

Subject: FCW Meeting Notes: Sept. 11, 2023 (with attachments)

Good Afternoon Everyone,

Thank you all for your 'agenda flexibility' last evening. Unfortunately, we were not able to watch our planned Bible review with Liz Curtis-Higgs because the church WIFI/internet access was compromised due to a recent storm. With that being said, we did enjoy lively(!) dialogue of many topics last evening.

Below are notes from the meeting, not necessarily in a specific order. Please pardon me if I have missed any topics. If I have missed a topic, just send me a reply and I will route to all later this evening. These Meeting notes are provided to keep everyone up to date on our activities and especially for those women who are not able to join us at this time.

**\* Reminder:** The Trades of Hope outing (tour of their facility,) is this Wednesday, Sept. 13<sup>th</sup>. We will meet at building #6 church parking lot and depart from there promptly at 9:30AM. **If you would like to join the tour, please contact Pam Barlow directly 904-401-1078.**

Currently the following people are confirmed: Spring Mingey, Pam Barlow, Rose Adams, Kathy Hunter, Beverly Drazul. We would most certainly welcome more of you to join us at this fellowship event!

## Now on to our meeting dialogue...

### Discussion Items/Topics, etc. 9/11/2023:

**\* Devotion:** Thank you, Judy for sharing the beautiful reading with a focus on love, faith and Grace.

Judy's devotion was written with a 'baseball team' analogy - God's team and Satan's team. In addition, Judy gave each of us women a Bible verse card of: Ephesians 2:8-9 For by **GRACE** are you saved, it is a gift of God; not of works, lest any man should boast. Judy's document 'The Lord' is attached for your reference.

**\* Meeting Start Time Change:** A vote was taken last evening to confirm we will begin all *monthly* meetings going forward at 6:30PM. This time change is effective immediately and we agree to stay with this start time going forward. The 6:30 monthly start time is set to ensure those women working outside the home, have opportunity to join us.

**\* Reminder: Beverage/Refreshment logistics:** As you arrive at the meeting, please feel comfortable helping yourself to refreshments immediately upon arrival. There is no reason to wait. Refreshments are all self-serve.

For those of you new to our gatherings, and to keep you 'in the know', a signup sheet was routed at the first of the year. Women have already signed up to provide refreshments on a

rotating basis (January through November). In December we have a holiday 'pot luck' gathering where everyone signs up to bring a dish to share. At the December gathering, the start time will be earlier since we are having dinner together. Pam Barlow will provide additional information about our dinner gathering in the October/November timeframe with a signup sheet.

**\* Mission of FCW:** Thank you, Libby, for asking about the mission of FCW! Please pardon us. We have been remiss sharing with you, Bonnie and others new to our fellowship. I am pleased you asked because it is a great reminder, and provided many women last evening, an opportunity to share what we are all about; the various endeavors we are active in within the community, as well as specific international endeavors (such as Trades of Hope).

The mission statement document (was passed around the circle last evening and is displayed on the beverage table each month), it is a great reminder of who we are and what we stand for. I have attached a copy of our mission statement for everyone to review. The attached document is a copy of the handout Lisa Hightower uses when approaching/encouraging women to join our fellowship. (The church office prints these 'bookmarks' on cardstock for Lisa's distribution)

**\* Fall Festival:** The festival on October 21, 2023 is a fun annual event open to the community. You have received in last Sunday's bulletin, a sign up sheet for how you may help (volunteer) for the event. Please contact Jessica Smotherman (Director of Christian Educations) [jsmotherman@firstchurchdeland.org](mailto:jsmotherman@firstchurchdeland.org) for more information and how you may help.

Judy West is 'chairperson' for the bakery sale at the Fall Festival. Please contact Judy at [ddjjwest1212@gmail.com](mailto:ddjjwest1212@gmail.com) for help making baked goods for sale at this event.

**\* School Teachers in need of household goods:**

The list below, was provided by Rose Adams last evening (via text which Pam read to all) These are needs for the women from the Philippines who are teaching our Volusia County children. The teachers arrived with just a suitcase of clothing! If you are able to help provide any of the articles noted below, please contact Rose Adams at [roseeadams51@gmail.com](mailto:roseeadams51@gmail.com).

**“Integra needs (new 3 ladies) Lucille and company” -**

Pillows, 3 mattresses, beddings, kitchen utensils, dining table, working table, lamp shade, sofa, bed frame

**“Irene & Khaye’s” -**

Pillows, 2 mattresses, beddings, comforters, clothes drawer

**“Cens and Company” –**

Vacuum cleaner, 2 shoe racks, comforter

**\* 9/11/2001 Remembrance** - Thank you Pam, for sharing "Meet me in the stairwell" a reading in remembrance of the men and women who perished on September 11, 2001." On this day, 22 years ago terrorists killed nearly 3,000 people and injured more than 6,000 others in the worst attack against the homeland in our nation's history in New York City, Arlington, Virginia, and Shanksville, Pennsylvania".

The document Pam read, is attached to this email for your reference.

**Refreshments:**

Thank you, Amanda for the beautiful and delicious(!) cake you made. Amanda's cake was decorated in the American Flag motif (with colorful fruit) in remembrance of September 11, 2001. A very special cake!

**Next Meeting in October:**

**Monday, October 9, 2023 – start time 6:30PM**

**Lesson:** #7 'Knockin on Heaven's Door' (Rahab)

**Devotion:** Shirley, **Refreshments:** Judy

Thank you everyone for reading these note to keep up to date.

Lisa, Pam, Bev