

7/21/21 We go out table

In attendance: Nan Crary, Heather Fischer, Sara Pollman, Vicar Han Peterson, Sara Nelson and Sandy Tracy on zoom.

Welcoming America!

Welcoming America is a grass roots movement that his National, however, newly being started in Hutchinson. There is a diverse group of community members who have been meeting to clearer define the focus. Karen Grassman from SWIF has connected with the National organization of Welcoming America hoping it can be a way to connect people in our community. Past concern about our community welcoming statement was brought up. Discussion and trying to move forward seems like a positive step. Currently Sandy Tracy and Hans Peterson attend these planning meetings. The next meeting is July 27th. Currently there is a week set aside Sept 10th-19th, 2021 for the Welcome America! week events in Hutchinson. It continues to evolve. The planning group has ruled out using the "The Sum of us" book for this event. Hans shared copies of Chapter 9 of the book to decide if ROH wants to offer it as a community study book option and working with the library and other book clubs. SWIF has funds to help purchase the book. UCAP Poverty simulation was also discussed and ruled it out as it is believed that poverty, racism or Churches leading this Welcoming America event may bring division. Currently SOUNDS OF HOPE choir has been invited and are to have an answer by the July 27th meeting. As of now, River of Hope is "on hold" to receive more information from this group.

Brainstorming ideas:

Hans discussed the options for connecting with Good Courage farms and possibly having some intergenerational opportunities out at that farm. Hans also shared that he knows 2 musicians who may be able to lead a community event around the Welcoming America! and help lead music on Sunday morning worship at ROH on Sept. 19th.

God's work our hands Sunday is Sept. 12th. Several ideas were discussed. A decision was made to offer a couple options including PENS AND PRAYERS which is a note writing opportunity with notes made by Heather and others in our congregation. With a card making event being held at Heather's house (116 Oak Lane SE, Hutchinson) on Aug. 31st from 6-8PM to have Heather lead us in making cards.

The other God's work, our hands would be BAGS OF LOVE. BAGS OF LOVE would be bags being delivered or hung on door handles to people at Park Towers in Hutchinson. This would need to be approved by Park Towers staff prior to this event. Sara Nelson offered to complete a Thrivent application for the items to put in the bags, stamps for mailing the cards and supplies for the cards. It was also discussed including an invitation to Beer and Hymns or future events. Could a coupon or gift card to MSSB also be added?

The idea was to possibly have a shorter service that day with acoustic sound for less Event center set up/take down.

A future group was discussed to have a regular correspondence night/NOTES for NEIGHBORS to have the card sending ongoing. It is a goal to try to match all college age students with monthly note writers (possibly starting with mentors)

Common Cup and WELCA are gathering school supplies. One idea was to coordinate a shopping group to go out to purchase the requested school items.

Hans: Communion in your driveway Probable Wednesday evenings during August around 5-5:30PM for about 20 minutes. This would be communion, song and prayer. Hans to help coordinate this.

Yoga/Spiritual practice: body/mind/Spirit connection

Labyrinth: Spiritual practice option

Coffee on the corner: possibly on the 1st late start Wednesday of the school year

Painting a house-Sara Polmann to ask Kleindl's if they would want help painting their home

Art Walk idea

Idea of supporting front line workers in various ways.

Discussion around offering more opportunities to be a part of some protests in the metro area

Discussed ideas of how to coordinate "we go out" with "faith formation" especially in connecting with our confirmation students.

Hans asked about what some table members meant when they asked about "being filled before being sent out"? Each group member offered ideas. Some are asking for meditation, Spiritual practices and others "get filled" by the we go out planning and doing.

Meeting ended after 2 hours of discussion