

## Congregational Life SLG Report

Submitted by: Darla Gallo

*Please list the members currently serving on your ministry or leadership team.*

- ❖ Jackie Williams, Peter Buxton, Sue Scaff, Tony Pavolini, Michael Caine

*Please list what the goals of your group or ministry were for 2019.*

- ❖ Coordinate hospitality teams, working with team captains to understand the role of the teams and see that all teams have enough members.
- ❖ Organize congregational meals and times to get together to build community.
- ❖ Support Old First community members during different milestones and difficulties in their lives.

*Were you able to achieve your goals for 2019? Please be as specific as possible.*

- ❖ Yes, we achieved most of our goals.
  - Hospitality Teams special days: confirmation Sunday, Music Sunday, New members Sunday
  - Reduced use of plastic by changing to plant-based disposables and ceramic coffee mugs
  - Pot Luck Meals: Easter Breakfast, Annual Meeting
  - Lenten Series
  - Sunday Brunches
  - Picnic
  - Tubing trip
  - Visitations and meals
  - Encourage use of Breeze website
  - Camping Trip

*Where is your group or ministry area stuck? What is your group or ministry area pondering?*

- ❖ We wanted to plan Friday evening out dinners and more group activities, but it hasn't been done yet.

*What do you hope to accomplish in the coming 2020 year?*

- ❖ We plan to continue to organize the previously listed events.
- ❖ The Congregational Life SLG will work with the UCC Mental Health Network to become a WISE congregation. They have created a program to help congregations become Welcoming, Inclusive, Supportive, and Engaged (WISE) with people and issues involving Mental Health.
- ❖ We are planning a Spring Retreat focusing on Christian Faith and the Environment. Tentative date is April 25, 2020, the Saturday after Earth Day. Tentative time is 10am to 2 pm and we will provide lunch.
- ❖ In response to a congregational survey, we plan to have more family inclusive outings and low cost outings.

- ❖ In order to help members get to know each other, we will continue to promote the use of the Breeze website.
- ❖ We will continue to address special events as they come up.

*What are the ways that the church can support your team?*

- ❖ People excited about helping build the community life of Old First could join the team. Willing hands are always needed to help visit people, take meals, set-up and clean-up congregational meals, plan a specific event. Think of ways you would appreciate building community at Old First and share your ideas with the team. Pray for the team members and the community building efforts at Old First.