

COUNCIL REPORT

MARCH 2010

PASTOR JIM CHESTER

CONFIRMATION: Currently we are study the major and minor prophets. Confirmation Sunday May 23rd. Thomas Reece has and will be teaching 3 classes as part of his internship. He finished a class on Books of Poetry and will be teaching on April 11, and 18th. Our attendance has been good over the past few weeks.

SMALL GROUPS: I am gearing up for the small group dinner on March 12th. 6:30 at CCC. Our theme this year is "Heading in the Right Direction". This year as last we will having a pot-luck or dish to pass dinner to save on costs. This year the Sr. High will help in setting/cleaning up the dinner. Thank you to all those who are helping with this annual dinner.

BSA. I have been active in praying for the BSA fundraising campaign for 2010. I also spoke at the Kiwanis Lunch on March 9, and received 100.00 for the BSA. Thank you to the Kiwanis Club here in Fairfield.

W628: I am currently teaching the Book of Daniel on Wed. nights. We will continue to hold the Bible Study through June of 2010; dates will be posted in the Focus. The last official day of W628 is March 24th.

CF: Bambi, Jim J. and I continue to address "doorway" ministry opportunities. You will be hearing more about this in the near future.

Transformation: I will be preparing the Adult Summer class on "That the World May Know" series entitled "God Heard Their Cry" This is an interactive DVD series put out by Focus on the Family by Ray Vanderlaan.

Council Representative: Bambi Oberer

Meeting Date: March 9, 2010

I met again with Jim Jacobs and Pastor Jim to continue work on a new Enquirer's Class. We are getting closer to having a finished outline!

Areas of Ministry:

Adult Christian Formation: Coordinator, Jim Jacobs

- A lot has happen in AT recently. I had to redo the Spring teaching schedule as Geoff Robinson is not available to teach during the Spring session. I was going to do a study on I,II Timothy and Titus but the short Spring schedule (9 weeks) was causing me problems. This all has been resolved since Chuck Welsh will be doing a study of the book of James & Jude. This will be the only class we are offering. Chuck Ullrich will not be doing the Fundamentals of Faith class during the Spring quarter.

Children/Youth Christian Formation: Coordinator, Susan Zaffiro

- Attendance has been averaging around 21 kids this winter quarter which ends on March 28. Spring quarter begins April 11.
- We will have our annual Easter Party on Palm Sunday during Sunday School hour featuring food, crafts, and fun. This is for all classes pre-school through high school.

Nurseries: Coordinator, Gail Garrison

- Things continue to work out and we seem to have a fairly reliable group these days. No issues at this time.

Library: Coordinator, Martha Ruhe

- No news to report this month.

God Squad: Coordinator, Thomas Reece

- Thomas is leading God Squad while doing his internship. He and I met to discuss planning a curriculum that teachers could "grab and go" with. The curriculum is from Christian Ed Warehouse and teachers will be asked to stick to the lesson, but have the discretion to substitute a different craft or activity. Since he is on board, we will not be doing Activity Packets for Spring Quarter.

Kristen Buddies: Coordinator, Amy Wolff

- No news to report this month.

Small Groups: Coordinator, Pastor Jim Chester

- Report included in Pastor Jim's council report.

Senior High Youth Group: Coordinator, Jennifer Lutz

- Currently the main thing on my senior high youth ministry plate is the 30 hour famine. That will be this weekend. The kids will be fasting for 30 hours while raising money for World Vision and doing local missions projects which include helping with the small group dinner, collecting canned goods for Daisy, working at New Life furniture which collects gently used furniture for those in need, and volunteering at a place in Hamilton that works with at risk youth. The weekend is packed. I could really use some prayer for this. I make tons of plans and arrangements (volunteer work sites, host families, volunteer recruitment,

"break" fast dinner arrangements, etc.) and it seems this year the kids are dropping out. I am struggling with finding purpose in youth ministry (I often wax and wane through these feelings but the famine has been especially hard.) I find the commitment of youth and parents of youth to ministry these days frustrating and make planning difficult. The volunteer sites are counting on me to be there with youth to help. So...that's my struggles!

- We have signed the bottom line for our mission trip, committing to 14 spots. We have 11 youth and 3 leaders that will be attending in late June.
- The dinner theater was a huge success and raised almost \$1400 toward our trip. Combined with the Christmas and Kroger fundraisers, we are set for our summer trip. What a blessing! Thanks to all who have helped.
- Our lessons currently revolve around the upcoming famine and God's desire for us to help those in need. I will then begin a series from the skit guys with a conglomeration of different topics youth deal with. It's a nice series that has video and study guides. This will likely take us through April.
- Thanks for caring about this ministry!

Junior High Youth Group: Coordinators, Denny Crutcher

- Our youth group year has been a blast so far. We started out the year with a trip to Pigeon Forge for the Strength to Stand conference put on by the Scott Dawson ministries. This is a great conference for the kids where they were challenged to search for their spiritual gift within themselves and "Stir" it to do the work of God. We had two of our kids walk forward during the Altar Call. What a great experience it was for them to ask Jesus in to their hearts. It is something we continue to celebrate every day.
- We went to Winterjam again this year as always. It is a great way for our kids to get together with 8,000 other kids to sing and worship our Lord. It is a wonderful sound to just listen to them all sing in unison.... I just sit, listen and smile.
- Our summer retreat is set for June 4-6 at Long's Retreat in Peebles, Oh. We will do this for the 5th straight year. We enjoy speakers from our church as well as fun and fellowship as we continue to get to know each other as well as getting to know our God a little more. Always great fun and a great time for us to bond.
- Our Biggest Loser contest/fundraiser is in full swing. We will use all of the funds raised to buy stuffed animals to take to the kids at Childrens Hospital at Christmas time. This is really been laid on the hearts of our kids. They are a very special bunch of kids.
- Our attendance has averaged 7 kids almost every week. We also have one of our formerly non-churched members of the group bringing his parents on a regular basis to service on Sunday. What a blessing they are!!

Confirmation Class: Coordinator, Pastor Jim Chester

- Report included in Pastor Jim's council report.

Kid's Kingdom: Coordinator, Debbie Sangermano

- Thomas Reece has been leading our weekly program this month and will continue to do so through March. The kids love having Thomas, and he has really spiced up our game time. He's also been providing music and puppets for the kids and they love it.
- We continue to average about 12 kids per week.
- Our end of the year auction is coming up soon and we would love to have some donations from our church family to help stretch our budget dollars.
- Thank you so much for your continued prayers and support!

VBS: Coordinators, OPEN

- Well, the coordinator I thought I had declined, so we are still coordinator-less. I did go ahead and order the program. I am going back to Gospel Light since their programs seem to be a good fit for our church. The program is called "SonQuest Rainforest" and (guess what?) it is a rainforest theme! I think the kids will have almost as much fun as the adults with this one! VBS dates are July 26-30 and I will be enlisting volunteers within the next couple weeks. PLEASE be in prayer with me that a dedicated soul will come forward to take the reins for this AWESOME ministry.

E & O REPORT MARCH 2010

Denny Crutcher

We had our organizational meeting in February to set out a plan for the year. We have a lot of projects in the very early stages of development e.g., Mother's day, Father's day etc. Our focus for much of the meeting, though, centered around the We Care fair. We are looking at last year's event thoroughly to see how we can make it more economical, smoother flowing and bigger. We had a great information and idea sharing session with some wonderful things coming out of it. I look forward in the coming months to sharing what we will do to make this year's event even better. We all thought that God truly showered down blessings on our church at last year's Fair, but we all agreed that the greatest blessing was received by all of the people who helped us out from the church. The picture of the smiles and laughter on their faces will never be erased from our minds. God is Great !!!

Ministry: Properties and Stewardship

Council Representative: Charlie Garrison

Meeting Date: March 9, 2010

Areas of Ministry:

Major Issues

- **Insurance.** Insurance claim has been filed from the January break-in.
- **Security and safety.** The doorbell on west doors that rings in the library has been repaired. We suggest that groups using the library in the evening consider leaving the west doors locked for security and personal safety reasons and answer the doorbell for latecomers.
- **Video inventory.** DVD of all major equipment in building (that was made over a year ago) was never located. However Bruce B still had the original videos. A copy of this was put on a flash drive and stored in the safety deposit box.

Short-Term and Long-Term Development: Coordinator, Charlie G

- Non-programmable thermostat in lower level (SW corner) has been replaced with a programmable unit for energy savings.
- We are getting quotes to replace rusting double doors in fellowship hall.

Building and Site Maintenance: Coordinator, Charlie G

- Replacement file cabinet (damaged last month) has been ordered.
- Hardware to repair damages from break-in has been ordered. I was notified that they are to be shipped this week and should be ready to schedule installation by March 10.
- Replaced burned out exit light bulbs.

- Ice tore away gutter above north door and at NE corner of building. These have been reattached. Thanks, Bob C.
- Service project jobs: vacuum basement, youth room, SE stairwell; wash tables; clean glass on main floor; straighten chairs in sanctuary. Thanks, Troop 969.
- Furnace in SW corner (lower level) failed multiple times. Repairs have now been made; no problems have been found since then.

Equipment Maintenance: Coordinator, Bill R

- Operating procedures for the dishwasher has been mounted in kitchen. Thanks, Bill R.
- Operating instructions for hand washing dishes has been mounted above the triple sink.

Building Supplies: Coordinator, Charlie G

- Supplies are being ordered as needed, including for kitchen.

Outdoor Maintenance (plants): Coordinator, Bruce M No report.

Janitorial: Coordinator, Bruce B

- A team of people to clean lower level has been recruited. Thanks to Bruce B and everyone that has agreed to help.

Budget: Coordinator, Charlie G Expenses are tracking as expected.

Stewardship: Coordinator, Art T No report.

ADULT MINISTRIES REPORT

Submitted by Donna Cook

PROGRAMS: w628 dinners are a great success with Jack Burwinkle as chef. He has been doing a terrific job in preparing dinner for all who come for supper and class on Wed. nights. He is also the cook for the dinner theater in February. Melanie Burwinkle has accepted the responsibility of coordinating the set up and clean up crew.

nd
2nd Sunday Lunches..planning to incorporate the small groups in preparing, setting up and cleanup. Will use either paper or china, depending on the type of food to be prepared. Our first 2nd Sunday lunch will be in March with Denny Crutcher's group doing the honors.

WOMEN'S MINISTRIES: Women Connected: Bread making headed and instructed by Liz Robinson. 10 ladies attended and all made a loaf of bread to be taken home and baked. It was a fun time of fellowship and 2 new ladies attended who are fairly new to our church.

Women's monthly luncheon: Because of the inclimate weather, only 3 ladies showed up, but it was a good time the the food was delicious at the Asian Buffet. Next month's meeting will be at Bee's in Fairfield.

CHILI/SOUP COOKOFF...was a big success. Lots of variety of chili and soups. Pauly Polley won the coveted ladle prize for her chicken and dumplings.

EMERGENCY CARE...Sharon Welsh will continue to head up this ministry and there has been nothing to report this month.

CONDOLENCE CARE..Marlene Evans has nothing to report.

MOVERS AND SHAKERS..Darrell Stone has nothing to report.

MEN'S MINISTRIES..Denny Crutcher..Men's breakfast was held and enjoyed by all..it was hopeful that others from another church would join the guys, but didn't work out. I was told that the breakfast was outstanding as usual.

Report per Denny: "Well, the men's group heads in to another year with some new things planned. We are in the process of setting up our annual men's game night at the church. This was a huge success last year and we hope it will be bigger and better this year. Lenny Wolff will again be in charge of this fun night of gamesmanship and fellowship.

We are looking into the possibility of a men's retreat at one of the Hamilton county parks or a local campground. It would be a weekend affair with fellowship, speakers and the usual camping fare..S'mores, grillin' out and the like. More to come on that as we firm up the details. We also hope to get started a bit earlier this year on a night at a Red's game. We tried it last year, but we were too late in the season to get a good game for the group." Thanx, Denny Crutcher

SHARING GOD'S GIFTS..Amy and Lenny W. have nothing to report.