

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MINISTRY TEAM

Minutes for Tuesday, September 1, 2009

6:00 p.m., Genesis Room

I. Opening

- A. Opening Prayer was offered by Brandi Von Dohlen. Next month (October) Gail Hyatt
- B. Chair's Remarks: Because Kim was unable to be present, Josh chaired the meeting. He welcomed our new Associate Pastor and newest Team member, Rev. Lamar Carney. Lamar obliged us by telling us about his background in Christian education, youth ministry, and congregational pastoring. We all agree that Lamar will lend strong guidance to our Team!
- C. Present at the meeting were Kathy Lorenz, Gail Hyatt, Josh Raglin, Lloyd Schiller, Lamar Carney, Brandi Von Dohlen, Mary Smart, Kari Goforth, Frances Via. Absent were Kim Robbins, Robin Legare, Jennifer Gordon, Cate Carroll, Becky Ford.
- D. Josh will represent CE at the Chairs meeting on Thursday, September 3, 2009, at 6:30 p.m., Genesis classroom.

II. Open Forum

We were told of the plan to create a CE resource room in the space between Kari's office and Lamar's new office. The room will also be outfitted with a computer and desk for use by church office volunteers and others.

III. Reports

- A. Youth Report (Please see attached report from Kari)
- B. Sunday School Superintendent Volunteer Comments: Gail stated that she will be absent on Sunday, Sept. 6. We again discussed the method of collecting and "securing" the SS envelopes each Sunday. Josh will talk with Dekle Griffith of Finance Team for advice about a satisfactory way to do this.
- C. Subcommittee / Event Reports:
 1. Library: Mary reminded us about the Used Book Sale that will take place on Saturday, September 26 and Sunday the 27th in Lanneau Hall from 9:00 am – 1:00 pm. Mary will arrange to have covering put over the doors to the Seekers classroom, to lessen the distraction to the Hispanic congregation who will be worshipping in there on Sunday morning. Sadly, Mary says that she is resigning from the Library Committee, and, thus, will no longer continue on the CE Team as the Library representative. It was suggested that Barbara Stewart might be asked to communicate with CE from time to time about updates from the Library Committee.
 2. JoyKids: Kari stated that the program will start in conjunction with Youth on Sunday evenings from 5:00-6:15 pm, Sept. 20 through Nov. 22. Cate Carroll, Heather Kemble, and Caroline Edwards have agreed to teach. Tentatively, Lauren Gary and Kristen Broderick will teach K3-K5. 4th and 5th grades will go on their service outings on the second Sunday of each month.
 3. VBS Wrap-up: Kari reported that 74 children attended, ages 3 years through 6th grade. A final total of expenses awaits a few outstanding receipts from teachers. We were reminded that a co-director is needed for next year's school.
 4. Josh reported that the Men's Bible Study is still "going strong"!
 5. Frances reported that Wednesday Nite Live plans are shaping up, with two, instead of the original three, classes being offered. CE is asked to be responsible for assigning classroom space for the two study courses, as well as updating the blue sheets. All needed AV equipment needs to be made available and set up. And class assignments need to be worked out for the four groups within the 3 Colors course. WNL will run from Sept. 16 through Nov. 18. Gail Hyatt volunteered to work within CE to facilitate a children's program for Wednesday evenings, so that parents may attend classes.

IV. Old Business

- A. We have 65 pickets completed. So far we have raised \$5,926.73, with \$395.21 having been spent on the pickets, leaving \$5,431.52 to spend towards playground equipment. But an additional \$5,000 is needed. We will display a section of completed fence in Lanneau Hall during the coffee hour for the next few Sundays. At the Sept. 20 Session meeting, we will request permission to go ahead and order the playground equipment, using available funds by draining our Playground Account. The outstanding amount would be paid in January, 2010, from CE Capital Improvement budget for that year.
- B. Rally Day: Kari reported that all went well. Family Puzzle will be put together this Thursday by Kathy and Kari, for display this coming Sunday. We agreed that next year more help will be necessary, and that we need to start earlier on planning and on teacher recruitment. It was suggested that training for both recruiters and teachers would be a good idea.
- C. Summer Sunday School teacher recruitment needs to begin earlier in the year, around April, with the process being completed by mid May.
- D. CE Work Day: We stayed after late service on Sun., Aug 9, and worked throughout the afternoon. Our objective was to clean out and re-organize the Supply Room, and to outfit all SS classrooms with necessary supplies for the coming year, while getting rid of "stuff" that had collected there. With *excellent* help from lots of middle-schoolers, we were able to get a lot done, but did not finish. A number of us met again on Thursday morning, Aug. 20, to complete the task. The final touches are being done in the Supply Room and should be finished by this Sunday.

V. New Business

- A. We are working to get current photos of the Nursery workers, along with brief bios of each, to post outside the church Nurseries. It was also mentioned that Personnel should consider doing a national background check every year. This should include anyone who works with youth and children. Lamar will pursue the rules and regulations on this, as well as our compliance.
- B. Frances reported that fall teacher recruitment gained 10 new SS teachers, as well as adding Lamar to the teaching roster of Bible Basics. There are still a few spaces and volunteers being considered. This process should be completed in the next couple of weeks, after class teaching teams' needs have been resolved. It was reiterated that the recruitment process must begin earlier next year.
- C. Young Adult Committee: Lamar proposed a sub-committee under CE to focus on a class for the 18-to-35-or-40 age group. Personal contact for prospective members would be the chosen method of recruitment. More later!
- D. Advent Conspiracy: We were introduced to this 4-part program by a memo from the Evangelism Team. The idea is to realize a more blessed Advent/Christmas experience by emphasizing worship and charitable giving, and by reducing the dollars spent on gifts that we don't need. CE decided to endorse the program, but perhaps let Worship and Missions develop it. More later.
- E. Budget: Several members met prior to the CE meeting to plan our "asking budget." Much discussion ensued, resulting in the need for more time and for some missing information. We will continue to work on the proposed figures, consider any further questions from the Team, and then plan to have a budget proposal ready for the Sept. 20 Session meeting. Josh and Kari did a nice job on budget spreadsheets.
- F. Special Event: Lamar had asked to have time to introduce the possibility of a seminar next year. Two ideas are: "Understanding Your Teenager" or "(Dave) Ramsey's Financial Peace." These could entail speakers, and a fee for each person to attend. Perhaps the event might be opened to the public. Lamar will research these activities and report later.

VI. Date to Remember

Library Used Book Sale, Saturday, Sept. 26, and Sunday, Sept. 27, Lanneau Hall, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

VII. Session Approval

Playground Equipment Purchase: CE requests approval to proceed with the purchase of the previously mentioned equipment for the children's playground. The funds would come from the current CE budget (a minimum of \$5,431.52, plus any money raised in the mean time), with whatever remains of the \$5,000.00 balance to be paid in January of 2010, from CE's Capital Improvement account for that year.

VIII. Closing

Next meeting will be Tuesday, October 6, 2009, 6:00 pm, Genesis classroom. Josh Raglin closed with prayer. Next month, Kim Robbins.

Respectfully submitted by Frances Via