

**Orchard Valley United Church
Stewardship Committee Meeting
October 4, 2017**

The OVUC Stewardship Committee met at 9:30am at OVUC.

Present: Ruth-Anne Stirling (Chair), Vicky Austin (Secretary), Sandra Tremblett, Cheryl Manzer, Judy Gilmour, Lisa Cormier
Absent: Linda Swindells
Guest: Judy Norton

Meeting was Called to Order at 9:40 by Ruth-Anne. Judy Norton graced us with opening prayer.

The Agenda was approved but we moved first into Judy's discussion with us on the role of stewardship at OVUC.

- Stewardship is "what you do with what you have."
- What do we do that makes a difference?
- Focus more on education than fundraising events.
- PAR: Need to educate congregation on PAR for ease and flexibility of monthly giving. For consideration --
 - Bulletin inserts
 - Minute for Mission where someone on PAR can talk about his/her reasons and experience.
- Seasonal Envelopes: Ivan and Judy have been looking after this but it should become a function of the Stewardship committee. We will now record when to include them in Sunday bulletins.
- Specific Projects, in cooperation with Finance and Property committees, should be recognized as funds needed for designated purpose(s) and approved by Council.
- "Asking" letters mailed to members several months ago met with concern that money was spent on postage. The next mailing will have labels printed by the office but will be hand delivered to members at OVUC as much as possible.
- Suggest asking Council to approve a page in the Annual Report offering a "leave a legacy" option for giving.
- Judy will hand over the United Church materials from *Salt & Light* with Judy Gilmour for perusal and selection of short videos to be used during an upcoming (late November) Sunday service.

Thank you, Judy, for your input and time spent with us in Stewardship!

Minutes of September 12th

Moved by Ruth-Anne Stirling to approve as read aloud at this meeting.

Seconded by Cheryl Manzer

Correspondence

None.

Old Business

- Music and Comedy Night Saturday, October 21st at 7:30pm
 - Vicky will remain as contact person for Susan Carter regarding poster distribution and any equipment needed on the night of the 21st.
 - Freewill offering split 50/50 with performers: Sandra will ask Vangie to look after the money that evening.
 - Refreshments will be coffee, tea and cookies only – request for cookie donations will be included in OVUC bulletin announcements
 - Communications committee has sent out event advertising.
 - PLEASE NOTE: Sylvia (Communications) and Theresa (Admin) have advised that they are not responsible for designing and creating posters. Each committee looks after that for specific events. However, Theresa has designed the poster for Comedy and Music at short notice. The posters are ready for distribution with ten going to Susan Carter for the Berwick area.
 - We may decide to outsource for a poster in 2018 for the planned cabaret event.

Theresa designed an excellent poster. We extend our sincere thanks to her.

- Obtaining a master list for Soup Lunch emails as suggested by Carol Dewar (Communications) was discussed further. This committee has decided to forego the idea at his time.
- We have not yet extended an invitation to Congregational Life members to attend a Stewardship meeting. We will do so for November 14th.

New Business

- The October Soup Lunch hosted about 61 diners and raised \$553.25.
- Vicky asked that servers be made aware of guests who come on their own, perhaps offering them a seat with others for conversation and companionship.
- We will incorporate the use of larger water jugs so that servers are not always squeezing past those who are at the cleanup station in order to re-fill the smaller pitchers in the kitchen.
- Cheryl and Beth Pattillo are buying spices and other staples in bulk for the Soup Lunches, Y'all Come to Dinners and the Open Arms dinners. For the monthly soup lunches, they are doing prep work and baking a day in advance, so they feel the process is becoming more streamlined.
- Added to NB Agenda: The cabaret event next May is entitled "Grayin' Alive" and will feature music from 1968 to 1972. Dave Murphy and Robyn Brown-Hewitt are creating the cabaret and Thea Burton will direct the production.

The next Soup Lunch is on November 7th. The two soups are Tuscan and Gingered Carrot, with Sticky Date Pudding for dessert. The posters are ready for distribution.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:00 by Sandra Tremblatt.

Next meeting: November 14th at 3:00pm at OVUC.

Vicky Austin – Secretary

Ruth-Anne Stirling - Chair