

Congregational Life Shared Ministry Meeting
Wednesday, April 26, 2023
1:30pm

In attendance: Lisa, Robin, Jodi & Melissa

Gifts of gratitude given to the Shared Ministry Team~ **THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU DO!!**

Next Meeting Dates: OOOPS!!!! ??????

(Dates need to be chosen for next meetings)

Shared Ministry Update: Jodi

- **KUDOS to Erika!!! Great job on revamping the ENEWS with Buttons that hold the information!**
- **Budget line added for Tupper Suppers, unknown amount until Pledge Drive is complete.**

Membership: Melissa

- As of last meeting (Nov 2022) 33 new members
- Melissa updated Pathway to Membership videos during winter months. Visitors/Interested in joining church view videos, then meet as a group prior to a New Member Sunday, for Get to know UU/Coffee & Conversation
- Current Membership = 409
- New Member Cocktail/Mocktail Reception, (RESCHEDULED to JUNE 6th)
- **Great increase of visitors each Sunday.**

Chalice Circles/ Small Group Ministry: Melissa

- 60 participants, 7 Chalice Circle Facilitators
- Soul Matters "Creativity" Packet projects on display in hearth room for the month of May
- **Sara Felts moving to Stillwater, MN**

Walden Hill Wednesdays: Melissa

- Week #2 Team Leader, Jack Weber, moved to Washington
- Last Walden Hill Wednesday Dinner, May 24th
- Budget line added for Tupper Suppers for next church year

Fellowship: Robin

- Creative Arts Series, Started in May, 2022 booked through Dec 2023
- **Friday, February 12 ~ Armchair Travelers.** Deb and Mark Mowry shared their European Capital Cruise Tour on Zoom. We had 21 people in attendance, including one from Arizona. (T/Y sent)
- **Saturday, February 13 ~ The Intergenerational Valentine Dance**, hosted by the WHY, was well-attended and sparked interest in doing it again.

- **Tuesday, March 7 ~ Tuesday \$5 matinee** of the award-winning “Women Talking” was hosted by the Bjorgums at Marcus Theatre. Nine people attended.
- **Friday, March 12 ~ Armchair Travelers.** Angie Joyce and Kim Edson presented on their trip to Yellowstone: America’s First National Park, enjoyed by 30 people.
- **Sunday, March 26 ~ The All-Birthday Potluck**, attended by 85. Melissa did the general decorating and the 12 tables were adopted by different decorators.
- **Friday, March 31 ~ Trivia Night in the Commons**, hosted by Angie Joyce, attracted 10 people, despite the storms passing through.
- **Saturday, April 8 ~ Artist’s tour of her exhibit**, “The Nexus of Wellbeing and Art,” with Anne Labovitz at the Rochester Art Center. 15 UUs attended. The tour was free with the \$5 admission to the gallery.
- **Friday, April 14 ~ Armchair Travelers** presented “Hawaii’s Natural Beauty” with Heidi Shriver, with 28 people in attendance, despite the incredible weather outside.
- **Thursday, May 11 ~ Foreverwell Sitting Meditation** at noon at the Rochester Art Center (free).
- **Going Forward??**
 - ~Robin will be stepping down from focusing on Fellowship, but will continue to organize the Armchair Travelers Series.
 - ~Suggestion of asking Deb Mowry to take over, helping to plan one fellowship event per month.
 - ~Fellowship suggestions: Summer picnic, Movie night in Sanctuary, Down by the Riverside Concerts, Pizza at Squash Blossom Farm, Marine Art Museum trip, Kinstone trip.
 - Suggestion of a Fellowship Brainstorming Forum (Talked to Luke, and all spots are filled for the year, but we can add it for the first few in FALL)

Hospitality: Melissa/Robin

- Hospitality Circle Leaders/Teams Update
Going well, and not a problem to fill roles if open spot.
 - Some team leaders have expressed frustration that people aren’t signing up. ~”Anxiety from some team leaders that there are open spots for hospitality”
Discussed that it’s okay if spots are not filled, and that some leaders feel better when their Sunday is full, others do not have issue with it and are good with asking. It was mentioned that with asking people to fill in at the last minute, it may create a non-welcoming feel.
 - Schedule potluck for Circle Leaders and their Teams
~Melissa will share dates for a Circle Leader SALAD Potluck to share updates on how things are going with them, and we will recognize those who have volunteered in a different way (not sure yet what that is!!)

- Roxanne suggested making small “May Baskets” and recruiting newer members for hospitality Circle Teams.

~Melissa will accept her offer and encourage all Circle Team Leaders to be there to help recruit new members, May 7th, Maypole Day

As leaders accepted this role, they knew that they would need to recruit members for their teams.

- Circle Teams continuing on through Summer.
Weekly leaders will choose who will do the 10am service.
- 3rd Sunday Circle Team Leader, Emily Morgan, in treatment in Florida for an undetermined amount of time. Other leaders or members have filled in.

Additional:

- **Suggestion that there be an announcement from Luke regarding hospitality roles on Sunday. “Please check your calendars and sign up for a hospitality role if your Sunday allows!”**
- **Suggestion of a “Getting Connected Fair” Would be good as we gather back together in the fall.**
- **The upcoming events will now be scrolling on the monitors now that they are repaired.**
- **Can we go back to putting the hymnals on the chairs instead of our Ushers handing them out? No, Luke likes them handed out.**
The screen will be available sometimes, but we will not be using it 100% of the time like we did during Covid.

Next Meeting Dates: ???? OOOPS

Melissa gone

May 19-22, 2023

June 4, 2023

Sept 9-26th

Robin gone:

MAY 3-8, 2023

June 2-13, 2023

July 3-11th, 2023

Lisa Gone:

July 23-Aug 2nd, 2023

Later August

Jody Gone:

May 4-7th, 2023

Later August

Chalice Lighting for “Businessy” Meetings

Li Kynvi

**Amidst the paperwork and preparation—
Amidst the emails and emotions—
Amidst the getting it done and the pressure of time—**

**Can we find a little space for lifting our heads in wonder—
that we’re still here
still striving
still trying
together**

**Can we find—hearts accepting all the complexity—
space for falling a little bit in love with this faith
again
—with its tenacity
its capacity
even its audacity
space to hold what we still believe is possible
without hiding it behind disclaimers
that attempt to shield our hope from cynical critique**

**Can we enter this workspace
with a felt sense of our deepest values
and the ways we can liberate them to humanize
the processes and forms
of our decisions and actions,
our structures and governance?**

**We light our chalice in hope that we center love and relationship,
creativity and community as we meet
In hope that we can invite into our own hearts
and into this space between us
so much obvious respect and spacious grace that**

**—no matter what happens here—
we emerge connected.**

