

WPMF Community Life Meeting

Sunday, November 1, 2015 (during Fellowship meal)

Present: Tim MJ, Nancy Geryk—Fellowship Meal; Laurie Brunk—Snack; Jim Kurtz, Mel Esh, Linda Esh, Brian Geib, Sylvia Horst—Ushers/Greeters; Alex Bouwman—Building Deacon; Brenda Rich-Elder

- 1) We introduced ourselves and talked about what our respective roles/duties were.
- 2) We identified what was going well and what challenges there were.

Snack Duties: Laurie organizes the sign-up sheet; sets up and cleans up and orders supplies.

Fellowship Meal Duties: Notices/announcements of meals to the church ahead of time, set-up and clean up, ordering supplies. We discussed the hospitality aspect, did the duties include providing meals to folks who were sick or needed extra support? We concluded that should there be special meals needed for the church body, such as for a funeral, either here at WPMF or at a local church of one of our members, or an event such as an ordination/installation special meal, etc, that would come under Fellowship meal duties. Individual meals for folks needing hospitality at their homes would not come under this purview, but rather could be incorporated into a pastoral care team/duties.

Ushers/Greeters: Jim recruits and schedules ushers (5) and greeters (7).

Greeters' duties: greet, invite new folks to sign the guest book, take a count of all attendees on a Sunday morning (adults/children), talk to the new folks after church, invite them to snack time and Sunday school, send a note to their home address that week to say, glad you came. **Followup:** We wondered whether Dorianna also follows up? If emails are written, greeters don't email, think that should come more officially from the pastor/church office. **How to get to know newcomers?** We talked about how we don't know or remember people's names and how we could do better at that. We talked two approaches regarding name tags: one would be to have name tags on strings alphabetized in a box for weekly wear. The other would be to every week to have paper name tags with a marker available. Less fuss, more waste. We also talked about photos. Could we have photos of folks on the website? Just photo and names? Brenda offered to bring this up at Elders. Or maybe to specially have a push in September when there are lots of newer people.

Ushers' Duties: hand out hymnals, make a circuit through the church basement at least 2x during the service, for security and to make sure lights on, and doors open. **Making Rounds:** We think making the rounds is appropriate and should continue as a regular service. It was noted that for person preparing snack, the kitchen can be a vulnerable space, in the event of an intruder, as there is one door unlocked and no open exit. **Snow and ice removal.** We discussed snow and ice removal policy. Alex clarified Calvary's policy, that if there is snow or ice on the ground, there is NO church service. However, for WPMF, we have a snow shovel and ice melt in the tiny bathroom in the church office. Whoever comes in early should be encouraged (by the deacon?) to clear both steps on Baltimore side, and proximate sidewalk. **Space for seating in the church service.** It was noted that it is distracting for when people come in late for them to have to go the whole way around the church to get seating. We would like to

have the ushers guide people who are early to the far side for seating, including the front row, and balcony, so that when latecomers come in, they can fill in the near side and the back. We think having an announcement in the bulletin would be helpful in this regard as well.

This was a good meeting, though very noisy. Decided to meet 2x a year, probably in September (ramping up) and in June (taking stock).

Notes by Brenda Rich, Elder