

Area Bereavement Sub Committee Meeting Minutes
November 12, 2013

Members Present: David Rivers, Helaine Bolter, Bernice Grabber-Tintes, Deb Gillis, and Colleen Lindstrom, Pat Berg, and Bunny Iverson
Absent: Beth Wepplo

Welcome, prayer

Members had been asked to come to meeting prepared with 3 highlighted comments from the evaluations of the Workshop.

Beth sent Email saying she agreed with the evaluation asking for information on Dealing with all the stuff—forms—information—clothes—possessions.

Helaine noted comments about being able to share at individual tables. People were able to realize others were experiencing the same thing. Their families had heard the stories.

David made note on the comment of events at St Mary's never disappoint. Every detail is addressed. Events flow well, and everyone is helpful and knowledgeable. This was a great service to community.

Topics are relevant, and varied.

Deb noted whatever comes at the next workshop; they know it will be great.

Several noted how popular the wellness sessions were.

One individual came by herself. So glad she did! She was invited to return next year and to bring a friend.

Suggestions for next year:

Want more time sharing.

***Special note** for future, look at timing of wellness piece. Committee would like to keep wellness portion. Wish to increase time for table conversation. Some options are to begin the Wellness portion before the Workshop begins. Shorten the time of wellness time.

Have handouts about Hospice available

Mail the flyer about Workshop to people who have loss family members in the last 6 mos. to 1 yr.

Keep Registration table setup like this year! Keep tables back from doorway.

Tables in hall set up were good. Keep space so no one has speaker to their back. Food provided good. On table went well. And refreshing tables at break time was nice touch.

Helaine asks that we look at the date for next year. This year we had conflict with the Ahlziemers walk. Early October is OLOL's festival. Discussion was had about MEA weekend.

Evening of Remembrance:

Good experience, small turnout. Recommend stressing night that it is to remember everyone, not newly deceased

A suggestion of lighting the candles in the beginning brought up by several. However, lighting the candles within the service has meaning.

Need more greeters at the doors, especially near the end.

Reception: It helped those in attendance to mix and mingle when the food and beverage was on the tables. People filled in and began visiting.

Secretary will send a copy of these minutes to Tim Caylor for the Worship Comm.

Bernice gave David a flyer called a Month of Remembrance. It has prayers for 30 days. David will review and bring comments back to committee.

Deb Gillis will mail the program from the Hospice Prayer Service to David and Helaine.

Future:

Next workshop/ Speakers/ Topic

Additional sub-committee possibilities (Committee members had at an earlier date received a list of different activities by grief committees in other churches.)

Greif display in Area parishes

Meeting dismissed at 2:30 pm. Next meeting: January 14, 2014 at 1 PM.

Submitted,
Colleen Lindstrom