

Georgetown Ministerial Alliance

Notes on Meeting of October 08, 2007

St. David's Georgetown Hospital

Present: George Biggs, Dan Bonner, George Brightwell, Paul Partlow, Bill Powell, Mike Martin, Dave Roberts, Steve Rottgers, Rita Scott, and Jeff Siedell.

Visiting: Pat Chalaire, Bebe Johnson, and Mike Watson of LifeSteps: Williamson Council on Alcohol and Drugs.

Jeanie Stanley opened the meeting with readings from Ephesians Chapter 4. "One faith, one Lord, one baptism." "Be worthy of the call to which you have been called." She asked, "Where is God gifting us to be in ministry in this place?" We are bonded as a people through Jesus Christ.

Introductions and Sharing:

Those present introduced themselves and said a bit about their current plans or ministries.

- George Brightwell, Wellspring UMC: He is in transition after leaving Wellspring's staff as of September 30.
- Steve Rottgers, Grace Episcopal: His congregation is growing and he has been asked to remain at Grace as Rector, but that is not yet final.
- Dave Roberts, Grace Bible Fellowship: Now conducting the Williamson County Chorus. Concerts on November 1 and 4.
- Paul Partlow, Georgetown Church of Christ: New Youth Minister. Interested in outreach!
- Bill Powell, Georgetown Church of Christ: They will have a Fall Festival at Annie Purl Elementary School. They are still seeking a senior minister.
- Bebe Johnson, LifeSteps: She is a Prevention Specialist. Leads a group at the High School and also works with The Georgetown Project.
- Mike Watson, Dell employee volunteering at LifeSteps: Using puppets for anti-smoking program for children.
- Pat Chalaire, Executive Director of LifeSteps: Member of Wellspring UMC.
- Dan Bonner, Wesleyan Homes: He's working with Katie Ryan of Williamson United Way on a Summit in November to address homelessness in our area.
- Rita Scott, Interfaith Care Givers: Their fund raiser was Fun and a success. They are seeking more volunteers as growth in the elder population increases.
- George Biggs, First Presbyterian: Described the Healing and Wholeness Service conducted by First Presbyterian Church. The next one will be on October 28 at San Gabriel Presbyterian Church.
- Mike Martin, St. Helen Catholic: Shared about the Community Resource Center and the interest of Catholic Charities and the Red Cross in being a part of the CRC.

Other Business:

1. **Cross Yard Signs:** Sample crosses are available to take to your church to stimulate interest in displaying these signs next year during Lent. Orders should be turned into Janette Donaldson, sgpc@verizon.net
2. **Community Thanksgiving Service Nov 19:** Seeking volunteer to work with children and in the nursery while the service is in progress. Who else can/wants to participate? Let Jeanie Stanley know. jrsta@aol.com.
3. **Community Thanksgiving Meal:** We need a leader to organize the preparation a Thanksgiving meal to be delivered to those making requests (Meals on Wheels, etc.), as well as those picking up or dining at FUMC. If you or your church wants to be involved, please contact Dan Bonner

dbonner@wesleyanhomes.org 863-2528. See the website for further details. Volunteers are needed to donate or prepare foods, box foods for delivery and deliver meals. We also need to spread the word about meal availability and the reservation form via our GMA website.

4. **GMA Website Development:** Please check www.georgetownministerialalliance.org. Is your agency or church included? Are there links you believe we should add? Contact the Webmaster on the site or George Brightwell, brightwg@southwestern.edu.
5. **GMA Outreach:** If you have corrections or additions for our contact list, please contact sgpc@verizon.net. Please help us reach out to people doing ministry in Georgetown. Invite them to our next meeting. Get their info on our website. Invite them to join our efforts.
6. **Peanut Butter and Jelly Ministry:** This ministry may be turned over to Meals on Wheels with funding support from the Ministerial Alliance. The PB&J and bread is offered to Meals on Wheels recipients as a snack supplement to the regular meals delivered.
7. **Georgetown Project and Homelessness in Georgetown:** The Georgetown Project may hold a summit on homelessness in the near future. The Ministerial Alliance and various churches have been exploring the possibility of establishing an Interfaith Hospitality Network. If you are interested in attending the summit, contact Dan Bonner and be on the alert for further information.

Issue Forum:

Dr. Steve Rottgers offered thanks for our lunch provided by St. David's Georgetown Hospital.

Pat Chalaire gave an overview of the ministry and programs of LifeSteps in the areas of prevention, intervention, and education about substance abuse in our culture. Mike Watson gave a brief demonstration of the "Stop Smoking" puppet show for kids. (It's available for showing at your church.) Bebe Johnson described her prevention work with kids in the schools from K through 12th grade. LifeSteps will celebrate 30 years of service to the county in the fall of 2008.

Upcoming Events:

- October 15 Family Forum: Recovering from Life Traumas that Affect Families. St. John's United Methodist Church. Free. Child care provided. Call 863-5886.
- October 21 CROP Walk for Hunger. San Gabriel Park. 2:30p registration. 3:30p walk begins.
- October 28 Ecumenical Wholeness Service, 7:30 PM San Gabriel Presbyterian Church
- November 1 Williamson County Chorus concert, 7:30pm First United Methodist Church
- November 4 Williamson County Chorus concert, 4:00pm, San Gabriel Presbyterian Church
- November 14 GMA monthly meeting: R.O.C.K., Ride On Center for Kids, Nancy Krenek
- November 19 Community Thanksgiving Service, 7:00 pm, San Gabriel Presbyterian Church
- November 22 Community Thanksgiving Festive Meal at FUMC McKinney Ministry Center

Announcements, etc.:

Interfaith Hospitality Network, Community Leaders Forum on the homeless in Georgetown. (Look for an announcement of a November date.)

Closing Prayer

Recorded by George Brightwell