

## **GSLC Inreach and Congregational Care Committee Meeting Minutes of Thursday, February 13, 2020**

Present: Cathy Beaty, Cathy Peercy, Pat Westimayer, Pr. Sheryl Erickson, Jessica McCarty, Jan Grebel

Jessica opened the meeting with a reading from Romans 12 and led the committee in an ELCA evening prayer. The minutes of the December 12, 2019 meeting were approved as written.

### Name Tag Sunday

Cathy P reported that all name tag tables for Sunday, February 16th are covered with a special thanks to the Grebel family for handling the Verona lower level table both services. Cathy P said Judy has cut more name tags and will have the supplies ready for Sunday.

### Metrics for January 2020

- 31 Monthly Home Communion
- 28 Hospital Visits
- 33 Follow Up Contacts
- 2 Funerals
- 11 Widow/Widowers
- 13 New Prayer Chain Prayers
- 14 Active Stephen Ministry Relationships
- 57 PrimeTimers
- 4 Prayer Shawls and Mittens, Hats and Scarves turned in to Clothes Closet and Food Pantry by Shepherd's Hands

Pat commented that the transition of leadership for PrimeTimers has gone smoothly.

### New Member Class

A new member class will be offered at Verona campus on Sunday afternoon, March 8th, 4:30-5:30 pm. At 5:30 the guests are invited to join a soup supper, and if they choose, to take part in The Deep worship service. Pr. Sheryl said Donna Maysack has a weekend job and is not available that day. Pat volunteered to be there at 4 pm to make coffee. Cathy P and Cathy B will check their calendars because both have other commitments that day. It was noted that daylight savings time starts that Sunday.

### New Member Follow-up Calls

Pat and Cathy B described their experiences in making calls to the previous new member class participants. They said the suggested questions helped get conversations going. They found the calls were important, because immediate needs can be addressed. For example, one person had left a request for a pastoral contact, and that request was misplaced. Cathy B contacted Pr. Sheryl and the contact was immediately made. One suggestion when leaving voicemail on the calls is to include the caller's email address as well as the phone number.

The committee discussed asking other church members besides the committee to take part in follow-up calls. Cathy P mentioned that Pr. Mark had said this might be something his wife could do because she would not have to drive to Madison to do the task. Pat and Cathy B said Sunday nights seemed to be a good time to call.

#### Other Discussion Topics

Pat said that she had checked with Covenant Presbyterian Church about their program for one-on-one visits with assisted living residents. Pat found out there is only one individual doing that service, the one visiting her mother.

Cathy B reported that committee chairs were asked to attend the Communications Committee meeting on Wednesday night, February 12th. That committee has suggested that one committee per month be highlighted in the Messenger. The ICC Committee was chosen to be the first to publish an article and was asked to highlight their efforts to invite people to participate in new member classes and encourage them to become engaged in the life of the church. Cathy B will write a draft of the article and send it to all committee members for review. The committee discussed the current practices in place to invite people to the classes, having current members present in the class setting and making follow-up calls. The classes are an evolving process and are somewhat customized to the participants' needs. The committee suggested that all church members be encouraged to look for those new faces and introduce themselves.

Pr. Sheryl said the committee needs to recruit new members, especially to add another person who worships at the Verona campus.

The next committee meeting will be on Thursday, April 2nd at 6 pm. Cathy P volunteered to have devotions. The committee closed the meeting with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Cathy Peercy, Vice Chair