

## Notes from Unglued Church Project Open Gathering January 19, 2019

Present: Wally Blyth, Ross Bryan, Beverly Callahan, Carrie Duckett, Gale Dyke, Vickie Eggleston, Joanna Elletson, Carol Hanna, Jim Higgins, Jim Holding, Gloria Lasher, Lisa McPherson, Ray Pring, Rene Pring, Dru Schoenborn, Rebecca Taylor

The gathering began in prayer with coffee in hand

Rebecca mentioned the possibility of pursuing a request from a church member about an open seminar (or series of seminars) regarding key legal documents that everyone should know about such as a will, financial power of attorney, etc.; discussion followed about resources available through "Link" but the benefit of having personal explanation and guidance; could be open to community similar to the ALICE training event last spring; Dru Schoenborn could be a resource for this

Rebecca also shared a conversation with John Lasher who had a conversation with County Commissioner Ben Kafferlin who is working with several former prison inmates as a mentor through Love, Inc. in Youngsville and who suggested that others could do the same

Carrie Duckett shared about the inspiration to offer a dinner for those impacted by the government shut-down: Furloughed Friends Friday to be held on January 25<sup>th</sup>; donations of gift cards and gas cards are being sought; a stranger paid for hams at Walmart after overhearing her talking about it; prison guards affected as well as forest service employees, etc. so Rebecca contacted Rev. Katherine Randall in Bradford to encourage the passing of information there; Carrie is coordinating the event

Ray Pring mentioned the upcoming visit of David LaMotte, a globally-known singer, songwriter, and speaker who will present a concert through the Warren Concert Association on Saturday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> and then serve as a guest preacher in worship on Sunday, February 24<sup>th</sup>; the expectation is that this will become an annual event in order to "beat the winter blahs;" Ray will be working with Joanna Elletson to "boost" the event on social media (in addition to the Furloughed Friends dinner)

Lisa McPherson mentioned the likely increase in need for food pantry items; Carol Hanna commented on the lack of totes in the church where donations may be placed (she'd like a pink one, please!); discussion followed about having Tops gift cards on hand in addition to the nonperishable food items

Further discussion ensued concerning the possibility of providing a free laundry service at the church; the idea came up again about paying for a day of services at a local laundromat or sponsoring showers at the Y (\$2.00 a person); additionally, it was suggested that the washer & dryer at the manse serve as a pilot for the project; there was strong affirmation that this is a needed service for the community and that we should not feel that we must do this alone (like

the Sharing Place); Ross Bryan has spoken with Thad Turner of the Y who is very supportive of the idea; a clothing closet was also discussed

Other ideas expressed: small groups gathered around specific interests meeting at the church or in homes; offering meeting space to outside groups or sponsoring some sort of “expo;” and needing to continue the conversation and communication!!

Reminder that the group has no official authority to make decisions – Session must approve

**NEXT GATHERING FOR CONVERSATION: Saturday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2019 at 9:30 AM**