

REACHING OUT COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

February 17, 2025

Attending via Zoom were: Cindy Goller, Stephanie Kalember, Kathy Menkes, Margaret Hellenberg, Louanne Spearman and Pastor Greg Watling.

OPENING PRAYER: led by Cindy.

MINISTER'S UPDATE

Greg shared that there will be two Good Friday services, one at 12:00 Noon at St. Andrews Episcopal church and another at 7:00 PM at Peace Lutheran church, with a potential combined choir for the 12:00 Noon service.

Greg announced that Stephanie was resigning from her role as the Communications staff person effective February 28, 2025. Greg thanked Stephanie for her work and said the new person will be Lizabeth Larson, who will start March 1st, 2025.

Greg also discussed the issues with Facebook and the plans to fix them, which might take a couple of weeks. Services will be recorded of live streaming them during this time. Cindy raised concerns about the "One Great Hour of Sharing" video, but Greg assured her that they would figure it out.

- Next step: Greg to follow up with Cindy before March 2nd about whether we will be able to use the video for One Great Hour of Sharing or not.

Greg mentioned the upcoming Crop Walk on September 28th, as well, which will be organized by Helen Crandall and Sallie Anderson.

DISCUSSION

1. Website:

The team discussed the placement of committee meeting notes on their website. They decided to create a separate tab under the 'members only' section for these notes, to ensure sensitive information is not accessible to the general public. Website training will be on hold until the staff changes are settled.

2. South Dakota Mission Trip: Brenda has ideas & needs help.

- Brenda proposed a mission trip to South Dakota for Bri and herself, which would cost approximately \$1,000 per person. The committee discussed the possibility of the church contributing to the expenses of a mission trip, particularly for the youth sponsor. They agreed that it was a good precedent to set, even if it was just a couple of hundred dollars.
- The trip, planned for September 12, 2025 - September 20, 2025 would involve visiting an Indian reservation and would be organized by Rudy Adel, a member of the Rotary Club. Brenda suggested fundraising methods, including selling stock certificates for \$25 each, with the option for stockholders to receive a postcard from Bree during the trip. The funds raised would cover the costs of the trip, including transportation and meals. The group also discussed the possibility of Bree participating in fundraising efforts. Greg suggested that the church could help with some of Brenda's costs for the trip.

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- Next steps:
 - Brenda to involve Bri in planning and fundraising for the South Dakota mission trip.
 - Brenda to keep the committee informed about the progress of the South Dakota mission trip planning.

3. Refuge: No update.

4. Drawing people into the church: No discussion.

COMMUNITY NEEDS

How might we help our community besides donating money: The committee discussed the potential impact of funding cuts from the Trump administration, particularly on the RSVP program. The committee also discussed the importance of contacting legislators to influence policy changes. They agreed to wait and observe the situation before deciding on any actions.

OTHER BUSINESS: none.

CLOSING PRAYER: Greg closed in prayer.

NEXT MEETING: March 17th, 2025 via Zoom <http://us02web.zoom.us/j/86904855449>

Respectfully submitted, Cindy