

Subgroup 4: FUN AND ENJOYMENT

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a.) Definition of your theme area:

The Summit spawned three fun themes: Fun and Fellowship, Have Fun Together, and Enjoy Each Other. The message is simple: We need to have more fun as a congregation! We need to make having fun - and enjoying each other - a more important aspect of our life as a community. Fun activities can be general or targeted to include specific groups at RRUC.

b.) Provocative Proposition/Ideal Vision statement for our group:

Members view RRUC not only as a religious gathering place, but also as a social gathering place. Opportunities abound for fun events - which are well-attended. Even serious-minded events are undertaken with a spirit of enjoyment. Smiles radiate throughout the week, and friendships blossom.

c.) Key actions & activities to make this happen:

→ Create a Fun and Enjoyment Committee (FEC) to plan, coordinate, and implement fun and enjoyable get-togethers for RRUC members. The FEC will need to keep tabs on the many existing opportunities for fun and fellowship as well as initiate new ones. Some fun activities may be church-wide; others may focus on specific groups of members.

→ Key factors for the FEC to keep in mind: time constraints in both planning (keep it simple) and attending fun activities (fewer fun events means higher attendance, less burn-out); minimizing costs; and attracting a critical mass of people.

→ Ideas for fun activities include:

- Revive Chalice Tuesdays: Classes and meal. Catered dinner at 6 p.m., classes at 7 p.m., over by 8:30 p.m. For families and individuals.
- Saturday night get-togethers: movies and pizza. Once a month.
- Friday night get-togethers four times a year: pizza and different activities (sing-along, play-reading, art activity, movie).
- Theater projects involving kids and adults. Play reading or acting out one act plays. Working together on a bigger production such as *You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown*. Improvisational theater.
- Fall or spring festival. Activities, especially for kids. Play games, winners get a nominal prize.
- Regular potluck lunches or dinners at the church.
- Poetry reading and writing.
- Arts and crafts together - drawing, knitting, crocheting.
- Hiking, outdoor outings, exploring local treasures (e.g., Billy Goat Trail, Audubon Society grounds). Meet at state park for picnic and activities (games, hiking, boating, swimming).
- Game night. Emphasis on interactive, such as Charades. Board games also okay.
- Create an expressive wall for individuals to record and share ideas and observations.
- Create a fun entering activity in the church lobby - e.g., a statue that different people could decorate in silly ways each week.

- Have a mystery person at each service. Could be child or adult. Try to guess who they are.
- Post a cartoon that needs a caption. Have people write ideas for captions.
- Include a funny saying in the newsletter or order of service.
- Between services breakfast -- or after services lunch - sponsored by different groups within the church.
- RRUC softball team. Play against other congregations in the area.
- Picnics.
- Dances. Square dances, like at Retreat.
- Photos on RRUC website of activities, especially fun ones.

d.) How we will know/demonstrate that this provocative proposition has become a reality:

The RRUC social calendar will be uppermost on members' minds as they plan their weekly activities. The RRUC website will reflect a myriad of fun activities. Fun events will be well attended. People will come to church with a bounce in their step.

e.) Plans/thoughts for integration with other themes:

Excellence/Worship/Programs	Encourage worship service on fun and/or humor.
Membership	Make sure new members are aware of fun events at RRUC.
Social commitment/action	
Fun and enjoyment	
Religious values made manifest	
Communication	Make sure website reflects fun activities.
Building diverse community	Welcome ideas for activities from the full range of the RRUC community.
Young adults involvement	Encourage input from young adults in planning fun events.
Intergenerational	Encourage get-togethers that are purely fun - but also varied, keeping in mind different skills, abilities, and interests.
Financial stability/Stewardship	