

Feb. 13 COCI mtg

Attendees: Chris, Margaret, Paul, Suzanne Stout, Dave Nelson, Jim Egger, Judy Proksa

Chris explained the purpose of the Steering Committee.

Current CP groups:

Paul - Wednesday at noon, Covenant,

Margaret - Plymouth on Monday

Chris - 7 a.m. Grace Methodist

Jim - 5:30 at St. John's Lutheran and Sat. at 9 a.m. at St. Tomothy

Dave - from Ames, Tues at 5:30 at Collegiate and 6:30 at First Christian

Judy - Oakwood Methodist, 8 a.m. on Thursdays,

Suzanne - First Christian Church at 11:00 on Sundays

Please note: You can always check the website for meeting notes.

Upcoming Events:

1. Paul talked about Centering Prayer as an 11th step practice and the flier telling of the Introduction on March 10, 2012 from 9-1, at Plymouth.

Chris: Everyone is encouraged to take an Introduction to Centering Prayer. COCI has scholarships.

2. United in Prayer Day - St. John's Lutheran Church, Sat. March 17.

3. Enrichment Day in January - Jim shared that he heard that people really liked the timing of this event after the holidays.

4. May 19 - Covenant Christian: 9 a.m., Welcoming Prayer with Susan Komis. Lunch provided.

Afternoon is a separate piece - visioning and discernment process.

Dave asked about the definition of discernment - Paul - a contemplative process.

Gathering of the chapter to look to what's next. Leadership Team will be working with Susan to shape what the day will be. What are the priorities of the chapter? Several parts to this including - who would like to serve?

Margaret - deep listening as people share what the needs are and bringing in what God is saying in each heart at the meeting. At the last one, two years ago, this was a powerful meeting. This next one is expected to be as powerful.

Chris: We do need some people on this committee to sort out the details of the discernment day and welcoming prayer event. Dave, Suzanne and Jim volunteered to be on this committee. Paul suggested a few more names to add to this committee.

5. Centering Prayer Retreat, 14 for the 7 days (17 possible participants). Waiting list for the weekend event. People are encouraged to get on the waiting list.
6. Paul has scheduled April 5- 14, 2013, Carl Arico will be our speaker. Everyone discussed possible locations for this event: Contemplative Outreach of Northern Iowa - American Martyrs Retreat Center. Could have some people stay at the hotel for sleeping. There is another retreat house on the grounds that might sleep another 8-12 people. Other venues were suggested for the 2013 event.
7. Dark Night of the Soul - going well.
8. Issues in the Prayer Groups. Suzanne: group is growing and forming as a group - named a need for a better room to meet in. Now meeting in a storage room that holds 12-15 people. The group took ownership of the room, painted and furnished the room. In the process, they've had 2 visitors who have come to worship and to the Centering Prayer group. Conversation about being more intentional about planning and work in the community. Paul suggested that this group could be asked to be a host for one of the events for the next year.
9. Next meeting is May 7, 2012.