

Family Ministry Council Meeting

Nov. 16th, 2025 at 12:30

See Action Items at bottom

ATTENDEES: Alana, Beth, Shara, Anna, Chris, Benita, Ari, Tania, Emi, Tristan, Benita (notetaker)

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Eric has stepped down from the Council after many years.

CURRENT BUSINESS and DISCUSSION:

1. **Google Docs:** Alana created a Google folder called "Family Ministry Council," **Where and how do we access that?** A Family Ministry Council document was put together from various RE programs at other churches. It needs to be tailored to our needs. Everyone is welcome to edit it. Will it go on the website? Is it part of the RE Manual?
2. **Calendar:** Real need expressed for a yearly Youth and RE Calendar that schedules church activities, social events, holidays, etc. so that people can plan well in advance.

Will this be a Google Calendar? Should it also be printed out as it used to be in the RE Manual? Is there a calendar in Realm we could use?

3. **Youth Meeting Times:** Church service is moving to 10:30 beginning Dec 28th. Options for youth include meeting before church at 9:30 or after church at 11:30 or at some time during the week. Alana will survey families and make it rank choice voting.

4. Volunteers and Programming

Alana to survey youth to see how they feel about parent volunteers in the classes, or at social activities.

The youth enjoyed the two volunteers, Vance and Greg, coming into play music with them a few weeks ago and would like more of this kind of thing.

Parents, or anyone from the congregation might like to come in and share some special skill or do something fun with the kids.

People from EarthWeb recently spoke at a class. Tania is taking the lead on planning a day at the Bosque after the new year. Marilyn O'Boyle will contact Alana to set a date for the spring for this event. It will likely need to be on a Saturday.

5. Website, Social Media, Realm and Communication

Suggestion made that the website is not as important for appealing to potential members as social media is. Website needs to be cleaned up – maybe it only

needs dates and times and a description of OWL. To be discussed further. In the meantime, everyone should look at the website so they can give feedback at next meeting.

Tristan and Emi expressed enthusiasm for creating content for social media and they think other youth will be excited about it, too. Ari has offered to guide them. She is checking in with Laira to see how she can go about setting this up.

Realm may be the ideal venue for hosting all the Family Ministry info, including calendar and announcements.

DECISIONS

- Meetings will occur on the 3rd Sunday of every month at 12:30, unless otherwise decided due to holidays, etc.
- Everyone, youth and adults, are welcome to attend Council meetings.

ACTION ITEMS

- Benita agreed to review and suggest edits for website and Family Ministry Document, but everyone is welcome to give input.
- Ari to speak with Laira about how to coordinate with youth in starting and maintaining a social media presence.
- Emi and Tristan will familiarize themselves with Realm so they can show others.
- Emi to work with Ari to set up Google Docs.
- Alana to put a yearly calendar together that is accessible by all – probably by Google
- Alana to experiment with Realm to see if it will fit our needs.
- Alana to survey families about meeting times and use rank-choice voting.
- Everyone is invited to review and suggest edits for the RE Manual. It was last updated in 2019.
- Tania is working with Marilyn O'Boyle from EarthWeb to set up a day in the Bosque after the new year.

NEXT MEETING – Sunday, Dec 21st, at 12:30 in RE Room #1