

Cooperative Meeting Minutes – August 14, 2011

Attended by: Peggy Garrigues, John Ptasznik, Sam Carter, Dot Carter, Anita Brown, Jim Brown, Jim Thompson, Rony Veska, David Huseltine, Ken Dowell, Alice Tucker, Margaret Buccini, Joan Allison, Jen Butka (late) Noted that Mike Cadotte was visiting his father today who is not doing well.

David opened meeting with prayer; Introductions

1. Discussion about Co-op Worship on June 5
Service was a success. Many good comments. Offering collected \$314 for retiring DS, Duane Miller, given to Liberia Fund. \$314 for co-op. 82 stuffed animals collected for Orchard Children's Services. General agreement was to make this an annual event.
2. Winter Retreat
Saturday, Jan. 7-Sunday, Jan. 8, 2012 @ Skyline Center, Almont.
\$72 adults, \$36 ages 6-10. Includes lodging and 3 meals **If we have 52 people.
Faith Fowler is our speaker. Nancy will work with Ken to create flyer.
3. Child Protection Training
Roxanne Kohler from Hazel Park is willing to lead this training. Date SET for Saturday, September 17 from 9:30-11:30 at Oak Park Faith UMC. All volunteers who work with children must go through this training, so contact all members from congregations who need to attend.
4. VBS
Feedback and follow up. Some sharing between materials, but timing meant that more churches had already purchased items or needed to purchase more. Ferndale mentioned putting door hangers out.
5. SOS
Clawson scheduled for Oct. 2-9; Embury will help. Ferndale scheduled or Jan. 8-15 if they get enough volunteers. Berkley dates TBD, January.
6. Mission Trips
Discussion about possibilities of youth mission trips. Berkley shared about STAGE – ecumenical youth group offers jr. and sr. high mission trips, but may not do it this coming summer.
Discussion to do only on spring break.
Clawson youth have been involved with Big Beaver UMC in Troy, could initially combine with them.

New Discussion:

- Jim Thompson reintroduced the possibility of a Bible Study offered through the co-op. Maybe a discipleship or covenant disciple group. Others shared that Bible study attendance is dwindling at all churches. St. Johns offers program that has no set curriculum, simply read and talk at the moment. Ferndale has a Sisters class that includes DVD, lunch and fellowship. Maybe start with “receptive” times (lent, advent). Discussion about people committing to class, one church/one leader OR rotating campus/rotating pastor or leader.
 - Decision made to hold co-op sponsored Advent study this year. Curricular decision made at later date. The only way to test this is to do it. Important to remember morning and evening times. Ferndale asked we avoid Monday evenings.
 - Everyone must discuss best day/time with members of our congregations; possibly Sundays after church with brown bag lunch. Lots of possibilities, allowing 90 minutes for class.
- January Retreat Money needs to be turned in early October. (Is this deposit or all attending? Not sure) John and Nancy will create flyer.
- Spiritual gift workshop discussion tabled until Carter is able to give some direction.

NEXT MEETING – Sunday, September 18, 4:00 at Clawson