

## CHURCH COUNCIL RETREAT

August 15, 2009

Those in attendance:

John Blom	Becky Merkle	Marion Schrieber
Norma Bradbury	Cheryl Merkle	Janet Talbert
Pastor Carter	Kellee Milheim	Jean Turner
Sharon French	Russ Milheim	

This group gathered in the Fellowship Hall at 8:30 AM for fellowship and refreshments.

Russ called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM and Pastor Carter gave a devotional from Romans 15 on "Hope."

There was some discussion on Olan Mills proposal for a new Church Directory. We agreed to see if a rep. from Olan Mills could come to the next Church Council meeting on Sept. 8.

The question was asked, "What do we feel is the current state of Calvary?" Pastor Carter stated he was "hopeful" and others said:

we are struggling but not alone,	we are a more elderly congregation,
we are poised for a rebound,	not a diverse as the community,
we have a good pastor,	Children and youth Sunday School is struggling,
our choir is struggling,	we need better communication.
we are traditional	we are loving and friendly.
Is our location a factor?	

The discussion went on as to where do we want to go from here.

- Increase attendance and members
- Increase our presence in the community
- Increase youth program involvement
- Increase Lay Speakers                      Peggy Ireland is a Certified Lay Minister

Now how do we get there?

With attendance we could do follow ups and better tracking of who is absent.  
As far as the choir we will talk to Karen when we do her evaluation.  
For our visibility we can put up a banner or banners in front of parsonage.  
We can do a store front food collection for our presence in the community.

Pastor Carter showed us "*Rethink Church Program*" DVD. This is a new movement that helps us be servant minded. Targets are 18-37 year olds. We can get a kit that goes out to 10,000 doors. This can help us to become people in mission. We can check it out on: [rethink church.org](http://rethinkchurch.org).

We did a review of initiatives from last year. We did get the church council minutes on the website. Visitor ministry now gives out mugs. Wayne Welsh did do a Spiritual Gifts class.

Our specific initiatives for this year are:

1. Russ will write article on the Church Council.
2. We will come up with a process for visitation for new members and absent members.
3. We will post committees and chairs members of each committee.

4. Outreach committee will check on a “*High Visibility*” banner.

Janet made a motion to us the banner we already have until we get one with pictures. Motion was not carried. We will follow up next meeting.

5. Committee Day with a potluck Lunch. Nov. 1, 2009 Start after church @ 10:30 committees include:
- |                 |             |                         |
|-----------------|-------------|-------------------------|
| SPARC           | Trustees    | Finance                 |
| Outreach        | Worship     | Education/Sunday School |
| PDO             | UMM, UMW    | Health and Welfare      |
| Friendship Club | Bereavement | Prayer Partners         |

On the Calendar

Oct. 10, 2009	Prayer Partners Prayer Breakfast 8:30am
Oct. 11, 2009	Outreach committee is sponsoring “ <i>Apple Fest.</i> ”
Nov. 1, 2009	Committee Day with potluck after church
Nov. 14, 2009	Concert
Nov. 15, 2009	Shoe Box dedication

*Emmaus Dates:*

Nov. 12-15, 2009	Women’s Walks
Nov. 24, 2009 -	4 <sup>th</sup> Day Celebration
April 20, - May 2, 2010	Men’s Walk
May 13 - 16, 2010	Women’s Walk

Safe Sanctuary annual meeting is coming up and we have someone from the conference coming to help answer any questions. We will be showing a slide show at these meetings as well. We will also take attendance to be sure that everyone who is working with children attends at least one of the 2 scheduled meetings. We are working towards total compliance.

Charge Conference is Oct. 18 and will be held here at Calvary.

We were offered communion to close our retreat.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon French, Secretary