

Georgetown Ministerial Alliance

Notes on Meeting of June 13, 2007

St. David's Georgetown Hospital

Present: Dan Bonner, George Brightwell, Leroy Jones, Jim Porter, Steve Rottgers, Ev Schrum, Rita Scott, and Gary Whitbeck.

Dan Bonner convened the meeting. Jeannie Stanley is in Mexico on a mission trip with San Gabriel Presbyterian Church members.

Dan asked those present to share "briefly" how it is with them today.

Ev: Has sold house in San Antonio. Moving belongings to Georgetown. His wife Nita will be working at the VA Hospital in Temple. He asked for prayers for Philip and Jean Riley.

George: He commented on the exciting design retreat to update Wellspring's facility master plan. Thanks to First UMC for the use of their Fellowship Hall all day last Saturday. He and Barbara will have lived in Georgetown for 30 years as of the end of June.

Rita: She briefly described the ministry of Georgetown Interfaith Caregivers. They now have over 150 volunteers who provide transportation for the elderly and others who cannot drive. They are planning a fund-raising event to be held in September. The May choral concert raised over \$7,000.00.

Steve: In about a three week period Steve saw a daughter-in-law and a son graduate from medical school and a daughter turn sixteen, then receive his D Min degree, buy a house in Georgetown, and have several publications and a new leadership curriculum published or near publication. He says that it has been both stressful and fun. Whew!

Jim: Vacation Bible School is in progress at First UMC with 189 kids. He and Stephanie are in the process of becoming grandparents through an international adoption of Caleb from Guatemala. It is a slow, complicated process.

Dan: He and Sue will be in San Diego next week to with their son and his expected to be fiancée.

Leroy: He is busy with his church and the "Black Family Technology Program" plus full time at Dell. He once again told the amazing story of being one of the thirty founding employees of Compaq Computers, then transitioning to Dell Computers, both of which became world leaders in the personal computer industry against the giant IBM.

Gary: He is excited about Paula's alma mater U Cal at Irvine being in the College Baseball World Series and also her being elected as a delegate to the United Methodist General Conference next April. This is her third time to attend as a lay delegate.

Steve Rottgers offered prayer for our various ministries and for our meal.

While we had lunch provided by St. David's Georgetown Hospital, Gary Whitbeck outlined his vision of churches or the Alliance offering free tutoring to students in the area. Gary distributed a handout that outlined the history of tutoring programs in Georgetown (Helping Hands and Partners in Education in particular). It appears that tutoring/mentoring is needed more on the west side of IH-35 since "old" Georgetown has more of the existing tutoring sites. Does the program need a director? Can it attract participation in the Alliance, as did the ministry to

Katrina victims? It is “about the children of our community.” It was suggested that we set up a forum with these participants to explore this issue further: Janet Davenport (PIE), Suzy Pukys (Southwestern U.), Dan Woolridge (Crestview Baptist), Gary Whitbeck (Wellspring UMC), and a representative from The Georgetown Project.

There was a discussion about continuing the “Peanut Butter & Jelly” ministry for Meals-on-Wheels. St. John’s UMC is having trouble locating a church to take the program next. We decided to place the issue on the September agenda for further discussion.

Next meeting: July 11, 2007, at 11:00 am, St. David’s Georgetown Hospital.

Recorded by

George Brightwell