

August 5, 2010

Attending: Margaret M, Judy P, Deb H, Jane T, Sid T, Chris F, Paul W and Jan S.

Members shared updates from prayer groups:

- Judy reported that the Thursday 8 am Pleasant Hill group has steady attendance. They are building a prayer room, and Judy is helping design this. Their group will meet there when it is finished.
- Nobody has been able to get an update on the Wednesday 5:00 pm La Casa group.
- Margaret reported that the Monday Plymouth 6:00 group has attendance between 2 and 6. They are reading *Intimacy with God*.
- Margaret reported that the Saturday 9:00 St. Timothy's group has had at least 5 people. There is a sit, followed by Lectio.
- Chris reported that the Tuesday 5:30 Bridge group at St. John's Lutheran has 2 to 5 members. Jim Eggers will begin coming to the Steering committee in the future to represent them.
- Paul reported that the noon group on Wednesdays at Covenant Christian has 3 to 5 people typically.
- Jan reported that the Thursday 6:30 pm Faith Lutheran group has 5 or 6 people consistently. Centering is followed by Lectio.
- Paul reported that the Friday noon group at Central Presbyterian is down to 2 or 3 members.
- Members are being sought from Covenant, Ankeny and First Christian to represent those groups on the Steering Committee.
- Paul and Chris will be visiting all the prayer groups over the next year to find out how the chapter can best serve them.

Members offered ideas on how to recruit new prayer group members:

- Jan goes to new member classes.
- Margaret recommended handing out the COCI laminated bookmarks
- Judy mentioned that a personal invitation to join the prayer group is very helpful.

Chris mentioned that the Leadership Team is sending Paul and Margaret to represent COCI at the Midwest Gathering in November. Nobody was aware of anyone in the chapter with an interest in attending the Annual conference in September in Atlanta.

Upcoming calendar

- September 11th, Centering Prayer introduction, 9 am – 4 pm, Greenfield United Methodist Church, Greenfield, Iowa (Paul Witmer).
- September 18th - retreat day and Potluck at the Tyler's, 4 pm – 9 pm (Jane contact, 681-4198)
- October 30th, Centering Prayer introduction, 8:30 – TBD, St. Timothy's Episcopal Church, West Des Moines (Tim Goldman).
- December 4, Advent Retreat, Plymouth, 9 am to 1:00 pm (Kathy R is contact)

- Facilitator's Training, January 8, 8:30 - 2:00 (15th snow date) at Central Presbyterian (Jane is contact). Lunch provided.
- February 19, Lectio Divina (Vizio, Taize) Silent Saturday, 8:30 – noon or longer (Tim Goldman). **This has been changed from February 12th.** First Christian Church (tentatively) or Oakwood (as a backup).
- March 11-13, Centering Prayer retreat. Christian Conference Center, Newton, IA (Paul Witmer). Sid and Jan are willing to be on a service team for this.
- March 19, United in Prayer Day (location TBD) (8:30 – noon). Oakwood United Methodist. Chris, Margaret and Judy will work on this.
- April 17, Evening Taize Service, 7 pm, Covenant Christian Church. Contact: Paul.
- June 5, tentatively, 1 pm - ?? Road trip to Soul of the Prairie, north of Ames. Possible activities: picnic and centering prayer, plus labyrinth walk. Paul will investigate possible dates (June 5 is a candidate).

Paul handed out flyers for the new Spiritual Journey series on the Cloud of Unknowing, beginning Tuesday, September 14th. Paul, Jan and Judy will form the core of a service team to work on this series.

Chris asked for written contributions about their Centering Prayer experiences to post on the website.

Chris reviewed updates on the website.

Upcoming meeting dates for the Steering Committee will switch to Mondays (after 6 pm Centering Prayer):

November 1 (food provided)

February 7, 2011

May 2, 2011

August 1, 2011

November 7, 2011

Paul mentioned that the Leadership Team will continue to meet, and keep the priorities of the chapter identified at the discernment process in front of them. They will meet the Mondays before the Steering Committee meetings.

Submitted by Chris Frantsvog