

# Agenda

## *Congregation Council*

St. John's Lutheran Church  
March 28, 2017 + 7:00 p.m.

### **1. Prayer** – *We begin our meeting centered in the presence of God.*

*Silence*, then opening prayer led by *Board Chair*. *A time of silence for prayer and for gathering our hearts and minds together will precede the prayer.*

### **2. Future dates**

- a. Boards – April 11, 2017 7:00pm (at chairs' discretion) Fellowship and treats at 6:45 pm, Adult Ministry and Education Board to provide treats and Devotion. Meeting at 7:00 pm  
*Reminder: Please call or e-mail your board members prior to the meeting and remind them.*
- b. Council – **April 25, 2017**, 7:00pm; Alyssa Ness, prayer

### **3. Pastor's Report**

### **4. Consent Agenda Items for Council**

- a. Treasurer's Report, February 2017
  - i. Iceland update
- b. Minutes from the February 28, 2017 meeting

### **6. Council Action Items and Updates**

- a. Continued Sponsorship of refugee family – Benevolence/Jane
- b. Evangelism & Communication updates – Andrea Hoff
  - i. Application of new graphic identity to St. John's website - Funding for project
  - ii. RIC next steps
- c. Pastoral Discretionary Fund
- d. St. John's Foundation presumptions:
  - i. Habitat for Humanity-\$1,000
  - ii. Three Links-\$1,000
  - iii. Northfield Retirement Center-\$1,000
  - iv. Laura Baker-\$1,000
  - v. Green Lake Bible Camp-\$2,500
  - vi. Seminarian Grants-\$2,000
  - vii. College Scholarships-\$2,600
  - viii. Pajama Project-\$5,000Total \$16,100

### **7. Mission and Visioning**

*A generative discussion about our congregational mission, long term goals, and the role we serve.*

## **8. Other business**

- a. 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Planning

**9. Prayer** – The president leads a prayer asking God’s grace and help on our ministry. Items could include specific congregation needs / issues / items for thanksgiving; specific ministry areas of the congregation needing to be lifted to God; and/or any individual needs or requests council members would like to share in prayer.

**Lord’s Prayer:** After the president’s prayer is concluded, we finish the meeting praying the prayer Jesus taught us.

**10. Adjournment follows.**

## Appendix:

### 1. St. John's Foundation

#### Original Allocations

	%	Allocation	2017	BALANCE
St Johns Fund	67.18%	\$16,795	\$ -	\$16,795.00
World Mission Fund	0.69%	\$173	\$ -	\$172.50
Youth Fund	4.15%	\$1,038	\$ -	\$1,037.50
Music Fund	3.22%	\$805	\$ -	\$805.00
Bldg & Property Fund	6.17%	\$1,543	\$ -	\$1,542.50
Media Fund	3.74%	\$935	\$ -	\$935.00
Com/Social Fund	1.56%	\$390	\$ -	\$390.00
Soli Sem Fund	4.06%	\$1,015	\$ -	\$0.00
ELCA Scholarship Fund	9.23%	\$2,308	\$ -	\$2,307.50
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>\$25,000</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$25,000.00</b>

#### St. John's Council Allocation Tracking - 2017

<b>2017 Budgeted Allocations</b>		Balance	Date	
St. John's Fund	16,795.00			
World Mission Fund	172.50			
Youth Fund	1,037.50			
Music Fund	805.00			
Building and Property Fund	1,542.50			
Media Fund	<del>935.00</del>	\$0	2/28/2017	
Community / Social Fund	390.00			
Soli Seminary Fund	1,015.00			
ELCA Scholarship Fund	2,307.50			
Total	25,000.00			
<b>Authorized 2017 Dispersals</b>				
<b>2017 Approved Expenditure</b>	Authorized \$ Amount	Council Approval Date	Designated Fund	Fund Balance
Update of St. John's website with new graphic identity	\$935.00	2/28/2017	Media Fund	\$0.00

## 2. Board Minutes/Notes from March 14, 2017

Adult Education & Ministry Board  
St. John's Lutheran Church  
14 March 2017

Present: Pr. Jonathan Davis, Alyssa Ness, Genevieve Quarberg, Jonathan Reid, Martin Thorsheim; Christy Hall-Holt visiting.

### Planning for upcoming events

After lengthy discussion, we decided that we like the idea of sponsoring/organizing at least two "Summer Suppers" sometime between June and August, when Wednesday Meals will not be held at church as during the rest of the year.

- People have expressed to Pr. Davis an interest in progressive dinner-type events connected to the church, possibly with a component of Lectio Divina (a meditative reading of Scripture), which is practiced at Accompany. While we've done Progressive Dinners in the past, we thought it might be best to start out with a couple of "stationary" ones, just to gauge interest, and because with Progressive Dinners, the moving around can become a focal point, rather than taking the time to engage with others.
- Small groups (up to 12ish people) are really nice and intimate; allow time to interact and get to know others in the group. Dates would have to be scheduled ahead of time, to allow for summer planning.
- Pr. Davis has a contact who has volunteered to help organize this sort of event; he will be in touch with her to see how she wants to contribute to the effort. Depending on her level of involvement, this board may be responsible for a number of the planning points, including sign-ups, advertising (article in the Voice, posters), speaking with potential hosts, etc. We think it might work well to post sign-up sheets for hosts and guests, and see what sort of response we get and organize the groups from there (we think it best to randomly assign guests to hosts, as then people will not be tempted to run in their familiar, comfortable circles and will hopefully meet new people). When groups are assigned, the hosts could be informed of their group and send out a "welcome" e-mail detailing directions to their home and suggestions for dishes the guests could bring, if applicable.
- Possibly we could open this up for people to invite friends or other guests outside of the St. John's community.

We are also considering the idea of Wednesday evening "picnics"/"socials"/etc. on a couple of Wednesdays when the Summer Suppers aren't being held.

- Possibly a way to engage the surrounding neighborhoods and enjoy time together outdoors. It's noted that other local churches offer "free hamburger" events to reach out to the nearby community. We don't necessarily want to copy these events, but it seems worthwhile to consider more engagement with our neighbors, if any might be interested in coming out to meet us, if opportunities presented themselves.
- If we also did event(s) like this in the summer, we'd likely aim for scheduling them in June and/or July, as August is the month for Night to Unite.

The idea of a service day in the fall was floated to us as a way to kick off the year together, but we did not discuss this idea in depth at this meeting.

## **Organization**

We briefly touched on some of the notes that Genevieve gathered in her fact-finding, among which she highlighted that there are a number of important programs/ministries here that are established but have no prescribed system or process of passing on their leadership roles, which will pose a risk to them in the future. There are groups (such as the current book clubs lead by David Sudermann and Kristin Partlo) that more or less spring up on their own with the blessing of a pastor(s), and which have no set starting or ending point.

It was also noted that the Director of Shared Ministry is tasked with a lot of items for which there is little outside support (from boards, other groups, etc.), now that the boards are structured as they are and the Parish Fellowship board no longer exists in that form. The current Shared Ministry position is only 20 hours PT at church, so the person in this role has to be careful how s/he allots this time, in order to avoid burnout. A lot of things fall onto this role (kitchen things, etc.) when others do not pick them up.

## **Forum**

We briefly touched on the topic of Forum planning for the future. General thoughts were that it might be nice to have a few representatives from certain boards, as well as some sort of representatives in the areas of music and theology (perhaps some people connected to the colleges).

The question was raised whether there is a reason to have a Forum, as it seems that not many attend it. We wonder if it wouldn't be better to replace it with multiple small-group offerings instead—things which would have beginning and ending points (certain kinds of series or the like).

It's noted that, in terms of what we can offer that is being sought, people have a hunger for something where they can express or find transcendence, regardless of specific religion. Some people find that type of connection through personal friends or relationships, where they can talk about anything and feel comfortable being themselves; community. We wonder if there is a way to reach out beyond the walls of Christianity and/or Lutheranism, perhaps through monthly community events hosted at St. John's (ex: crossover music performances, from artists like Maria Schneider of Windom, MN, now in a jazz band in New York). What if on "First Fridays" [of the month], St. John's hosted a group/speaker/artist at church as a community event, or took a more active role in celebrating more "special days" (like Earth Day, etc.) with the community?

## **NO COUNCIL ACTIONS AT THIS TIME.**

### **Minutes of Adult Ministry & Education Board**

#### **St. John's Lutheran Church**

**24 January 2017**

Present: Pr. Jonathan Davis, Alyssa Ness (chair), Genevieve Quarberg, Jonathan Reid, Martin Thorsheim

### **Overview of 2016**

Genevieve Quarberg is a new member of our board, and we spent some time at the start of our meeting welcoming her and familiarizing her with the topics and issues we've been working with over the past year or two, including:

- Difficulty in knowing what to offer / what is sought:
  - Some activities/groups are currently offered (ex: BOLD Café, youth music group), but are suffering from a lack of interest/attendance, leading to questions of whether different approaches need to be attempted, or whether these are not the types of things that people are seeking or wanting to make time for in their schedules.

- Genevieve said this prompts questions: what are we to do or be, and what's essential to being a Christian church? We felt these could be good questions to branch out from in our discovery process.
- Current status of the Adult Forum
  - The large planning committee that formerly set up the events for the year has been dissolved; at this point the planning is being done by the pastors. It is not sustainable to expect the pastors to continue in this way, so we need to come up with some alternative options and ideas.
  - We also need to discuss the format of the Forum: is it best to keep it as-is, or could changes be made to make it more accessible? Should it be split into two events on Sundays, so that congregants have more options for how they want to spend the time between services?
- Library oversight
  - We have reestablished a more firm connection with the library over the past year, and given the committee their requested budget, which had in recent years been absorbed into other, more generic budgets. We want to reserve some room in the budget for the church to purchase books that are relevant to the various activities that might be going on at church (ex: purchase a copy or two of the Lenten book read's book; purchase a copy of books that relate to certain Forum or other topics that arise over the year), so we have asked the committee to run titles past us for approval; maintenance costs, such as for book covers, tape, etc. do not have to be approved by us.

### **Goals for 2017**

We ended the meeting by discussing some of our goals, thoughts, and applied experience for the upcoming year:

- It could be very helpful to plot out the calendar for future events and then zero in our focus on those upcoming events. This would not only set up the calendar ahead of time to allow for more advertising of events, but also help us to know what we need to focus on, in terms of preparation, etc.
- Increase communication with board members throughout the month (not just limited to board meetings, as it's been in the recent past)
- We should look to the mission statement and perhaps see if there are themes for the year that we can focus on.
- Look towards increasing intersectionality at church.
- Possibly change the name of this board to "Adult Ministry and Learning Board," to reflect more of an "action" instead of a passive
- Perhaps change our board's meeting time (some members are uncomfortable with night meetings/driving)? We might be able to have longer meetings on Saturdays or some other time.

**NO ITEMS FOR COUNCIL ACTION AT THIS TIME**

**Adult Education & Ministry Board  
St. John's Lutheran Church  
22 February 2017**

Present: Pr. Jonathan Davis, Alyssa Ness, Genevieve Quarberg, Jonathan Reid

We had a smaller group than usual, but decided to have a brief discussion anyways.

**Youth/Adult Brainstorming**

We know that for many in our congregation, there is a desire for service-based activities and more “get to know you” activities to foster a feeling of community. Brainstorming a few possible activities of interest for our next discussion. We could look into: doing a service day? Planning inner events/ “cottage meetings”? Offering parenting classes, as we've done previously (we should check in with the youth/children's board, to ascertain potential interest in this type of activity)? Before our next meeting, we will isolate two possible events that we want to move forward with, to implement at summertime at the earliest.

In the meantime, Genevieve and I will contact various groups at church that adults might participate in, find out more about them, and see if they feel any sort of connection to our board, and/or have any desire for future collaboration. We realize that marketing for certain activities perhaps isn't what it could be, and maybe we can figure out some sort of solutions for this.

**NO COUNCIL ACTIONS AT THIS TIME.**

## **Benevolence and Social Concerns Notes**

**March 14, 2017**

Present: John Gorder, Kathy Shea, Dave Neuger, Jane Rinehart (chair)

Guests: Solveig Zemple, Kathy Schuurman, Bernie Renander

1. Solveig and Kathy gave us an update on the refugee family (see attached report). St. John's is asked to donate \$4000 to assist the family while Paul searches for a new job. Bernie reports that there is currently \$3938 in the refugee fund. We will use this amount.

The family plans to move to St. Cloud where Ariat's sister lives, but this probably won't happen until after Paul finds a job there. We hope to continue contact with them after they move.

After they move, we will look into sponsoring another family.

2. We received our first grant application. It was from Northfield Athletic Boosters. We sent Don Sahling an email asking if he would contact Jim Blaha about whether the CAC will request a grant.

The NRC sent an inquiry about doing an electronic application. Dave checked into this, and advise that we accept paper applications only.

It was suggested that we send email reminders to the nonprofits we don't hear from.

3. We discussed replacements for the vacancy on our board. Jane will ask Sue Sharrow.

\*I talked to Sue on 3/16 and she agreed to join the board.

4. Mission Fund: Pastor Pam, Terry Gilbertson and Kristin Partlo are on the mission trip to Tanzania. Enough donations came in to cover the costs. We met our goal of raising \$2000 to help the Stubbs family with extra expenses related to Carol's cancer treatment. Bernie has sent the check to the fund for them at the DeKalb Lutheran Church.

5. Our board does devotions (Kathy volunteered) and snacks at boards on April 4th.

6. We do the soup supper clean up on Wed. Ap. 12. Be at church at 5:30.

7. We agreed to start the dispersement of discretionary funds next month.

Next meeting: Tuesday, April 4 (a week earlier than usual due to Holy Week). Be at church at 6:30 to set up for snacks.

## **Business Management**

Reviewed and noted strong financials for the first two months  
Continued development of Gift Acceptance Policy for St Johns

### **Children's Ministry and Education Committee Tuesday, March 14, 2017**

Present: Sue Brockman, Erik Holleque, Keri Peterson, Katherine Norrie, Todd Messen, Julie Brehmer (staff)

We discussed the end of the year Sunday School Celebration, which will be held on Sunday, May 14, 2017. It will be held in-between services. After a discussion, it was decided that the Celebration will be held downstairs, as it was last year. The theme will be a combination of the Good Samaritan, and the countries that the Sunday School has learned about this year.

Julie invited those from the Committee who want to help discuss curriculum to join a group she will be putting together to discuss the curriculum for next year. There was discussion whether we should use Spark for another year, or look at other curriculum. There was no consensus of opinion regarding this topic.

Julie is hoping to do Sunday School registration starting in April.

Prayer Buddies is in progress, and the feedback so far has been very positive.

The Committee will be doing cleanup at the Soup Supper tomorrow, March 15, 2017.

The Easter Egg Hunt will be Saturday, April 15<sup>th</sup>. Julie will need help filling and hiding eggs.

10 children have already signed up for going to camp at Green Lake Lutheran Ministries. The dates are from June 18-23, 2017.

Hero Central is the theme for the joint VBS program. This year all ages will be at Bethel Lutheran Church. The dates of VBS are June 12-15, 2017.

To date, \$7300 was raised at the Youth fundraiser. No one signed up for the Committee's donation (Parent's night out). The Committee decided to cancel the event, rather than try to get sign-ups.

Baby care kits will be assembled in an intergenerational event on Sunday, March 26<sup>th</sup>.

The committee had a long discussion about Pastor Jon's challenge for us to develop a program focused on trying to connect parents of Sunday School children in between services on Sundays. Many ideas were discussed. A survey of parents might be done this spring to assist with further planning. Several issues were determined. There will need to be a host/hostess. It will not be every Sunday. The board discussed having good coffee (Caribou?) available, a planned presentation/discussion 1 Sunday a month, casual discussion available perhaps 2 other Sundays, and one Sunday where coffee will be available but parents could also feel free to run errands, etc. The Committee discussed possibly asking using some of the Youth and Children fund from the Foundation to help with the cost of this program, as no budgeting for this program had been included in this year's budget. Having once a month family activity was also discussed, so that parents, when they see each other on Sunday, will have something they can start their conversations with.

Julie talked about a seminar she went to on Thursday, March 9, 2017, entitled Churches Growing Young. It discussed how to engage 15-29 year olds in the church.

Recommendations/Actions needed from Council: Nothing

## **Evangelism & Communications Board meeting minutes: 3/14/17**

Members present: Andrea Hoff, Daniel Edwins, Dave Zdenek

Staff present: Leah Garlie

Members absent: Kristin Partlo, Erik Lindell, Mark Gleason

Website update: We discussed the website update. Daniel provided a “Getting started” handout for helpful information about the website update and we talked about initial steps to be taken. These included identifying point people for the project. Leah Garlie and Andrea Hoff will be point people. The Pastors will be involved as well, and the full staff will be invited into the discussion as needed. We will need to perform a content audit to determine what the site includes, what we want to keep/remove and what we need to add.

Leah requested a list of the web pages that need to be updated regularly vs. those that remain static.

Plan is to set-up initial kick off meeting with Daniel Edwins, Leah Garlie, Andrea and Prs. Pam and Jon.

RIC: I shared with the Board communication ideas that were generated at the RIC Committee meeting just prior to our Board meeting. Now that Reconciling Works has us on their website, we want to implement communication pieces to spread the word that we are an RIC congregation. We discussed changes such as adding the RIC logo and welcome statement to our website as well as adding the welcome statement to the worship bulletin and The Voice. The Board is supportive of doing a press release in the Northfield News and surrounding community papers. Daniel Edwins is willing to update Facebook content, but he would need to be invited in to edit. He also is going to add the logo to the website as it is now as a temporary measure. Regarding having the RIC logo visible from the road, our Board felt that changing over one of the outside banners to the RIC logo with the “All are welcome” would be a good option.

Monitors: Daniel and Andrea met last week to finalize which size monitors to order and location We are ready to order the equipment!

## Faith and Health Minutes- Tuesday, March 14, 2017

**Present:** Howard Thorsheim, Guenther Moesler, Bonnie Peterson, Lynette Marks, Jennifer Edwins

**Excused:** Leah Sand

1. Reviewed soup supper plans for Wednesday, March 29.
  - Howard and Guenther will arrive at 4 pm
  - Bonnie and Lynette will arrive at 4:30 pmInstructions include:
  - Set the serving table
  - Stir soups that are warming (Boards DO NOT MAKE the soups, only WARM them.)
  - Fill bread baskets and set out
  - Set out napkin baskets
  - Prepare coffee and water pitchers
  - Serve the meal
  
2. Talked about Stewardship Board request for how our Board helps to meet goals identified as part of the Stewardship process.
  - Strengthening Ministry
    - Add to care pastors can offer through Stephen Ministry and Called to Care
    - Spread the word about about groups under Faith and Health
  - Inviting and Welcoming
    - Blood pressure checks – as trust builds with the nurse, more conversation emerges about health and spiritual issues. The nurse can then refer people to pastors, Stephen Minister, etc..
  - Feeding our community
    - Tabling in Commons with health, Stephen Ministry information.
    - Homily about Stephen Ministry
    - Long range desire – Parish Nurse
  
3. Parish Nursing – Discussed what we had learned from our readings on Parish nursing. For next time, Lynette will invite the parish nurse from St. Dominc to meet with us so we can learn more about her role.
  
4. Faith and Health Board will table in the Commons and on the Bridge, Sunday, April 23 and 30. Information will on the table will be 911 brochure, Bible Emergency numbers, emergency medication list, and Stephen Ministry brochure.

Properties and Grounds

## **Stewardship Board Meeting Minutes 3-14-17**

Those in attendance: David, Mark, Ralph

Minutes: Next month Sandy will have a member from the Foundation Board join the Stewardship Board meeting.

Ralph gave an overview of his presentation to the church council during a meeting which took place on Feb. 24th. -He gave background information to the council regarding the purpose of Stewardship for All Seasons. He also reminded them that as the church council, they established the 3 ministry goals. He gave each council member at the meeting the assignment to discuss in their individual ministry boards how their board is accomplishing the goals they as a council created. We would like to hear stories of how the boards are witnessing these goals being met. –

There was an Increase of 17% in the amount of money pledged, and increase to the amount from 231 to 284 in the households intent of giving. -Ralph will follow up next board meeting during announcements to ask about the given assignments and hold their feet to fire.

Ralph went over the SAS meeting / drive home conversation with Pastor Pam from March 6th: - Since we had a small group tonight, we decided we will revisit our board's thoughts on continuing with the SAS program at our next Stewardship board meeting in April. The next and last SAS meeting in this session will be April 6th. -We also will discuss impact strategy at the next Stewardship board meeting.

There was good conversation on possible ways to make the congregation aware of Thrivent Action Teams and Thrivent Choice which will also be addressed when more board members are present next month.

There are no action items for the April 11th meeting.

## **Notes from Worship and Arts Board March 14, 2017**

**Present: Nathan, Tony, Scott, David, Barb, Nancy**

**Present in Spirit: Carolyn J**

### **Report: Old Stained glass windows by Nathan/Scott**

\*Stained glass windows in storage a long time, up in the banner room - were displayed at Easter a few years back. There is a photo of them hanging in the Fireside Lounge. There are 3 panels, 6 feet tall, 30-36 -40 inches wide at least.

\*Nathan met with Al Palmer from Gaytee Palmer Stained Glass Studio <http://gaytee-palmerstainedglass.com/> on Feb. 27 to get pricing estimate to restore them in time for the 150th Anniversary of St. John's. Estimate has not come through. Windows are still in good condition, worth saving, after 80 years the lead has oxidized. Wooden box and back light will be included in the estimate. He figured it would take about 6 months to do the restoration. Where would they go? Could there be a way to create a place for them where they could be lit by natural light? What would be the cost of that?

\*Discussed other possible updates - paint/restore beams in sanctuary? (Gothic gold leaf underneath)

\*Nathan will email Jane Becker Nelson regarding checking out the gold leaf under the paint in the beams, just an inquiry

### **150th Anniversary**

Nathan shared some of the notes from the Anniversary planning committee

1st thing, figure out the schedule (calendar)

Nancy passed out copies of the calendar for 125th for reference, thanks to Barb K for sharing.

Creating a history piece (video or some other technology)

### **General Worship and Arts Happenings (Nathan)**

Lent underway (Scott speaking tomorrow)

180+ on ash Wednesday

Around 200 last Wednesday (confirmation is attending)

Tuning pianos etc happens at end of March

May 18th Concordia college of Bronxville NY doing a concert here 500th ann. Of the reformation

## **"Stories" – discussion based on Stewardship Board's request**

\*Dan Kallmann , and other well-known prolific composers helping to give insight and prepare pieces the choir provides to the congregation

Discussion moved to ways to get the word out about St. John's vibrant community.

Q: could we tape both services? Or other services? (Music copyright prohibits archiving the services)

Possible Action item: ask one of the video people their thoughts about taping both services

One would never know from watching the 8:30 service, for example, that Wednesday nights are hoppin' around here -

\*Announce Wednesday activities on the Sunday radio broadcast?

Stream Online? (Bandwith = Dollars) What all would this entail?

115 services a year or so-

Funerals - audio is always captured for family, and video on request

What about funeral streaming?

No action items at this time

**Next Meeting: April 4th**

njok with assist from Nathan

## Youth and Family Ministry Board Meeting Minutes

2/7/17

Present: Mike Skunes (Staff), Jenny Nystrom (Chair), Sue Hagen, Terry Gilbertson, Rob Nutt, Oden Hoff, Dan Franklin, Beret Froehle Absent: Sylvi Hanson

1. Overview/discussion of St. John's Distinctiveness Platform and Adaptive Challenges v. Technical Challenges
  - a. Previous St. John's task force identified 3 major areas for adaptive challenges: 1) family ministry; 2) outreach; and 3) the call process (now complete)
    - i. 1 and 2 very relevant to Youth Board
  - b. Review of Adaptive Challenges List previously formulated by Youth Board
    - i. Highlights: reaching diverse community including those not connected to faith/church; challenge of working around youth and parents busy schedules; difficulty of getting youth excited about scripture; finding ways to build character in youth; addressing contemporary issues through faith lens; connecting youth and congregation; maintaining traditions while making space for new ones
  - c. General discussion
2. YB Members Areas of Interest/Initiatives
  - a. Backdrop of distinctiveness platform and adaptive challenge outlines above
  - b. All members discussed their general interest and reason for joining YB
  - c. Some specific interests/initiatives shared:
    - i. Dan – building character in youth & inter-generational opportunities. As former guidance counselor, Dan suggested offering guidance for post-secondary planning with high schoolers.
    - ii. Mike – promoting mentorships and relationship between youth and adults in St. John's congregation
    - iii. Terri – providing opportunities for service for youth. Suggested meals on wheels on Sundays after church as a good fit for youth who have DLs. Also suggested finding ways to engage youth in forum topics (e.g. race).
    - iv. Beret – mentorships between older kids and younger kids. Oden noted it's best if significant gap between ages of mentor/mentee.
    - v. Jenny – improving communication about youth events to ensure parents and youth aware and commit ahead of time to get critical mass. Also, outreach to non-member youth to make them feel welcome at St. Johns or at least feel welcome to participate in individual faith experiences.
  - d. Plan – try and tackle one initiative at each meeting to implement
3. Youth Fundraiser
  - a. Discussed any gaps and encouraged everyone to volunteer
4. Past Events
  - a. Second Harvest
  - b. Mission Trip Update
  - c. St. Dominic's visit
5. Future Events
  - a. Teens Together – Cupcake Wars 2/11
6. Next Meeting – **March 14, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.**
  - a. Assignment – consider what works, doesn't work on communication for youth events

## **Youth and Family Ministry Board Meeting Minutes**

**3/14/17**

Present: Mike Skunes, Jenny Nystrom, Rob Nutt, Oden Hoff, Sylvi Hanson Absent: Sue Hagen, Terry Gilbertson, Dan Franklin, Beret Froehle

[Due to large number of conflicts/absences for YB members, tabled several items for next meeting]

1. Youth Fundraiser raised close to \$7300 (feedback from event tabled)
2. Reviewed Upcoming Events:
  - a. Youth Board Serving Soup Supper - March 15
  - b. Spirit Worship - April 12
  - c. Serving Easter Breakfast – April 16
    - i. Shifts 8-10 and 10-noon for Youth and YB members
    - ii. Congregation donate egg bakes
  - d. Middle School Night of Awesomeness – rescheduled to April 28
  - e. High School Senior Recognition Lunch
  - f. End of Year Canoe Trip – tentative May 13
  - g. Camp June 18-23/Mission Trip June 10-18
3. Communication
  - a. Middle/High School email updates
    - i. Go mainly to parents – rely on parents to share info with youth which doesn't always happen
    - ii. Many youth do not check email so sending directly to youth wouldn't reach many
  - b. Bulletin Boards
    - i. Youth often don't look at designated bulletin boards
    - ii. Suggestion: put event signs or sign-ups in view as youth enter Fellowship Hall and in game room
  - c. Ideas for reaching out to youth directly
    - i. Social media? – youth concern may seem 'pushy'
    - ii. Small group leaders could bring up events & encourage youth within the group to sign-up ahead of time
    - iii. Have visible lists of youth who have committed to encourage others to sign-up
4. Wednesday Night Parent Discussions – Topics/Dates
  - a. Pastor Jonathan requested ideas from YB for engaging parents of youth in social/faith interactions during Wednesday programming
    - i. Suggestion: May need options for pre-confirmation aged youth to enable more parents to participate
5. Next Meeting – **April 4, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.**

Assignment – think about suggestions for Wednesday Night Parent Discuss