



2014 ANNUAL REPORT

We've had another wonderful year due to the hard work of the youth group leaders, nursery attendants, Jr. Choir leaders, Christian Education Board and our talented teachers.

The following is a list of youth activities that were completed in 2014.



Prayer Partners – We partnered our youth with an adult who agreed to pray for his/her youth throughout the year.



Beyond the Bunny – Held on March 30, we had approximately 18 kids. We provided a dinner and then taught, using various activities, the bigger events of Holy Week. We enjoyed coloring Easter eggs and having an Easter egg hunt.



(June/July/August). An activity class was offered for the kids during church services. Adult volunteers alternated working with the class. Thank you to all of our volunteers for keeping the kids interested for the summer months (average attendance 6).



The theme was Weird Animals Where Jesus' Love Is One-Of-A-Kind. We had approximately 35 kids. We had 4 youth helpers and 14 adults (teachers, guides, cooks, storytellers and helpers). Following the program on the last night, treats were provided for the families of those who attended. We raised \$153 for Group Cares Operation Kid-to-Kid which brings clean water to school children in India.

RALLY DAY

113 people attended the official beginning of the church school year. Our theme was "Follow the Heavenly Road." Church members performed a skit based on the "Wizard of Oz."



Our 1st through 5th grade classes participated in Faith Journey, a rotation program. Classes rotate to a different workshop for four weeks to learn one Bible story in different ways. This repetition helps with memory retention and provides opportunities for in-depth exploration. Our teachers prepare only one lesson for two weeks. Our three-year-old and preschool class was taught by Annel Olthof who creates her own rotation curriculum. Our Jr. and Sr. High classes used material selected by the teacher. Thank you to Colleen Clark, Betsy Peterson, Annel Olthof, and Carole Dusterwinkle.



Jr. Church

Prior to attending classes, our preschool through 5th grade classes sing songs, hear a lesson, take an offering, sing the doxology and say the Lord's Prayer.



A modified version of the program "The Opinionated Christmas Tree" was presented. Despite the efforts of Colleen Clark and Kim Chappell, our tree (Scott Peterson) did not want to become a Christmas tree until he was decorated with ornaments that conveyed the Christmas story. The children participated in decorating the tree by bringing in ornaments. Our Jr./Sr. High students read the corresponding description.



Our preschool through fifth grade classes impressed the congregation by answering questions regarding the Christmas story. They also hosted a birthday party for Jesus complete with presents, cake and singing. We want to thank Joyce Busman, Leah Shaw, Scott Peterson, Laurel Parrott, Kim Chappell and Colleen Clark for their acting talents. They presented a birthday party depicting what happens when Jesus is left out of Christmas and they performed the

play "Tickets to Heaven" explaining the gift of salvation. During the reading of the Bethlehem story, the middle and high school classes performed funny brief skits concerning babies whenever the word "baby" was read.



Jr. Choir

The choir consists of 6-8 regular members. They practice 15 minutes following church school and perform on the last Sunday of the month. They are becoming very professional under the direction of Heidi Tice and Kristi Kriger. Thank you Heidi and Kristi.



Margo DeHaan watches over our youth prior to the start of Sunday school.



We use a point system for awarding attendance, knowing a Bible verse, bringing their Bible, singing in the Jr. Choir, acting as acolytes, and praying in class. These points are used to "purchase" prizes from our glass display case.



We completed our class in February of 2014. We had 5 middle and high school students complete the class.

Our Christian Education Board members include: Annel Olthof, Betsy Peterson, Elaine White, Margo DeHaan, and Leah Shaw. Mary Keith was the Director of Christian Education.

I have been happy to serve as the Director of Christian Education and thank you for the opportunity to work with the young people of this church. Thank you to everyone for your continued support of our programs. Please continue your prayers for our youth and our programs. I'm looking forward to a year full of possibilities.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Keith, Director of Christian Education