

**Nurture Commission Meeting Minutes**  
**October 27, 2021 @7PM via Zoom**

1. Present: Lisa Rosenberger (Chair), Beth DeGoede, Ellen Flury, Trina Hollinger, Olivia Knight, Pastor Pam
2. Next board meeting--November 1, 2021.
  - a. Ellen will send summary minutes to Lisa after tonight's meeting.
  - b. Lisa will review, tweak, and submit the summary minutes for the board meeting.
  - c. Olivia will attend the church board meeting on November 1st via Zoom.
3. Budget--
  - a. Lisa had submitted the budget to Frank for his meeting this evening.
  - b. She transferred some funds from categories that we have not used lately, such as the Golden Age Dinner, to other categories that may have more current need, such as Faith Markers and Lent.
  - c. Ellen will contact Sandy Garman to ask how much money she needs from Nurture for the picnic with Lititz.
  - d. Trina will submit a pink form (available at the mailboxes or the church office) for the ice cream money for the social earlier this month. The pink form goes to Lisa for approval, and then Lisa submits it to the office.
  - e. We proposed adding lines to the budget for LGBTQ Advocacy, to include annual contributions to CSN (~\$200) and Embrace (~\$50).
  - f. We proposed changing the name of Golden Age Dinner to Prime Time in the budget for future years.
4. New areas for Nurture Appointments--
  - a. LGBTQ Advocacy--In addition to adding line items to the budget for CSN and Embrace, we recommend a small committee to spearhead this LGBTQ Advocacy initiative. Olivia will ask Amy Karr about her interest since she was involved with representing ECoB at Lancaster Pride recently. Perhaps Amy will have an additional name to recommend.
  - b. Prime Time, a group for seniors 55+--
    - i. Based on a recent *Messenger* article about a group like this in EphrataCoB, Gina Strouse had brought the need for such a group at ECoB to the attention of Nurture. Olivia will contact Gina about her potential interest in leading such a group with a small committee and recommending an additional name to work with her. Pastor Pam suggested that chatting with Sam and Kathy Frankhouser from EphrataCoB could be a good starting point for the Prime Time leadership.
    - ii. We note an overlap of interests in the Nurture Appointment of the Fifty Plus Group with the proposed Prime Time Group. Olivia will talk with both Deb Ziegler of the 50+ group and Gina Strouse, who recommended

- a Prime Time group, to see if these two entities should be one combined group or two separate groups based on phase of life.
  - c. **Lisa** will add LGBTQ Advocates to the Nurture Appointments list and will potentially change the name of 50+ to Prime Time, pending Olivia's discussion with Deb and Gina.
  
- 5. Nurture Commission Appointments--It is the time of year for our commission to review our membership and their roles on the Nurture Commission.
  - a. The following people will have fulfilled or ended their terms of service by December of 2021: Lisa Rosenberger, Glenn Book, Beth Dryer-DeGoede, and Trina Hollinger. Thank you for all your service to the Nurture Commission and our ECoB congregation!
  - b. The following people will continue or begin in 2022 with the following roles. Note that we will need a Vice-Chair to attend board meetings:
    - i. **Olivia** Knight (1st term, ending 2023)--**Chair (pending family discussion--Let Lisa know when you are certain.)**
    - ii. Ellen Flury (2nd term, ending 2023)--Secretary
    - iii. Pastor Pam Reist--Pastoral Representative
    - iv. Bill Siler (1st term, ending 2024)--role TBD
    - v. Another person chosen by the Discernment Committee (1st term, ending 2024)--role TBD
    - vi. A one-year appointed person chosen by the Nurture Commission.
  - c. **Lisa** will update our appointments listings to share with the group.
  
- 6. Appointments under the Nurture Commission umbrella--It is the time of year for our commission to contact those who lead and serve in various roles to determine their willingness to continue or our need to fill the position with someone new. Phone calls or emails/texts are fine for contact. Send responses from contacts to **Lisa**, so she can update the appointments list. We volunteered to make contacts as follows. Note that this is not a complete list of appointments, only those that need to be contacted:
  - a. **Trina**→ Camp Swatara Representative, Annalie Heinz
  - b. **Pastor Pam**→ Child Care Coordinators, Kay Bell and Kristen Siler
  - c. **Beth**→ Merry Magdalenes (Red Hatters), Suzanne Taylor
  - d. **Olivia**→
    - i. LGBTQ Advocates, Amy Karr and another
    - ii. 50+/Prime Time, Deb Ziegler, Gina Strouse, potentially another person; potentially two groups
    - iii. Post High (Care Packages to College Kids), Olivia Knight and another person. **Beth** can help with names of college parents.
  - e. **Ellen**→
    - i. Historical Committee, John Brown, Jim Hoffer, Bob Hollinger (Convener), Ken Kreider, potentially Brenda Barlet (recommended last year but could not do it then)

- ii. Library Committee, Judy Shank (Chair)
  - iii. Meals to Homes Committee, Charlotte Brown and Marilyn Muston
  - iv. Men's Breakfast with Conversation, Jim Hoffer, Ben Hoffman, George Snavelly.
  - v. Women's Bible Study, Pat Leiter
  - vi. Women's District Fellowship Representative, Pat Leiter
- f. **Lisa** will update our appointments listings to share with the group when completed.
7. Faith Markers--Bibles need to go to the third graders and a slide show be prepared for sharing at worship. We would like to complete this sometime this fall, if possible.
- a. **Pastor Pam** will do the following:
    - i. Check to make sure we have 15 Bibles available.
    - ii. Look into ordering more for now (if needed) and for future years if we are running low, since a quantity discount often applies.
    - iii. Give the Bibles to Jerry Knight on a Sunday sometime soon.
  - b. **Olivia** will do the following:
    - i. Inform Jerry ahead of time about the need to bring home the Bibles.
    - ii. Inscribe each Bible with the child recipient's name and date, if applicable. Lisa sent the spreadsheet of names as an attachment to her invitation to the October meeting.
    - iii. Contact Beth when the books are ready. Those two will determine how to transfer the books from Olivia to Beth.
  - c. **Beth** has volunteered to do ALL of the following. (Thank you, Beth! That's a huge undertaking!):
    - i. Obtain the books from Olivia.
    - ii. Contact all 15 children's families to set up a delivery time.
    - iii. Deliver the books, taking photos of the children with the books.
    - iv. Label each photo with the child's name, and send the photos to Lisa.
  - d. **Lisa** will do the following:
    - i. Compile the photos from Beth into a slide show.
    - ii. Send the slide show to the church office for sharing during worship.
8. Ice Cream Social--This event was a major success for promoting fellowship and connections. A special thank you to Trina Hollinger and Rachel Hollinger, the Dairy Princess, for spearheading this opportunity for the congregation to come together safely for an outside treat.
9. Direction--As we move forward, Pastor Pam recommends that we continue to ask, "What does the congregation need? What does the congregation want?" The answers to those questions will give us the direction as to how to best nurture the congregation.

10. Advent--We discussed the possibility of implementing an online discussion using the Brethren Press 2021 Advent-to-Epiphany devotional, *Do Not Be Afraid*. The booklet presents daily readings from November 28th to January 6th. The church automatically purchases 50 copies of the printed booklet, and that is usually enough. We will have to evaluate if the church needs to order more copies if the interest arises enough.
- a. Olivia presented her sample online discussion on the Wix platform. The group wants to pursue this idea. It allows people to participate at a time that suits their personal convenience, and it can include those who are part of our online streaming congregation who may not be local.
  - b. Wix is free but includes ads. If the church uses Wix already, then perhaps we could use an ad-free version via the church website. **Pastor Pam** will find out if the church uses Wix and will let Olivia know.
    - i. If the church uses Wix, **Olivia** will contact Crystal about setting up the discussion platform through the church website.
    - ii. If the church does not use Wix, **Olivia** will investigate privacy settings through her free Wix account.
  - c. **Olivia** will set up the discussion platform and will participate in the discussion posts.
  - d. **Ellen** will participate in the discussion posts and volunteers to facilitate the content with questions, prompts, posts.
  - e. **Ellen** will download the study questions from Brethren Press and will personally purchase the ebook download, which is available now.
  - f. In order to comply with copyright, **Pastor Pam** will contact Brethren Press to ask for permission for us to post quotations from the book, including entry titles on a calendar, as part of our discussion.
  - g. **Pastor Pam** will let Olivia and Ellen know when the paper books arrive at church so they may each have a copy.
  - h. **Olivia** will prepare promotional content for this online discussion Advent opportunity. She will submit that to the office for them to create a slide to share at worship.
  - i. **Olivia** will create a calendar of discussion titles/topics for each day, either for the whole time frame or by week, to be offered to the congregation.
  - j. If this online discussion format works well for Advent, we can possibly run another one during Lent to go along with the Brethren Press Lenten devotional. We don't know what COVID will be doing by then, and an online format may be safer than in-person gatherings at that time. Even if we do meet in person for Lenten groups, this online platform could run simultaneously to meet the needs of those not interested or available for in-person groups.
11. Holiday Nurture Traditions--We discussed the need for another meeting in the near future to plan how to handle holiday Nurture traditions, such as Christmas caroling/chili supper and refreshments for Christmas eve service(s). Pastor Pam mentioned that

ECoB is following CDC guidelines, which caution against meeting inside to eat at church because of the removal of masks.

- a. Christmas Caroling--
  - i. Christmas caroling by routes that we create to visit shut-ins? **Beth** will fill us in on how that has worked in the past when she created the routes. She is available to plan for caroling routes for Dec. 5th or 12th but not later. Would Masonic Village be open for us to come inside to carol there?
  - ii. Christmas Caroling from the church parking lot to streets nearby?
  - iii. Christmas Caroling on the square after the holiday parade, which begins at 4PM on December 11th? Anyone in the community could join in.
  - iv. Prepare little bags of cookies for the carolers to take along (since we can't have the cookies on Christmas eve inside)?
- b. Christmas eve service(s) refreshments--With no inside eating as per CDC guidelines, no cookie/drinks this year. Other options? Do we need other options?

12. Our next meeting is planned for next Wednesday, November 3, 2021, at 7PM via Zoom.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ellen Flury