

Mission and Outreach Committee
Minutes of July 7, 2009 meeting

In attendance: Rev. Bill Meyer, Diane Atkins, Michael Barrett, Lisa Klein, Robert Klein, Bobbie Mahler, Gary Mahler, Alane O'Connor, Ken Weaver, Jim Webster and Kevin Wellenius.

Meeting began at 6pm with a prayer by Kevin

Item 1: Insurance for committee work

Ken Weaver mentioned that Belgrade has asked the food pantry to provide workers' compensation insurance to cover its volunteers, prompting whether Union Church is insured against injury during workday projects or against liability if someone is injured while using something we built. Bill Meyer replied that the Church is insured against such events.

Item 2: Workday followup

Bill Meyer informed the committee that the Saxton wheelchair ramp (May '09 workday project) had materials costs of approximately \$600-\$700. Barbara Saxton sent a check for approximately half of the amount, which Bill deposited into the Good Samaritan/Pastor's Discretionary Fund.

Item 3: Friends and Lunch underwriting

Bill Meyer informed the committee that the new (free) 'Friends and Lunch' initiative has become very popular, and the costs have exceeded the donations received. The cost is approximately \$100 per month to serve 30 people, many of whom are not parishioners. All present agreed that this was an important community outreach and deserved some support from the committee. After discussion, Kevin offered a motion (seconded by Bobbie, and approved by unanimous vote) to offer up to \$500 of underwriting support to the Friends and Lunch.

Item 4: July workday

Diane Atkins inquired whether the July workday could assist her in making improvements to her kennels. This consists of replacing the kennel roof, which blew off this past winter, and installing a fence. Diane said she could pay for chain link fence, though she did not have a quote for what it would cost, and she would need help installing it. None present had experience installing chain link fence. Michael Barrett offered to call All Around Fence to get a quote and suggestions on installation and seek loan of specialized equipment that may be needed. Ken Weaver and Michael Barrett to inspect the work. The workday was scheduled for Saturday July 18. Meet at the Sunset Grille at 7:30 am for breakfast, or at the parking lot at 8:30 to depart.

Item 5: Robert Klein trip to Haiti

Robert Klein informed the committee that he is interested in joining the next Haiti

mission trip in January '10. To raise money, he seeks permission to build and place a bottle collection box at the church. Bobbie clarified that this needed Trustees approval, and she would raise it in the next meeting. Robert also informed the committee of his desire to do odd jobs. Kevin offered to include a notice in the next Union Rider. Jim Webster informed the committee that he sold \$70 of Haiti-made artifacts during the July 4 event. He wishes to set this aside to support Robert's upcoming trip. Bill Meyer suggested that at the next Ad Council meeting, an escrow account be established to support Robert. Michael Barrett agreed to put it on the agenda for Mission and Outreach. The committee offered Robert its encouragement and support, and asked to be kept informed of his efforts.

Item 6: Haiti update and request

Jim Webster proposed to use a portion of the Missions and Outreach bulletin board in Friendship Hall to display a series of exhibits related to the mission work in Haiti. He has planned five different displays, which would rotate monthly and be designed with Bill Meyer's help. Jim also reported that the mission site where he worked in Haiti needs assistance in making some basic improvements, and requested a donation to them. \$100 was approved.

The next meeting was set for Tuesday, August 4 at 6pm.

Adjourned at 7pm with a prayer by Bill Meyer.