

Attendees: Gerry Bodine, Betty Bonds, Marge Burt, Wally and Pam Erbes, Rebecca Hickman, Steve Johnson, Emily Kelley, Pastor Michael, Marion Tolch, Stephen Weems, Evelyn Wentworth, Bev Willbanks

Opening prayer/devotion – The meeting was opened with prayer.

Finalize 2011 meeting dates – Proposed 2011 meeting dates were circulated again. Since no one raised any issues about the planned dates, the dates were finalized (copy attached). Marion has submitted room requests for these dates.

Schedules for January, February and March – Schedules for the first quarter of the New Year were circulated so attendees could note date preferences.

Welcome 101/201 – The 201 class held recently was very well-attended and well-received. Stephen reported that people new to St. John's feel that it is a safe place to ask questions. As far as the profile of the group, about 50% haven't attended a church for quite some time and approximately 10% are just coming to faith. One attendee volunteered that he had found a church that he "could invite anyone in the world to". Class 101 will be offered on January 9th.

Coverage for Holiday services – Coverage is still needed for the 4PM service on Christmas Eve and 10AM on Christmas Day. Steve and Emily Johnson will help out at 4PM. Evelyn will host at the Welcome Center on Christmas Day, and Rebecca will be a greeter. Pam will prepare a revised December schedule so Marion has it for reminder contacts.

Procedure for sermon CDs – There was some discussion about how to best use the new duplicator to make sermon CDs available. Some ideas were to have people sign up to get copies, emphasize the on-line availability of sermons and determine if any shut-ins want the sermons on a regular basis. Marion makes copies weekly for those who teach Children's Church. Pam will get input from Pastor Michael on this so we can make some decisions at our next meeting.

Share Welcome Center with Community Liaison – After some initial missteps, this seems to be working out OK. We recognize what a valuable partner Daria is in being there for guests and others during the week.

Welcome Center "grooming" – From time to time the Welcome Center gets to looking pretty cluttered. Pam emphasized that we really need few items there on Sunday AM. They include: response cards, flyer about 101/201, info. about LIFE Groups and Bibles for guests. Any other items (info. about specific ministries, discount coupons, third-party advertisements, etc.) should be relocated elsewhere in the Community Room or to the tract rack, if appropriate. Whoever is serving at the Welcome Center should remove trash, and any "lost and found" should be taken to the office. This will require on-going effort and discussion, as we want to be sure that the space can be effectively used to welcome guests.

Welcome Ministry income and expenses – There is a small surplus of funds earmarked for the Welcome Ministry (see attached). The Ministry mainly relies on donations of members for general operations. Team members were encouraged to pray for discernment about how to use

these additional funds to expand our reach in 2011. This will be a discussion item at our next meeting.

Welcome dinner or brunch – Consensus was that we should do one or two of these events in 2011. Stephen will look at the calendar to determine an appropriate date (perhaps shortly after Easter).

Pastor Michael's input – Pastor Michael again thanked the group for the warm welcome we provide to our guests. He emphasized that we will have the opportunity to greet and get to know “Christmas and Easter Christians” and that it is important to meet them where they are in their faith walk. We also asked him to think about and talk with the staff about how communications with other ministries and activities can be improved so the people staffing the Welcome Center can be better informed and able to offer help when it is needed. It was emphasized that those serving on Sunday AM should make it a point to read Connections at the start of their shift and seek out information about various activities, when possible. We all should keep advocating for better communications on an on-going basis. Pastor Michael also mentioned that the Church would like to get a monitor to show a scrolling schedule of event for the day. Funding is needed for this.

Ideas/suggestions/concerns:

- It was suggested that we have another team get-together in the summer of 2011, so we can get better acquainted with team members who don't attend monthly meetings.
- We need to find out in advance about school Sunday “sings” for 2011.
- On the topic of communications between ministries, it was also suggested that Cheryl print out a Sunday schedule (including tables in the Community Room) for the Welcome Center each week, that we have a Connections article asking ministry leaders to inform the Welcome Ministry of activities and that a reminder of this to leaders be included on the room reservation form.

The meeting was closed with prayer. The first meeting of 2011 will be on Tuesday, January 4th at 6PM in the Chapel.