

Minutes of IFC meeting of 10-7-2014

Meeting held at PTBE Library

Attended: Arleigh Grossman, Dick Heiman, Judy Miller, Joel Miller, Judy Maller, Ellyn Rabin, Michele Epstein, Joanne Aviel, Rabbi Callie Schulman, Jennifer Benelli

Sukkoth Event:

- Judy Maller says the current count for the event is around 70 who have rsvp'd.
- Perhaps allow for 90 attending per Judy Maller and Michele
- Try to get people to sit with people they don't know.
- Judy Maller will try and get name tags and Michele will help with seating assignments to try and get a mix of faith houses at each table.
- Set up a table in the foyer at check in area that has printed name tags and blank name tags.
- When guests check in they will be assigned with a table.
- Index cards in the room in the Fireside room encouraging people to indicate on index card what each dish is (or contains).
- Nathan (caterer) is bringing vegetarian lasagna and vegetarian cabbage rolls
- Volunteers should arrive no later than 5:30.
- Michele will work with Katie in PTBE to work out last minute details.
- Sharpies, blank name tags, etc are needed.
- Order of events will be casual and somewhat similar to last year.
 1. Around 6:15 or 6:30, everyone will gather and Rabbi Callie will talk about Sukkoth along with the symbols.
 2. She will also sing.
 3. Also ask other clergy to offer their blessings before the meal.
 4. We can say the Motzi blessing and then everyone can eat. (Total of 10 - 15 minutes of explanation, singing, etc.)
 5. Rabbi Callie will email faith leaders to give them a heads-up.
 6. Maybe a song afterwards might work.
- Arleigh brought handouts explaining Sukkoth. Arleigh will resend handout to Rabbi Callie and perhaps she can add song lyrics to the back.
- Ellyn has put together a nice volunteer list.
- Be sure to assign volunteers to help cleanup.
- Pictures are welcome at the event.

Event with St. Bart's

- St. Bart's has invited us all to a Saturday night vigil mass.
- Saturday the 15th of November.
- We arrive at 4:15 and the mass at 5:00 followed by provide a light dinner provided by St. Bart's.
- Also a confirmation class and their parents are invited.
- All of PTBE will be invited.
- Dick explained the importance of St. Bart's and how they are now reaching out to us.
- How do we promote this?
- Some IFC members may have to meet with Deacon John beforehand to kind of go over plans. (Maybe just an email or phone call with Dick might work instead of a meeting).
- Rabbi Callie suggested 8th and 9th graders from PTBE attend.
- Meg Batavia (from the PTBE office) can help publicize these events with our teens per Rabbi Callie.
- PTBE SMRTY group has a teen that can help?
- Michele will put the announcement in the Kolenu
- Rabbi Callie and/or Michele will talk with Meg to help get teens involved.

- More Details on this event:
Our neighboring faith house partner St. Bartholomew's Catholic Church has invited PTBE members to experience their daily Vigil Mass on Saturday, November 15 at 4:15 p.m. Deacon John Sequeira will begin the evening with an explanation of the service. A light supper will be served after the vigil and we will be joined by the 8th and 9th grade Confirmation class and their families. St. Bart's is looking forward to an evening of great fellowship, thanksgiving and community connection with us. Please RSVP by November 10 to Michele Epstein at Michele.k.epstein@gmail.com.

MLK Day Projects

- Dick gave an update on MLK day.
- Trying to tighten up event and get realistic counts and really good projects,
- Event will be in 3 different schools.
- All 3 school principals are very interested and very involved.
- Exploring a literacy project that might really work well according to one of the principals.
- Also collecting books.
- Trying to get more project leaders.
- Maybe one project leader per 15 or so volunteers.
- The breakfast is split into two - one at First Presbyterian and the other at St. Bart's.
- Whole idea is to get multiple congregants interacting.

Spring Music Event

- What is musical event?
- Freedom theme perhaps. March might be better because of April Passover and Easter.
- We don't want to interfere with Freedom Seder.
- Maybe both Cong Churches and St. James might be interested.
- Doesn't have to be tied to a holiday.
- PTBE Scholar in resident Ariella Forstein is a world-class musician (See: <http://www.songstressariella.com/>)
- And perhaps can do a performance.
- This might be in February.
- Perhaps Ariella could also help coordinate.
- She is here from Feb 26th - March 1st. (Feb. 28th is a Saturday).
- Rabbi Callie will get in touch with Ariella

Next Meeting: TBD