

Minutes

Church and Community Connections

Tuesday, February 8, 2022

Meeting by Zoom

Members Present: Suzy Coulson, Denny Minnich, Chaplain Donna Hale, Greg Lewis, Pastor Chris Schwab

Members unable to attend: Tanis Munroy, Sharon Shellenberger, Karen Byers, Don Mowery, Jeff Noble

1. Call to Order at 7:05 pm
2. Opening Prayer was given by Chaplain Hale
3. Approval of January 2022 minutes—motioned by Denny Minnich and seconded by Suzy Coulson
4. Informational items—none currently
5. Old Business—The January Special Mission for Sadler Health Center collected over \$230,000 for donation.
6. New Business
 - a. Our Council with Suzy Coulson organizing has decided to fulfill an urgent need of Community Cares to collect winter clothes for their homeless clients. Every Saturday in February from 12 to 2 pm a blue barrel will be placed outside our Church for donations of hats, scarves, gloves, and coats. One of our Council members will collect these and deliver them to Community Cares. We are looking for a volunteer to do this on Saturday February 26. Either Suzy or I can be contacted by volunteers for that day.
 - b. Special Mission for February—because we are not meeting in person at First UCC in February we have decided not to have a Special Mission collection for the month.
 - c. My Brother's Table—we began organizing for the delivery of that meal. One suggestion was to have Chicken Cordon Bleu prepared with a vegetable and possibly cole slaw and roll and dessert. However, there may be other suggestions and Suzy and Karen Byers will discuss the menu further. Denny Minnich volunteered that Shari Minnich will provide the dessert. Denny and Mike Coulson and most likely Jeff Noble will be able to serve the meal at the Salvation Army. We are looking for one more volunteer to go there and I will contact Don Mowery. Karen and Suzy and Donna Hale will provide for the meal and other preparations in our church kitchen. We also will have several more CCC meetings to finalize our plans.
 - d. The Salvation Army reached out to us to see if we can provide a meal in the Fall, and we tentatively picked Nov. 19—which is a Saturday at noon for our next My Brother's Table activity.
7. Covid update—Greg presented a Covid update for Cumberland County based on statistics from Monday. The percent of positive cases has dropped this weekend from 32.6% to 25.4%. (The CDC has suggested that under 5% positive cases should be the ideal standard for near resolution of the pandemic). The incidence per 100,000 population of Covid has dropped from 673.7 to 350.5. (The CDC has suggested that under 50 is the ideal standard to suggest near resolution of

the pandemic). The number of those hospitalized is down to 91 from 184 on January 21. The 7-day average of new cases has dropped to 127.3 per day from 483.4 on Jan. 15.

Thus, it appears that the Covid pandemic is slowly receding in our County. The national numbers for Covid mostly mirror what is happening locally. Mask mandates are being dropped in many states, but not yet in Pennsylvania. I don't think these numbers are yet in a range to start in person Church service, but I am optimistic that we are moving in the right direction. ICU admissions and patients on ventilators and deaths from Covid have not declined quite as rapidly as the other numbers have. I suggest that we continue to follow these trends and will discuss further at our upcoming Consistory meeting with the hope that we can reopen our Church for Sunday service sometime in March.

8. Our next CCC meeting will be on Tuesday March 8 at 7 pm. At this time, I am uncertain whether this will be by Zoom or in person.
9. Adjourned at 7:40 pm.