

Trinity Lutheran Church

Clarks Summit, Pennsylvania

Taskforce on New Ministries Meeting: July 17, 2024

1. Attendance:

The meeting of the *Taskforce on New Ministries* was chaired by Todd Rehder. Those present for the meeting were Haydn Evans, Cheri Graboski, Carol Howell, George Mathews, Kathy Mathews, Todd Rehder, and Dee Smith.

2. Opening Prayer:

The meeting was opened with prayer by Pastor Mathews.

3. Minutes from the Previous Meeting: June 5, 2024:

The minutes from the meeting of June 5 were reviewed by those who were present. Upon motion by Haydn Evans and a second by Carol Howell the minutes were accepted as presented.

4. Review, updates and further discussion of the next steps of our initial priorities:

a. "Fun for Seniors:"

Terry Bockelkamp provided the task force with a summary of the "*Fun for Seniors*" initiative. This document (attached to these minutes) highlighted the programs that have already been presented, future classes and events, as well as several future ideas. Specifically, Terry was asking if the task force would like to see a monthly or a bi-monthly exercise/ yoga class at Trinity. Those present thought that it would be best to begin with a monthly event; if participants requested more frequent events, then the schedule could be modified accordingly.

Also discussed was the desirability to proceed with an additional offering of the prior event, "Nutrition for Adults (Part 2). Additionally, Dee Smith suggested a "Fun Bingo Night" (no monetary prizes); other possibilities suggested included "Tax Issues for Seniors." "Puzzle Nights," "Breakfasts and Dinners, as well as a "Soup with a Hymn Sing." Haydn Evans will follow up with Eric Gasper from Ameriprise regarding a presentation focusing on financial issues.

b. Shut-in Ministry:

Cheri Graboski reported that she has received the names of two people from Trinity who would probably enjoy being visited by members of the congregation. She has also identified one person at this point in time who is interested in participating in this initiative. Cheri will be attempting to expand the list of visitors from Trinity as well as the list of those who might appreciate a visit.

Cheri anticipated contacting Abington Manor to identify specific persons who might enjoy a visit; she has done the same with Elan Gardens. Elan Gardens reported that visitors over the age of 18 would need background check clearances as well as child abuse checks.

c. "Adult Blessing Bags:"

Kathy Mathews reported that she would like to begin the "Adult Blessing Bags" program in the fall. She anticipated applying for a \$250 grant from Thrivent to initially fund the program. Bags would be picked up by people weekly as they leave the church. The "Adult Blessing Bags" would be prepared for a month at a time by four or five volunteers. The bags would be dated so that people who didn't pick up bags in prior weeks would be able to do so.

d. Young Adult Gatherings:

Since Angel Garcia was not in attendance at this meeting, the development of the program is on hold at the present time until we are able to have further conversation and planning with Angel. Haydn Evans has volunteered to handle coordination of all program details and arrangements with Angel.

e. Hosting Site for Alcoholics Anonymous Meetings:

There are several details that need to be addressed before an Alcoholics Anonymous program can be put in place at Trinity.

5. Planning opportunities/process to publicize our emerging "Elderly Ministry"

Broad publicity of upcoming events is essential to the expansion of the program. There are probably several places within the community where fliers can be posted and information can be made available. Possibilities included the Silver Spoon Restaurant as well as the Senior Center.

The need to resume the publication of the Trinity newsletter on a regular schedule was considered by the task force to be a very high priority. The newsletter would be a regular source for information regarding the presentation of upcoming programs and events. As the offerings of the task force expand, it might even become appropriate to develop a newsletter that would be focused specifically to senior adults within the community.

6. Reconvene:

We determined that the next meeting of the *Taskforce on New Ministries* would be held in the Parish Center Social Hall on Tuesday, August 27 at 7:00 PM.

7. Closing:

The meeting concluded as those present prayed the Lord's Prayer.

Minutes prepared by:
George Mathews

“Fun for Seniors”

Programs already presented are as follows:

- Nutrition for Adults
- Fraud and Scams on the Telephone and Computer
- Bus Trip – Catskills, NY to see Carol King
- Physical Therapist on “How to Prevent Falls, Improve Balance and Help with Dizziness”
- Chair Yoga & Meditation
- Chair Yoga & Exercise
- Baking Christmas Cookies

In the future, would you like to see a monthly or bi-monthly exercise/yoga class at Trinity?

Future Classes and Events Planned:

- **Rock Painting – “He is my rock!”**
(Rocks painted with scripture messages to put out into the community.)
Tuesday, August 6th from 10:30 – 12:30
- **VNA Home Health** (speaker Melanie Biederman)

and
- **Proper Foot Care** (speaker Dr. Brutico)
Wednesday, September 11, 2024, at 11:45 AM
- **Pumpkin Painting**
Monday, October 14th – 10:30 – 12:30

Future Ideas:

- Cooking and/or baking
- Zumba Classes
- Jewelry Making
- The Arthritis Foundation – speaker
- Exercise for Arthritis
- Board Games Event (day or evening)
- Hymn Sing