

Ad Council Report - November 2011

Youth & Children's Ministry Highlights: Elizabeth Luttrell

August 2011:

Wednesday, August 24 - We resumed Youth Group! We have been doing mission projects once a month on Wednesdays. We've volunteered at the Villa del Sol, The House of Compassion, and the Food Box. We have many students from our church and from the neighborhood involved in Wednesday night youth group.

September 2011:

Saturday, September 3- Monday, September 6 - Chrysalis held at FUMC! We had two of our own students involved in the weekend! It was a great experience!

Sunday, September 11 - Rally Day Food Packaging! All ages were involved and the youth had a table and packed for every shift!

Sunday, September 18 - We resumed Sunday school for all ages! We have classes for Pre-School - 12th Grades on Sunday mornings!

Tuesday, September 20 - Pizza Ranch Fundraiser! We had a great turn out! We are so thankful for the support and we raised almost \$1000 for our summer mission trip to Estes Park, Colorado! Thanks again!!

Wednesday, September 28 - Ebenezers Come Together Worship at FBC.

Thursday, September 29 - See You At the Pole Prayer Meeting. Students met early before school to pray for their schools, classmates, teachers, and our community. Several of our students were involved.

October 2011

Sunday, October 2 - Confirmation Kick-Off! We have 13 students in Confirmation this school year. They are meeting with mentors bi-weekly to go through the curriculum. God is doing amazing things through these relationships. Keep them in your prayers!

Sunday, October 9 - Our third graders received their Bibles.

Friday, October 14 - 5th Quarter Party after the football game at Craig & Elizabeth's.

Saturday, October 28 - Sunday, October 30 - Recharge Retreat in Okoboji!

Sunday, October 30 - Family Movie Night!

Monday, October 31 – Trunk or Treat! Many church members decorated their trunks and handed out candy. It was a great time, and we had over 500 kids come through our parking lot! Each one of them got an invitation to come to church and Sunday school.

Thanks for your support, please continue to lift us up in prayer!

Missions Barb Matya

- Continuing with the soup kitchen a couple of times a month. The youth were in charge of an evening in November.
- August was Supply Closet Month

- Paul & Karen Haenze, our missionaries from Poland, were here in September for Marketplace & Potluck. We donated \$100 + a special offering.
- Ingathering Kits – 149 kits were taken to Cedar Falls, donated \$100 for postage
- Christmas stockings – 200 sent to NYC, \$500 collected in special offering
- Crop Walk was in October with \$318 collected, 1 walker.
- Angel Tree – don't have names yet.
- We are giving a \$200 Perspectives scholarship to help with the signup cost
- Toilet Paper Drive in November for HOC Supply Closet
- Mitten tubs are out to collect warm clothing for local school children
- Making insert for the Advent letter about our 3 missionaries that are supported by the Christmas offering so people know where the money goes.

Endowment Darryl Peter

The Endowment Committee is planning to meet on Wednesday, November 30th at 4:00 PM for the regular quarterly review. The portfolio managers from US Bank are scheduled to attend.

The Regular Fund had a balance of \$202,998.31 at the end of the October. The Building Fund had \$312,271.11 on October 31st. The market has been very volatile the past few months with a lot of concern on current financial conditions in Europe. Our Fund balances are about \$7,000 below where we started the year. However, the committee made distributions at the end of Q1 of just over \$12,000, otherwise our 2 funds would be up slightly.

Miscellaneous funds received into the regular Endowment have been about \$900.00 during November. This type of activity is new. We have not typically received any gifts. This may be a result of last year's Endowment Sunday which was intended to raise the awareness of Endowment giving.

The committee plans to discuss the timing of another Endowment Sunday in future meetings.

Hospitality Pam Vinson

We currently have 7 Hospitality teams for the 8:15 service and 4 teams for the 10:30 service. Marketplace has 5 people who rotate Hospitality duties but they need more volunteers.

Our Hospitality committee serves COFFEE TIME each Sunday morning. We take turns making coffee and preparing the treats, etc. for the morning and doing the cleanup. More volunteers are needed to help after the 10:30 service and getting the coffee going in the mornings, around 7:30 am. It does take 2 people to get everything ready, so please consider joining this ministry.

Friendship Bread delivery is still one of our committee's responsibilities. If you would like to bake small loaves of sweet bread for those who visit our Church, please see me or give me a call at the church office. Our visitors enjoy receiving the gift bags we deliver and a personal contact from a committee member.

We receive positive comments all the time that we are a "welcoming church", so let's keep up the good work, and reach out to those who visit our Sunday morning services, Bible studies and special events. And, please join us on Sunday mornings for "Coffee time".

Finance Kevin Miller

We are still having a good year compared to last year. We did have to do use some of the endowment money to help us through a rough time in September. But are back on track again now and hope to finish the year strong.

We have been able to complete several projects this year above and beyond what we had budgeted. The funds for these projects did not use any budget money.

- Refurbished All of the Stained Glass Windows
- Projector and Computer for the Sanctuary
- Packaged 45,000 meals for use in the US and Abroad
- Parsonage Repairs
- Roof Repair Over the Sanctuary

After a couple of slow months in which we were not able to pay anything towards our apportionments we got back on track and are continuing our commitment of \$3,000 a month towards apportionments

In preparation of Consecration Sunday we have sent a 12 Day Devotional to help guide people in making a decision towards their giving for 2012. We also are having a prayer vigil leading up to Consecration Sunday to ask God's help in our fiving for next year. We pray that we can continue to grow financially which will help us to grow our commitment in serving the Lord.

UMW Edie Hodges

- Oktemberfest Parade Sept. 24 – The hot chocolate was popular this year. Coffee and 180 cinnamon rolls were sold. \$294.12 was profit for missions.
- UMW cooked and served a meal on Sept. 30 for the House of Compassion with Mary Schrader chairing the event.
- The Annual Harvest Tea on Sunday, October 9 was attended by 100. The program was Vintage Clothing presented by Diane Blatt with six local models. A Harvest Tea followed the program in fellowship hall with a Hat Theme.
- Table Sale: The old bridal room cupboards are needed for bell choir music, so the dishes were removed. Kitchen cupboards and the back north room were cleaned out of odd and ends or items not used for years. For two Sundays between services members were able to give a free will offering for items on the Sale Tables. Approximately \$129.00 was made for missions. Items left were taken to the Salvation Army and vases given to Designz for Dawn florist used by the church for alter flowers.
- Soup Supper/Cookie Walk will be on Saturday, Nov. 19. Cookie Walk begins at 4 pm and the Soup Supper at 4:30 pm. Barb Matya and Mary Cowdrey are co-chairing the Soup Supper. Val Clark is chairing the Cookie Walk. Many are signed up to help and/or donate food. A free will offering will be taken for the meal and cookies are purchased.
- UMW will be serving the Matin's Kiwanis Pastor Appreciation Breakfast on Tuesday, Nov. 22 @ 6:30 am.
Money profited will be used for missions. -
- Christmas Brunch: Saturday, Dec. 3, 2011 @ 10:00 am in the sanctuary, sponsored by UMW. A Christmas Music Program by Jan Randall and Cindy Iole will be presented. Followed by a Christmas Brunch in Fellowship Hall. There will be a \$7.00 charge. All are invited. Invite a friend, family member, neighbor, or another FUM member. Reservations need to be made by noon Nov. 30 by calling the church 752-3668.

- UMW circles are updating the UMW 2012 books. Nominations still needs a Kitchen Chair, Co-Presidents, Salad Luncheon Committee for 2012, and a Cookie Walk Chair.
- The UMW Flower Committee is organizing the Poinsetta orders and deliveries for Christmas.

TLC Ruth Jackson

The TLC Ministry continues to share with our shut-ins and people who have lost members of their family. We have eight teams who visit monthly. Our list of shut-ins changes constantly and we are doing our best to keep current. If you know of anyone who should be added to our list or moves being made, we would appreciate it if you could call the office and let us know. I would rather hear from several people than to not catch a change that has happened.

I am hoping to get some new teams serving with us. I will organize an informational meeting for those interested after the first of next year. If you know someone who would join us or if you would like to become part of our teams, please let me know and I would be glad to speak to them or you.

We are going Caroling on December 21. The youth will come with us and I am inviting everyone in the congregation to join us for that. Coming to Carol does not mean you must join the team! We will meet at 6:30 p.m. Bring a sample of your Christmas goodies and we will have hot chocolate and snacks after we carol.

I continue to lead the Tuesday evening Bible Study. There are also sessions meeting on Tuesday morning and afternoon. Tonight is the last session of the study on Paul. We will be starting the Beth Moore study "The Fruits of the Spirit, Living Beyond Yourself" on January 3. If you are interested in taking part in this study, contact Cindy Mack – 641-752-8015.

One of my goals for 2012 is to build up our small group ministry. Al Brennecke works with the men in Promise Keepers and they have 10 groups who meet regularly. There are three active Joy Keeper (women) groups. We plan to offer Couple groups if there is enough interest. John Wesley began the Methodist Church with small groups. It is a very important relational activity and helps to keep us accountable and in prayer and study. It is my dream to see all of our members a part of a small group. Small groups do include UMW circles, choir, our Beth Moore classes, etc. Some of these have larger numbers which makes it difficult to be really close, some meet monthly which need to be more often and some are short term which makes accountability not the best.

If you would be interested in being a part of such a group, contact Ruth or Al Brennecke and we can connect you with an already existing group or start a new group.

My monthly Communion times at the Assisted Living and Nursing Homes are a highlight of each month. The residents are always so appreciative of our coming. Thank you to those who come to help me.

May you have a grateful Thanksgiving as you remember all that God has done for you. God is Good!