

Hickory Neck Church Outreach Committee minutes for April 2008

Present: Chuck Jundt, Bob Gay, Gary Harvey, John Greenman, Patty Kipps, Harry Brown, Mark Kintner, Gay Forloine, Laurie Brown.

Guest speaker: Chaplain Dimmitt from VA Peninsula Regional Jail (VPRJ). He gave history of his jail ministries up to the present. His ministry is nationally affiliated and called Good News Jail and Prison Ministry. At VPRJ, it officially started in April of 2007, and has a \$100,000 budget this year, mostly for salaries. They accept no government funds, and are funded through donations. The ministry is mostly bible study and mainly done by volunteers from local churches. There is no doctrinal teaching. Any donations of religious books go through Chaplain Dimmitt to be distributed to inmates. The ministry has recently expanded to the Merrimac Center, a detention center for persons age 12-18.

Vibrant Life Ministries (VLM): Gary and John prepared meal in March and ate with residents of St. Matthew house. Gary has prepared a sign-up sheet for volunteers to do this once a month throughout this year. It is in the narthex of the new chapel. Gary denied a request by VLM to expand this program to include all the VLM houses and to add bible study on the evening of the dinner. Expansion could come later, if desired.

SpritWorks: Laurie reported that they now contract with the Colonial Services Board (CSB) who is referring clients to them. They have hired a recovery support director. Their child program is growing. Youth graduates of the program assist with the children's program.

From His Hands: Chuck reported a successful dinner in March. One hundred six meals were served, with 14 remaining to be given the next day for lunches. Cost was \$51; food was purchased from the food bank for \$.18 per pound. Twenty to 25 families receive the meals. Chuck called the recipients that day to remind them (about 15-20 calls).

Ministry Talks (church members talking to congregation about ministry opportunities): a few people have volunteered as a result of these talks, which were all very well done. Church members should be reminded regularly of these opportunities to serve as volunteers. Suggestion that stewardship committee address this also.

New Business: Chuck would like for Outreach to be a line item in the church budget. Bob suggested we recommend moving towards tithing as a church, with tithed amount going to outreach. This could happen gradually.

Fall Festival progress: Mark continues to look for a co-chair and thinks he will find someone soon. Committee agreed to support the same main ministries as last year, with additional ones as the committee agrees on. Mark will emphasize working on the silent auction, which is the area most likely to increase revenue from the event. Committee chairs will be solidified soon.

Attic Treasures: Gay is looking at spaces to possibly expand this to a year round thrift shop in Toano area. This is a preliminary look with no definite plans at this time. HNC would need a separate for-profit business license if this comes to fruition.

Next meeting will be May 19, due to a holiday the following Monday.

Submitted by Patty Kipps