

Nurture Commission Meeting Minutes
November 16, 2022 @7PM via Zoom

1. Present: **Gina Strouse** (Chair), **Ellen Flury**, **Lois Herr**, **Bill Siler**.
2. October minutes—We reviewed the minutes as accurate.
3. Small Groups: These seem to be a successful way for people to make connections.
 - a. The TransParent Support Group is up and running, planning on monthly meetings with no end date. Much thanks to **Crystal** for her support in getting that all set up! This group meets in person, currently in the quilting room.
 - b. Women's Together Circle continues to meet.
 - c. Book Discussion Group on John Pavlovitz's *If God Is Love, Don't Be a Jerk* concludes next week. **Gina** will make inquiries as to the possibility of another book discussion starting.
 - d. We acknowledge that there are additional small groups operating that are not listed here.
 - e. Small Group Directory—**Gina** will look into having the church website updated to list all possibilities and to having an updated flier to hand out.
4. Prime Time Senior Ministry—
 - a. A survey to determine interest in different areas/activities will be going out soon to those who expressed interest from the spring survey. Several topics Nurture has previously discussed will be on the survey, including
 - i. Guess Who's Coming to Dinner and
 - ii. Grief Support group
 - b. This ministry will need additional leaders beyond Gina and Deb Ziegler, who are currently working on it. We wonder if this ministry will be included in a pastor's responsibilities as our staff is changing.
5. Need for Pastoral Support—We noted the need for pastoral support in several areas as we look to the pastoral roles changing with our staff changes:
 - a. Prime Time seniors
 - b. Post-High age group
 - c. Young families

6. Family Holiday Movie—Wednesday, December 28, 2022, 6:30PM, *Elf* in the Fellowship Hall. **Bill** will be making arrangements:
 - a. Email Crystal about the Sunday slides, fellowship hall availability, and the website that has a registration button;
 - b. Set up film projection with his family's help, including trying out the big screen;
 - c. Email the pastors to ask for a verbal promotion of the film event;
 - d. Email Pastor Pam about method for supplying popcorn;
 - e. Pick up 2 cases of small water bottles for attendees who want it.
 - f. **Gina** and Fran will help with the evening's needs.

7. Holiday Card Outreach—We will be sending cards to those on the deacon's list. Gina has the cards for us to pick up at the church office and has sent us the list as an email attachment.
 - a. Suggested/possible wording: "Wishing you a peaceful Christmas, The Nurture Commission of Elizabethtown Church of the Brethren"
 - b. The list of recipients is divided among us as follows:
 - i. **Lois, names 1-11**
 - ii. **Bill, names 12-22**
 - iii. **Ellen, names 23-34**
 - iv. **Gina, names 35-46**

8. Nurture Appointments for 2023—Ellen has updated the Googledoc list of Appointments. All positions are confirmed as filled except for the following:
 - a. Post-High Group facilitator/leader remains unfilled. **Ellen** will email Pastor Jason about that need.
 - b. **Bill** will contact Pastor Jason about youth leadership and will let Ellen know when names are finalized so that she can update our list of appointments.

9. Nurture Commission Membership and Roles—
 - a. Allison Mattern Bradley has been recommended to join the Nurture Commission in January.
 - b. **Ellen Flury** is willing to continue as Secretary of Nurture.
 - c. **Lois Herr** has volunteered to be the Chair of the Nurture Commission but is unable to attend the church board meetings due to a scheduling conflict.
 - d. **Gina Strouse** is willing to continue attending the church board meetings via Zoom as her schedule allows. (She has some upcoming conflicts.)
 - e. **Bill Siler** will continue to serve on Nurture.

10. Advent Discussion Forum–November 27, 2022, to January 6, 2023.
 - a. **Ellen** will email the pastors to ask about announcing the forum during worship.
 - b. Crystal has the online forum all set up. Thanks, **Crystal!**
 - c. **Ellen** will post a daily discussion question in response to the devotional booklet, *Simple Gifts*, available at the church.

11. John Pavlovitz event
 - a. Gina shared ideas from Jim Hoffer of the Witness Commission, who would like to work with Nurture to revisit the pre-COVID plans to host speaker/author John Pavlovitz at EtownCoB.
 - b. Nurture is interested in working with Witness to host a John Pavlovitz event–
 - i. Definitely as a community outreach
 - ii. Possibly for several different presentations during a weekend time frame
 - c. **Gina** will inform Jim that Nurture is willing to meet with Witness to discuss and plan this event.

12. Next meeting:
 - a. The Nurture Commission will not be meeting in December 2022. We will keep in touch via email between now and our next meeting in January 2023.
 - b. The next Nurture Commission meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 18, 2023, at 7PM via Zoom, pending church board retreat plans, if applicable.

Respectfully submitted,
Ellen Flury