

**Outreach Committee Minutes, June 16, 2009, Hickory Neck Church**

**Present:** Lauren McDonald, Gay Forloine, Michael Smith, Bill Teale, Rick Garfield, Tom Gee, George Brown, John Greenman, Linda Wever, Linda McGee, Norm Cooper, Stuart Hughes, Patty Kipps.

Lauren opened with prayer. Lauren noted that Bill has recently met with new people on this committee to update them on the history of the group. . Laurie Brown will no longer be on the Outreach Committee due to multiple commitments on her part. However, she is willing to provide input to the *Money* team if needed.

**Discernment:**

Lauren: Why we do what we do? How are we different from other service groups that do charitable activities? Jesus told us to do it, and it is also stated in our baptismal covenant promises.

Lauren told us that she, with the input of others, has revised the structure of the Committee. It will now have three teams under the Outreach umbrella, as follows.

<b>Mission</b>	<b>Money</b>	<b>Ministry</b>
Mission Trips	Financial Grants	Hands-on work
<p>Lauren Stanley support</p> <p>Possible parish mission trip to Honduras (see below).</p> <p>Norm Cooper will chair. Other on this team is Rick Garfield.</p>	<p>Decisions about supporting various groups who request funding from us, mainly from money raised at our annual Fall Festival.</p> <p>Bill Teale will chair. Others on this team are Tom Gee, Mark Kintner, Michael Smith (vestry liaison), and Gay Forloine.</p>	<p>Work done by parishioners for our endorsed charities. These include <i>From His Hands, Salvation Army, FISH, Faith in Action, Williamsburg Walks the Talk, Angels of Mercy, SpiritWorks, Angel Tree, Apple Tree</i>, and a potential new event, <i>Pentecost Project</i> (a parish workday on Pentecost Sunday).</p> <p>Michael Smith will chair with Lauren as advisor/observer. Other team members are Linda Wever, George Brown, Bill Teale, Stuart Hughes, Patty Kipps.</p>

Mission and Ministry teams welcome additional members. We will try this structure for a while, possibly tweaking it as we go, and evaluate it at the end of a year. The 3 groups will each meet as needed, and will all meet together perhaps twice a year, or more if

necessary. The committee voted on this new structure. All were in favor with one abstention.

*Money* team will try to greatly reduce the annual presentations from each charity. In place of this, speakers from the supported charities will speak to interested parishioners at adult ed events. *Money* team members will also visit the sites of the various charities to see their work first hand.

*Mission: Honduras mission at El Horgar:* Norm talked about this possible project and how it worked at his former church. Our parish could sponsor a child, or work at the school or on the farm. Accommodations are in dormitory rooms, not in private homes. In the past, volunteers have paid for their own air fare (if necessary with scholarship assistance) and could extend their time there with pre- or post-visits to Mayan ruins or other local attractions. The airport is near the school. The Rev. Richard Kunz, Executive Director, will speak about this ministry on Sept. 20 at HNC. This mission trip, if we proceed with it, would likely take place in the autumn of 2010.

## **Business**

JoAnn Mertens, liaison between *Colonial Community Corrections* and *Williamsburg Walks the Talk* will speak at our adult forum this Sunday, June 21.

*From His Hands:* Linda McGee will coordinate this weeks' meal. A couple of parishioners have offered to do this during the current year. We are looking for a permanent coordinator and hope to have one for next year. Other needs for this ministry include a person to call the evening before to remind recipients to pick up the meal at Grove Christian Outreach Center.

Also there is an opening for us to assist as part of a multi-parish team to cook and serve on July 2 & 9. Lauren will find out more about what is needed for this.

Lauren reminded us of articles in June and July Nuggets about the *Apple Tree Project*. This project collects school supplies and clothing for low income local school children, and is coordinated by the *Salvation Army*. Linda Wever and Linda McGee, coordinators, have come up with creative ways to encourage HNC congregation participation. The tree tags will be available mid July, and the project will be finished by mid August. It coincides with the tax free weekend in August.

This was our last meeting under our old format. Michael Smith will convene any joint group meeting from here forward.

The Ministry group will meet on Tuesday, July 14 at 7:15 p.m. Bring calendars for planning future meetings. The other two groups will arrange their next meeting as need arises.

We closed with prayer.  
Submitted by Patty Kipps