

WITNESS AND PROCLAMATION MINUTES
March 20, 2014

Those present: John Mummert, Terry Kohanski (chair), Jan Pennington, Don Rock, Kathy Tashima

Devotions – Terry Kohanski

Our thoughts and prayers are with team members: Mary Court, Steve Mortach, and Madeline Klingensmith. Don Rock will have surgery April 29.

Approval of Minutes November 21, 2013 (our January meeting was cancelled)

Old Business:

Team vacancies – Auglaize Valley needs representatives for new terms. Terry will look into this.

Green Project - “*The Great American Cleanup*” *Check with your city/county for this event. This is a wonderful way for churches and church youth groups to make a difference in their community and to be out in the public working for the good of the community, not for the good of the church itself. It is a statement of the good stewardship God has asked us to do. The cleanup usually occurs during May and June, but registration is in April. Advertise this in your own church. Terry will ask Joan for space in the Vine to put the sentences in italics into the Vine during the last week of March and the first two weeks of April.*

In Toledo, “Keep Lucas County Clean” has creek clean up. Also, there is a full month of recycling for a large variety of items.

Donation to the NWOA 50th anniversary – The team pooled their individual donations.

Vine writers for the following

May – Five for five (Jan); June – Grace Community Center (Kathy); July – OCWM (Kathy)

New Business:

News regarding:

1. **Green Project/ Green Award –** Terry will present the awards at the Annual Meeting.
Kathy will prepare the certificate. So far only Faith Christian has submitted for a Level One recognition.
Terry will continue to write helpful green hints for the Vine
2. **Paton Award –** Jan – No inquiries.
3. **Mission Questionnaire-** Perhaps the questionnaire is not the most effective way to collect the information. Personal contact might be best.
4. **Clean up and personal care kits –** Joan has put this in the Vine. They will be collected at the Annual Meeting.
5. **Iglesia Luterana NWOA Partnership –**Dan was in El Salvador.

Regional, State and Cabinet Reports

Auglaize – no report

Lakeshore – Terry Kohanski for Madelaine Whitten

Terry reported about Excellence in Ministry (geographical clusters). These are clergy gatherings that would eliminate Boundary Training and Clergy Assessment. Lake Shore and Auglaize already have great clergy gatherings so how does this work with “Excellence in Ministry”? Also, to date there is no provision for retired clergy or interims.

Reports (continued)

Sandusky – John Mummert – Choir Fest was January 12 at 2nd Church in Tiffin. Great event. The Sandusky Regional Coordinating Team met and they are planning a mission project at Fairhaven. David Jones from McCutchenville chairs this group that will meet again next week.

Cabinet – Don Rock – Brian Andrews is incoming Vice Moderator from Spencerville in Auglaize. The audit report is available. More information will be given at the All Team Meeting in May. Bookkeeping was changed a bit and there will be an annual audit. The NW Ohio Association budget was approached more realistically for 2014. \$383,715 for 2013 and \$379,821 for 2014. The Budget Team and the Personnel Committee may consult with Riechert Associates who performed the audit. The Church and Ministry team has been busy and has met despite the weather.

Other Business

Witness and Proclamation Team

Our meeting at Culver's was very successful. If moving the meeting there two or three times a year will allow us to have representatives from Auglaize then our team agreed it would be most beneficial.

September – Tiffin

November- Findlay

January – Skype

March – Findlay;

May – All Team meeting.

NW Ohio Association Meeting – Terry will attend. Witness and Proclamation will have a table with our tri-folds. She will also take a few Green Award lists, too.

Vision of the Northwest Ohio Association – Terry read the vision. She will make copies for our next meeting. We will see if our actions/activities are in line with the vision.

Peace Sunday – September 21, 2014

Next Meeting – May 17 at the All-Team Meeting in Findlay

WITNESS AND PROCLAMATION MINUTES
November 20, 2014

Present: Dan Bush, Don Geisman, Terry Kohanski, Jan Pennington, Don Rock, Ruth Whitten

Old Business:

Team vacancies – Auglaize Valley needs representative

Green Project - Small Business Day is November 29, 2014 Put a notice in your Sunday bulletins. Talk it up at bazaars, potlucks etc.

All Team Meeting Evaluation – May was cancelled. No representatives available for the All – Team September meeting

New Business:

Reviewed Vision Statement for Witness & Proclamation & for NWOA.

Project/Assignments/Devotions for the year

Don – Devotions for Jan.

Terry – Devotions for March

Currently Promoted

1. Green Project/ Green Award – **Terry** will put articles/green tips for the Vine for the year.
2. Paton Award – **Ruth** will do this one for Feb Vine. 1st Tuesday in March is the deadline for churches to make application, based on their improvements for people with disabilities, for the Paton Award.
3. Mission Questionnaire – *will be eliminated. Not productive.*
4. Clean up and personal care kits – **Kathy** will take “care kits” at anytime. Good Lenten project for youth groups or women’s groups
5. Iglesia Luterana NWOA Partnership
Next trip will be March 11-19. There are 4 open spots at the time of this meeting. Cost was not figured yet.
New church almost finished,. A mandate from the government to save some historical material has increased the cost by \$40,000.00
The faculty have not been paid for over a year (\$126/month), yet they keep on teaching because they believe in the mission.
The school is \$15,000 IN THE RED. \$20.00 a month would sponsor a student’s education at the school. H.E.L.P. – Educate little people.
6. Peace Sunday - **Terry** will make liturgies available on the Vine
7. Promote “The Great American Cleanup” in the Vine for Jan & Feb. The cleanup is for the months of April & May 2015 – **Volunteer?????**

Reminder: The Witness and Proclamation Team shall include no less than twelve (12) members (Four of whom shall be two (2) lay and two (2) authorized ministers from each region). They shall work in collaboration with and on behalf of the regions to help each individual and church live faithfully in the world. Whether we are worshiping or serving, we are doing it in Christ’s name.

8. What else can our team do to fulfill the mission of the team as set forth in the NWOA Constitution?

Suggestions – work on same sex issues such as freedom for marriages

Minute for Mission in Vine monthly --- volunteer???

Human Trafficking – more education about it

Directory of Churches Websites

Snail Mail Newsletter with a reply card to all 79 churches

Heroin Issues – Learn more about the approach Van Wert County is using --- volunteer??????

Internet Communities

Kathy – can you head the Literacy Project with articles in Vine and for the Snail Mail if we use it?????

ALL these suggestions need a volunteer to head it up and follow through.

Regional and Cabinet Reports – None at this time

Other Business

Jeff King in hospital

Next Meeting: Possibly a teleconference on January 22 around 2pm. – change of date due to Dan Bush schedule.