

ONA
September 23, 2008

Present: Gail Hall, Stephanie Heneghan, Tim Dostie, Wendy Ware, Katie Hoffman-Fulda, Michael Bower, Bob Inderbitzen, Tom Rolfe, Bill Hoffman, Laurel Cole, Ron Robbins, Steve Smith, Mary Dean, and Pat Howland

Meeting started at 7:03 pm

Opening prayer led by Pat.

Minutes were approved as written.

Gail brought the committee up to date on the September 28th dialog sermon, "Murmurings in the Wilderness." She said that Jonathan had agreed to lead a second hour discussion of it.

The ONA Summer Mailing is going out on September 24th. It mentions that the sermon is an ONA initiative.

Steve will bring extra Danish for the coffee hour.

The group broke into subcommittees at 7:14 pm.

Committee reconvened at 8:00 PM and the subcommittees reported.

What it means to be gay

Stonewall speakers: November 23rd. 3 or 4 people will talk about their experiences. Someone from the subcommittee will introduce them and talk about the format. Format is intro, speakers at 7-10 minutes each followed by questions and answers. Questions will be both written and oral. Paper and pencils will be provided. Food will be provided before the meeting. Publicity will be in November Church Mouse as well as the bulletin. Possibly talk to CE about reaching out to youth. Invite confirmands... through parents? Tom will reach out to Stacie. \$100 stipend.

Bible

The group will work on identifying 3 sessions with different bible passages. Questions need to be developed for each. Sessions will run about 90 minutes. Handout will have a first passage to read with background. Bill practiced this with us. The chapter will then be read aloud by each person, a line or two at a time. There will be questions on the handout related to the chapter. "What is the author trying to tell us in this chapter?" The idea is to elicit what it means to each person rather than trying to define what it means. General discussion on whether more context for the biblical passages should be given? Maybe have some interpretative materials around for participants to have. "What do you hear when you hear this passage?" Committee has to pick some dates and meet together again to solidify the program. The sessions might be once a month in the evening.

Next Committee meeting October 9th.

Prayers: Michael will do one. Bill will do the other.

Closing prayer by Bob.

Meeting adjourned at 8:38 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Smith