

Nurture Commission Meeting Minutes

May 27, 2020, 7 pm, via Zoom

1. Present: Beth DeGoede (Chair), Glenn Book, Ellen Flury, Trina Hollinger, Pastor Pam, Lisa Rosenberger
2. Church Board Review--Plans are being discussed for re-opening. No dates are suggested yet. Leaders plan to follow all CDC and other government guidelines to keep everyone safe.
3. John Pavlovitz weekend
 - a. Pastor Pam and Amy Karr talked with John recently. The date of his event with us may need to be later than the current September 11-13, 2020, schedule, depending on the virus. They plan to talk again on June 1st. A decision will be made prior to the September dates.
 - b. The outreach element is such an important part of this event, and the outreach to the non-ECOB community will be more powerful with an in-person event, as opposed to a digital one, such as a webinar.
 - c. Glenn suggested that we ask John to present some preliminary lessons/lectures during Sunday School time for 3 to 4 weeks prior to the event. These lessons could possibly be presented like a webinar.
4. Faith Markers
 - a. Graduate Sunday - update on gift status, family contacts
 - i. No Youth Sunday is currently scheduled due to the virus.
 - ii. Pastor Jason is working with Anna DeGoede for her to do a video to be part of a service soon. Anna is the only senior who responded to the invitation to participate.
 - iii. We are committed to acknowledging all 9 seniors on our list.
 1. **Glenn** has the list and will send the names and addresses to Lisa.
 2. Pastor Pam has the books for the seniors. On Sunday, May 31st, **Pastor Pam** will ask the pastors to inscribe the books for the seniors.
 3. **Lisa** will get the books from the church. She has the blankets, which she had ordered from Etown Sporting Goods and will submit to the office for payment.
 4. **Lisa** will purchase gift bags and wrap/prepare the gifts for presentation.
 5. **Lisa** will let us know when all are ready to present, sometime in June.
 6. **Lisa** and **Glenn** will contact the seniors to set up a time for a socially-distanced presentation at the students' homes, dividing the list into 4 and 5 for each.
 7. **Lisa** and **Glenn** will make the presentations, which they will film or photograph and send to Lisa.

8. **Lisa** will prepare the video segments and photos into a file that can be presented during a live-streaming church service.
- b. Blessing of Children and Fifth Grade Books
 - i. Pastor Pam has purchased the books.
 - ii. We will plan for presentations after in-person services return.
 - iii. We may choose to do these presentations with back-to-school timing.
5. Appointments that need to be filled:
 - a. Child Care Coordinator--This appointment is still open and waiting to be filled. **Pastor Pam** will investigate possible candidates.
 - b. Post High Group
 - i. Glenn recruited Naomi Kraenbring!
 - ii. Naomi would like to connect our 80 post-highs with the Etown College students who are looking for a church "home away from home."
 - iii. Naomi will be working on planning for this over the summer.
 - c. Women's Retreat
 - i. Lisa has reached out to several women, seeking a leader for this event. She has not heard any responses as of our meeting.
 - ii. No firm dates in mind for this event yet, perhaps spring 2021.
6. Additional Nurturing Ideas and Opportunities--Anything else we should be doing?
 - a. Glenn shared about Small Group connections.
 - i. The different groups are at different levels of staying together. Once the social distancing guidelines came into being, some groups floundered; some sputtered; and others flourished through digital connections.
 - ii. Originally, the Small Groups were scheduled to end in May. At least one is interested in continuing.
 - iii. Some of the groups made a stronger connection than others. Especially due to the interruption because of COVID-19, some of those groups may want to reconnect with their original group in the next cycle. Members of other groups may be ready to try a different mix of people.
 - b. Trina suggested a socially-distanced ice cream bar car-park get-together. People could pull into the parking lot, pick up an ice cream bar or sandwich, and park. They would sit in/at their cars and chat with others from other cars while eating the ice cream.
 - c. Glenn suggested hosting a drive-in movie in the parking lot, maybe combining with the ice-cream idea and adding popcorn. There were questions about the logistics--sound, projection, etc. The college grounds are closed.

- i. **Glenn** will call his township for information based on past events.
 - ii. **Beth** will email Kris Strayer to see if she has any information about how we could host a drive-in movie from her previous association with Etown Borough.
 - iii. If we are still socially distancing by the end of August, we may need to view an event like one of the above as this year's replacement for the church picnic.
 - d. The idea of a "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner" event came up several times.
 - i. We have positive views on wanting to plan something like this once all virus restrictions are lifted.
 - ii. Ellen shared that she had checked with Jason, school colleagues, and a planner from another church about how to set up the groups using a computer. All told Ellen they completed the groups by hand, like fitting a puzzle together (although Glenn thought Jason had some kind of computer program that at least started his small group planning). When it is time for us to plan this event, we will need to think through how to plan the groups, including how to word the invitation to sign up. For the actual dinners, the participants will do all the hosting and food preparation.
 - e. Glenn mentioned the idea of supper clubs. This could be a group of 8 people (or 4 couples) who rotate hosting the suppers.
7. The next Nurture meeting is scheduled for June 24 at 7PM. **Pastor Pam** will set up a Zoom meeting invitation for us.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Flury