

Date: April 16
Time: 9:00 AM
Location: St. Tom's

Those in attendance

Don Neifer – St. Mark
Jo Tutolo – St. Aloysius
Tracy Knappins – SA
Mary Jane Fulcher –
St. Thomas More
Esther Nagel –
Peace Lutheran
Kristel Asmus –
Dayspring
Bill Rhodes –
Christ's Church
Erin Hachtel – FUMC
Denise Foos –
St. Aloysius
Leslie Cady – LDS
Lyn Long – 1st
Presbyterian

**Anyone
interested joining
our group PLEASE
contact
Erin Hachtel**

*Our Mission:
Through
understanding,
communication,
compassion, and
cooperation, Wood
County Area Ministries,
an interfaith network,
will equip and organize
its members to better
serve the underserved
in our community.*

*Our Vision:
Wood County Area
Ministries seeks to
meet the basic needs
of the people in our
community through
faith and compassion
by empowering them
to live self-sufficient
and spiritually fulfilled
lives.*

Wood County Area Ministries

- **Welcome and Opening Prayer** – Don Neifer welcomed all and prayer given by Tracy Knappins
- **Introductions**
- **Old Business:**

First United Methodist Church – update on food pantry at FUMC Cocoon has moved to 200 Campbell Hill (Old Elks building)
They will be coordinating services. Food pantry may be put on hold for now.

Feed the 5000 report – 16 churches participated with an estimated 4500+ items collected, *pictures attached*

Elections – Erin Hachtel Chair Tracy Knappins Vice Chair
Leslie Cady Secretary

- **New Business**
MailChimp vs e-mail – which is better? Discussion ensued. Leslie will use mailchimp. PLEASE let her know through her e-mail if you are NOT receiving notices from her after today.

No Wrong Door Training – June 24 8:30 – 12:30 Educational Service Center 1857 North Research Drive Call center 419 354-9010

\$10 registration includes lunch and all the materials. Very beneficial for all the services available in the area

Erin went to a meeting that discussed an issue of foster kids who age out of foster care and go on to college. They are homeless during school breaks. Are there families that would adopt students during Fall, Christmas, Spring Breaks? Are there churches that would help with this? This would be a great topic of discussion for our area churches. More details will be coming.

Meijer offers donations to Food Pantries. Meijer is matching donations right now – Friday and Saturday. Any money donated Meijer will double it. This is a big help to the area food pantries.

Budgeting Classes are being planned by St. Al's and the Salvation Army. These will be offered to anyone in need. Please contact Jo Tutolo or Tracy Knappins for more details, if you are interested.

- **Financial Report – Denise** – Jan, Feb and March reports *see attached*
- **Service Report from other Ministries** –

St. Al's fed in January - 160 households, consisting of 430 people including 126 children. In March – 173 households with 432 people including 114 children
Teachers at St. Al's are trying to get school children involved in donating food.

1st Presbyterian - The Greater Ohio Biking Adventure (GOBA) bikers from all over will be coming through BG June 24th and 25th. They will be staying overnight in BG for 2 nights.

LDS Church on Conneaut will be having a Memorial Day Blood Drive Monday, May 25 from 9 – 2. Walk ins are welcome but you can register for the blood drive at redcrossblood.org or contact Leslie Cady ladycady53@gmail.com

Christ's Church – encouraged us to contact area churches to let them know what WAM is and what we are doing. Church reps are suggested from all churches.

Dayspring is getting a new pastor soon.

Peace Lutheran – We will be hosting a Fifth Friday Feast on Friday, May 29 from 5:00 – 7:00 pm. This is a free community event where all are welcome.

We will also be having our annual Community Yard Sale on Saturday, June 27, from 8 am – 2 pm. Anyone can rent a booth for \$10. You can also rent a table for \$10 or bring your own. There will be ads in the Sentinel Classifieds.

We will again offer a Community Garden. For more information, please contact Kerry Owens at kmowens@bgsu.edu.

For the past several months folks from different churches, non-profit organizations and advocates have been meeting to discuss a cooperative faith-based response to climate concerns. An announcement of its launch is scheduled for Earth Day, April 22, 2015. The Black Swamp Green Team is a collaboration of faith communities, advocacy groups, non-profit entities, and individuals engaged in promoting and practicing good creation care among itself and its constituents so as to: implement energy efficiency; the use of renewable energy; the production and delivery of local renewable energy; and, thereby, improve its overall stewardship of creation. Their next meeting is *tentatively* scheduled for May 23 at 11:00 a.m. PLEASE contact Pastor Deb Conklin for further details. 419 352-0241. You can also contact Pastor Deb to be added to their contact list.

St. Tom's food pantry served 140 families last month.

Salvation Army will be sending 14 children to Camp Neosa, an over night summer camp in Carolton, Ohio. This Camp is for children ages 6 – 12. There is a \$20 registration fee. The camp is June 24 – 29th. Applications are now available. Please let your church family know about this. They can contact us at 419 352-5918 for more information.

St. Mark's is breaking records on feeding people at the Wednesday night meals. Furniture Pantry doing well and serving a lot of families.

- **Next Meeting** – July 16 9:30 at St. Mark's
- **Closing Prayer** – Don Neifer

