

# FELC Ministry Team Agenda

**Ministry Team:** Youth Connections

**Meeting Date:** February 17, 2015, 5:30PM Downtown Site

**Attendees:** Tom Kent, Valerie Kent, Heidi Schreiner, Jeff Wageman, Kirsten Owens, Pastor Bryan

**Excused:** Lance Schmidt, Barb Schmidt, Jen Wageman

**Our primary goal: Equip young people to grow towards mature Christian adulthood**

Items that may require council action:

- ?

Items that may require budget/finance coordination TO BE PRESENTED TO SUPPORT MINISTRY TEAM.

- ?

New Task Force (include in minutes plus complete the form in the team folder)

- ?

Ministry team agenda/minutes:

- 1) Opening Prayer
- 2) 2015 Budget
  1. Corrected budget after last meeting.
  2. Do not plan to increase confirmation fees this year (currently \$90). As a result, budgeted revenue level will be a challenge given recent confirmation fee collection performance. We need to revisit this topic earlier in the planning cycle for the next budget, and monitor it closely this year.
  3. Overall spending update - on track year to date
- 3) Youth Activity update/summary – Heidi
  1. Children's hospital outreach activity went well
  2. Connected the older teens to the 9<sup>th</sup> graders in a casual game night
  3. Planning for the National Youth Gathering continues (van rental, chaperone coordination). Fundraising is also progressing well at over \$3300 so far. 15 students signed up. Final per student fee expected to be within the range initially communicated to parents.
  4. Kwik Trip fundraiser – change program to have each NYG student sell \$500 in cards? Or sell every other Sunday? Or every third Sunday as with coffee sales? Desire is to drive some accountability toward the program. Plan to give the students the option of selling on their own or selling in between services.
  5. The Seraphim group is needing some prayers for consistency and commitment
  6. Interns – 11 hired, including 3 non-members. Make an Impact coming up soon!
  7. Need help from Youth Connections coordinating fundraising work.
- 4) Confirmation Update – Kirsten
  1. Tom provided feedback from council on “re-tooling of 9<sup>th</sup> grade program” comment in previous mtg notes
  2. Confirmation “banquet” changed to a stand-up appetizer event to be a bit more casual.
  3. Confirmation Goals for 2015
    1. Maintain and build on family component and target students for spiritual mentoring
      1. Find a way to I.D. midyear 7<sup>th</sup> grade students that are lacking family support
      2. Pair those up with a spiritual mentor – could be the same as their prayer partner
        1. Mentor would meet once a month or so with the student to review their assignment status and help them complete some tasks.
      3. Have faith interviews include a pastor
      4. Needs to be seen as supportive, not punitive
    2. Try to find another education opportunity for confirmation leaders
      1. No more surveys or meetings – they are difficult for leaders to accommodate. Time needs to be devoted to a strong educational activity – like the recent QPR suicide prevention training.
      2. Need to think of any outside tools/speakers that could be used for this. Challenge is finding ones that include the faith component.

3. Determine the course and best use of 9<sup>th</sup> graders
  1. Faith on trial?
  2. Hot Topics? Get interns to create videos on specific topics, guided by the pastors.
  3. New & Renew?
  4. Individual group projects?
- 5) Make an Impact donation
- 6) Meeting timing – Next meeting Mar 10 DS at 7:00
- 7) Closed @ 7:00

2014 Year in Review (from last meeting)

1. What went well
  1. Family involvement/meetings in confirmation
  2. Budgeting the cost of camp was well received
  3. Laid the foundation for a new cycle for confirmation that we hope will lead to stronger outcomes
  4. Mission trip was extremely positive
  5. Family assignment idea within the confirmation program was very positive
  6. Advent vespers service and the youth participation
  7. Underspent budget
  8. The 9<sup>th</sup> grade curriculum is really strong – tackles big issues that need to be addressed
2. What needs improvement
  1. Can we better connect the 11-12 graders to the 9<sup>th</sup> graders as we work through the 9<sup>th</sup> grade curriculum?
  2. Finding ways to bring the 9<sup>th</sup> graders to see the relevance of their faith in these major life issues
    1. Faith on Trial?
  3. ReFuel participation rates on Sundays – conflicting priorities
  4. ReFuel meeting location was a challenge (North Site). Sometime met in the kitchen, for example.
  5. Desire is get kids to see the church as a place to explore their faith – without being pushed to do so. Create relevant program that pulls them in.
  6. The variability of the group dynamics makes it hard to peg a certain solution that works for all
  7. Finding ways to equip future leaders in the church – empower them to step beyond their roles.

Submitted by: Tom Kent