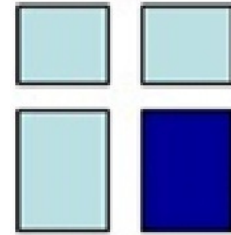
No contact from other churches originally invited to Coop. Hazel park members came for advent study came to Berkley, talked up coop , but others not very enthusiastic. MH interested in past, but need to have info. Add Alexis Dunmire to mailing for meeting reminders.

Bible on Broadway next week, biblical based musicals, 30th

Rev. Melanie Carey will be new supt.

Mike has created a "logo" for us to use. Shared a picture for us to think about, will email it also.

 Southeast Oakland Cooperative
of United Methodist Churches



Feb. meeting – Feb. 13th 4:00pm @Clawson