

## MINUTES for R.E. Committee Meeting

February 25, 2024

Present: Carol Antoniewicz, Janet Ady, Aaron Hansley, Daisha Hansley, Melissa Rosenberger, Janah Maresca, Carol Gosnell, Lisa Bromfield, Carl Gregg

- ❖ Committee - Build a core committee of 5 – 7 members with meetings open to everyone
  - Meet at least monthly – currently Lisa Bromfield, Sabrina Smith and Janah Maresca
  - Aaron states that he and Angela will be core committee members. Carol Gosnell also volunteers
  - *Send Doodle Poll to the core committee to pick a Sunday of the month when we can meet – Lisa B*
- ❖ Tracking our meetings – agenda & minutes style
  - Using outlines used for previous meetings, make an overall outline that will be available to anyone
    - Make agendas shorter and more accurate to the moment
    - New members or interested parties can view the outline to see our trajectory and plans
    - Post minutes in a public place
      - Could we have a page under R.E. on the website for this?
      - *Can someone volunteer to investigate this? Rick Holt is the webmaster along with Rev. Carl*
      - *Can someone suggest a format to follow for minutes that highlights decisions and tasks?*
- ❖ **Planning and the Future**
  - More about curriculum
    - *Melissa will send links for the curricula we are currently using*
    - Tapestries of Faith is name of larger curricula with smaller groups within
  - Increasing # of classes offered
    - Enable more classes with more finely divided groups by age / grade. Options:
      - 6 groups – pre-school/ K-1 / 2-3 / 4-5 / Middle school / High school
      - 5 groups – pre-school / K-2 / 3-5 / Middle / High
    - More outside activities and intergenerational activities
- ❖ **Support for Melissa**
  - Help recruiting more adult volunteers
    - Discussion but not resolution of whether we need a count of how many adults needed for 2 scenarios
      - Dependent on how it is done... how many classes each person teaches or assists

- *Need to know - some positions might be covered by teenagers who are paid – is there a limit to this in terms of budget? – Melissa let us know if we are on budget for paid help and how much is used right now for R.E. versus nursery*
  - ◆ Some members express desire that as many R.E. classes as possible be led by church adults – and especially counter any expectation or culture that high school kids work instead of participating
- CUUPS has volunteered to lead once a month
  - *When reaching out to Nicole Ramey (see below) ask who to talk to about this – Lisa B*
- Plan to engage more volunteers – sub-committee?
  - Email determined to be generally ineffective
  - Should we ‘require’ that parents volunteer to at least assist a certain # of times per year?
  - Personal calls to encourage participation suggested
  - Kids doing testimony in service or chalice extinguishing to include some of what they have been doing / show what they have made
    - ◆ Once a month but must be checked out ahead of time in case there is a special service or particularly busy service
      - *Make a proposal to Carl with dates – someone work with Melissa on this?*
  - Melissa say something once a month about current themes or topics
  - Communication to facilitate engaging volunteers and R.E. engagement & interest
    - ◆ Facebook group for R.E.
      - Get more folks hooked into that
    - ◆ Look at other platforms / methods as well
      - *Nicole Ramey volunteered to look at other methods – did she can she? Lisa B will follow up with her*
    - ◆ Use the bulletin and the mid-week email but must submit in a timely way / not always space
    - ◆ *Melissa uses Constant Contact – Melissa can you provide more info on anything else being used? And frequency of use?*
- Offer variety of ways for volunteers to be involved
  - ◆ Sign up to be a teacher
    - Some minimum commitment
      - Needs to be decided – 2 weeks a month? 3 times in 2 months?
      - Pattern could be decided by team of teachers
  - ◆ Sign up to be an assistant
    - Less commitment needed

- ◆ Have targeted asks for people
- Plan a training and promote it heavily
  - ◆ *Melissa put together a statement of how she will support volunteers / what would be expected of teachers and assistants that will be used in recruiting / training.*
- Increase Inter-generational activity
  - Have high schoolers volunteer for visibility
    - Greeting people, coffee hour, handing out bulletins
  - Ask congregation if they have a special skill or story to share with R.E. class... come teach them.