

*Neighbors United  
Meeting Summary  
04-22-2010*

**Attending**

1. Cait Caughey, *inCOMMON Community Development*
2. Rev. Howard Dotson, *Westminster Presbyterian Church*
3. Pastor Tom Emmett, *MCC-Omaha*
4. Brittany Hanson, *inCOMMON Community Development*
5. Lois Knutzen, *First Lutheran Church*
6. Kevin Marik, *MCC-Omaha*
7. Jessica Mews, *United Methodist Ministries*
8. Pr. Kip Mickelson, *First Baptist Church*
9. Pastor David Paul, *First Presbyterian Church*
10. Pastor Judith Rainforth, *First Lutheran Church*
11. Pastor Kate Rhode, *First Unitarian Church*
12. Laura Shennum, *inCOMMON Community Development*
13. Rev. Jonathan Sloan, *First Presbyterian Church*
14. Calvin Smothers, *inCOMMON Community Development*
15. Doug Walters, *First Presbyterian Church*

**1. Introductions & Updates**

*Opening Reflection*

- Brittany Hanson read an excerpt entitled The Courage of Conversation.  
Wheatley, Margaret. *Turning to One Another: simple conversations to restore hope to the future*. 2<sup>nd</sup>, Expanded. San Francisco, CA: Berrett-Koehler Publisher., 2009. Print.

**2. Community Meal Subgroup Review**

- See attached documents: *CM Coordinating: Role Descriptions (PDF)*; *CM Committee Report (PDF)*

**3. Neighbors United 501(c)(3) Dialogue**

- Brittany Hanson reviewed the letters of invitation, definition of, and fee for Neighbors United Founding Membership.
- Rev. Jon Sloan and Pr. Tom Emmett reviewed the final version of the proposed Neighbors United By-Laws and Articles of Incorporation.
- Meeting participants asked questions and engaged in dialogue about the ideas represented in the noted documents.
- There was unanimous support to submit the Neighbors United 501 (c) (3) application 'as is'.
- The completion and submission of the Neighbors United 501 (c) (3) will be celebrated through a Signing Ceremony during the first hour (11:00 AM – 12:00 PM) of the May Neighbors United meeting (May 27); all founding member faith communities and organizations will have designated individuals sign the completed application. Volunteers, neighbors, parishioners, and community leaders will be invited to the ceremony.
- In addition, Pr. Tom Emmett announced that Metropolitan Community Church will be designating .05% of its annual general fund to Neighbors United. He noted that this decision was supported by

**Neighbors United**, bringing the area inter-faith community together in service to the local neighborhood



the MCC-Omaha board and is a response of generosity in gratitude for the good work of the group. Pr. Tom challenged other faith communities to also consider giving to Neighbors United annually in an amount proportionately based on general funds – giving of this nature positions NU well to receive matching funds from granting foundations and organizations.

### **REMINDERS**

Community Meal – Every Saturday, 11:30-1:00, First Baptist Church

NEXT Neighbors United Meeting: May 28, 11:00-1:00, First Presbyterian Church

### **NU Meeting Schedule** (through Sept. 2010)

May 27	First Presbyterian Church
June 24	Westminster Presbyterian Church
July 22	First Unitarian Church
Aug 26	First Baptist Church
Sept 23	Metropolitan Community Church

