



DIACONATE ANNUAL REPORT 2011

With the passing of another year, our committee has worked hard to fulfill the obligations of looking after the spiritual interests and needs of our church.

In February, our group welcomed new members – Connie Smith, Marilyn Hegedus, Colleen Clark and Lyle Williams. Elected officers for the new year were: Wes Owen, Chairperson; Donna Pope as Vice-Chairperson; Lance Parrott, Secretary with Laurel Parrott and/or Marilyn Hegedus as acting secretaries, when needed. Internal committee assignments for the year were delegated by various schedules providing for them. Each member being responsible for greeters, ushers, coffee hour and communion per the assignment sheets. We agreed to continue to give bread and candy to any new visitors attending our church services. Also, discussion was given on providing communion to shut-ins.

March was filled with scheduling Easter activities: Men's/Women's Lenten Breakfast, a "Good Friday" movie night, palms for Palm Sunday, as well as the Sunday Sunrise Service and Sunrise Breakfast. There was also discussion on sending out a membership letter to people on our mailing list who do not attend services.

In April, we celebrated the 50th Anniversary of our present church building. The Board agreed on a Hawaiian theme for Holy Humor Sunday. Connie Smith offered to obtain names of new families in the township from record lists as a resource for sending membership letters. Plans for Graduation Sunday in May were set. We also registered our youth group in the Old Fashioned Days Parade.

May – The congregation said farewell to our foreign exchange students.

June brought more discussion on the administering of communion to our shut-ins, and a couple of people requested a Lake Michigan baptism. Otherwise, we adjourned for the summer.

September – A letter was composed by Donna Pope and sent to newcomers in our community inviting them to our church. We changed our meeting time to the 2nd Tuesday evening of the month at 7pm instead of after church. Lyle Williams suggested we establish a prayer chain team.

October – Discussion of attracting new people in our church continued. Communion for shut-ins was still on-going. The prayer chain sign-up poster designed by Kim Chappell was displayed. And, again, our meeting date was moved to the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 6:30pm, when the Trustees and Official Board meet.

November – We had discussion on doing tape ministry again for shut-ins. The idea of designing and getting a “new” prayer request and a “Connect Card” to put in pews was introduced by Marilyn Hegedus. The letters sent to new people in the community has no response, we will attempt something different. The prayer chain and gifts for military personnel were topics on our agenda.

December saw more discussion on taking communion to our shut-ins, but with one of our own going with Pastor Don to provide the sacraments (we assist him). Christmas activities were reviewed and finalized as our church year came to a close.

An ongoing – Thank You!

As our other chairpersons have said – the Diaconate wishes to thank all who have supported our various activities – without volunteers nothing would get done.

Respectfully,

Wes Owen, Chairperson