

Meeting – March 13 at Ferndale

In attendance – Rony, Ken, Joan, Anita, Jim, Sam, Margaret, Jean S. from Madison Heights, Peggy, David. Many unable to attend due to Lay Speaker training.

Opened in prayer by Nancy

*Stewardship training – Coming up Saturday, March 26. Estimated attendance - 10 ferndale, 4 Beverly Hills, 2 Berkley, 6 from Embury, 3-4 Clawson

At Ferndale, in social hall, volunteers providing light breakfast so all churches do not have to provide. Pastors bringing \$40 for Ferndale to write one check; write to Ferndale UMC; breakfast at 9, then two sessions. AV set up – probably bringing his own computer and projector, but Peggy will check and get back to Mike. Tell everyone to park behind or across the street (LeRoy) and come in buzzer door. Any changes in number of people, contact Ann Marie in Ferndale office with numbers of attendance.

*Change the World weekend – looking at Sat., May 15

Berkley – CROP walk

Ferndale – trying to get ideas

Clawson – someone working on gardening/environment

Madison Hgts – people can come help get our community garden up and running. Doing CROP in May, but don't know the day. Deliza is contact person for garden. Jen will email her to see if this can be offered at Co-op activity. Got big donations from nursery last year, giving things away, so could really use it well to share.

Carter (through Peggy) – St. Johns has garden plots possibilities, mentioned in passing, but not sure if they wanted it as a possibility.

Could write article for the Patch, newspapers, UM Advocate

Beverly Hills – community started and supported a community garden with 40 plots on church property; residents came to them about starting garden, church filling in the empty spaces. 30 committed residents and seeing about filling the rest. David's wife is on the BH planning board. Also can do beautification.

Madison Heights has electric sign so don't need banner.

Decisions? - times, availability, what they want to done at each location. Jen will email churches involved and get details. All done by Apr. 4 to get publicity done, articles, newsletters; Mike does flyer :P And will mass email for community publicity. All will publicize in our churches. Stay tuned for updates.

*June 5 Coop Celebration Service. Duane will preach. Ferndale's choir director (Joe Rush) and George from Berkley First willing to help; lead person?. Jane has Joe Rush's information but email is jvrpwr@aol.com 248.420.3023 cell

Any musicians – praise teams, soloists, drum groups, instrumentalists, try to recruit;
Location? Consider parking, sanctuary size, etc. Clawson has offered – but need to check on graduation with high school.

Focus – year since coop started – celebration of what we've done , pictures, Clawson has AV possibilities – have volunteers for slide presentations. Need afterglow refreshments, *plan next time. NEED PICTURES-stewardship day, habitat, change the world day, SOS sharing, Talked about service being child friendly – Ferndale has foster care agency project of bringing stuffed animals, paraded up the aisle and collected for “ticket in”; must be new.

Together we can do more is our motto/theme. Reflect on what we've done, and what's to come. Peggy said kids choir director mentioned one song from Lion King 2 that fits theme, maybe mass choir sing as kids march in. Peggy will look for title.

Time – evening, 6:30 pm.

Committee to plan– Peggy, Rony, Jen, Margaret, anyone else? Time frame for meeting April 7, 2:00 pm at Clawson

*Summer pulpit exchange – tabled for next time; clergy needs to figure out logistics.

*Fall event – Spiritual gifts study, Carter; Will discuss next meeting

*Stephens Ministry groups – county group (Carolyn Carlson, Warren First) looking at training for churches with too small a congregation. Jean S. will look into. Idea revisited about care receiver from one church could have listener from another congregation; anonymous. Would get coop people from each church to continue at monthly meetings. Training needs a lot of people, so this would be ideal. Jean will let me know any info about training. Get coop group together to offer assistance. Jean shared some having more care givers than care receivers. Could offer to community not just church members. Need a chance to talk to someone once a week for free, vent, needs are there.

New Business –

*Nancy – Trustees from Berkley asked if anyone else contacted about insurance issues/liability when groups use buildings. Yoga at Ferndale, up to \$5000 liability based on conversation with their insurance co. Participants sign waiver. Conference trustees – many different companies, union now offers one like bcbs group insurance. Ferndale clergy assoc. – Presbyterian Church says group/person is a licensee, not a renter. Rony will get more info. for us. Jean S. suggested calling Brent Webster conference trustee president, stats person.

*Child Worker Certification - what are people doing about certification of education/care people who work with children? Ferndale has child protection policy, tailored from conference/district stuff. Conference person came in for training, does background checks;
**Good idea for coop to do certification together through conference. Rony gave Nancy their program, tailored to smaller church. Maybe do this in fall when we all are getting ready to do Sunday School again. David – conference office has point person who receives applications, verifications. He will get the name so we can get names of trainers. Need this certification for district events, camp, etc. CE at Ferndale is trained to teach this certification so maybe can do for coop. This is mandatory by conference.

Announcements –

Lenten programs at Clawson – starting Sun. 20, potluck and program

April 10 – original Christian musicians

Peggy will email stuff to Ken and Mike; Sacred Breath Lenten study Thursday mornings at Clawson.

Every Mon. of Lent at Ferndale, 6 pm, music and mediation different each time, followed by meal at 6:30. 5-5:45 reflection discussion/study with Rony.

Berkley has Lenten Study on Thursday, March 31 and April 14, soup supper 6:30, study 7:00

Berkley has Community Easter Egg Hunt April 23 at 10:00 am for ages 10 and younger.

Sam closed in prayer

Next Meeting – 4:00, April 10 Madison Hgts. 11 mile, 1 block east John R

If you're interested in planning Celebration Service, meet at Clawson on April 7 at 2:00