

Missions Ministry
Lois Devereaux, Elder

Mission work continues to play an important part in our church's life. As we embark on fulfilling the goals long range plan, we intend to be even more active in our outreach to the local and worldwide community.

Committee: Lois Devereaux (Elder), Lorraine Cline, Judy Hepton, Debbie Morrison, Bondell Phillips, Bob Vallandingham, Sarah Werner

Accomplishments, 2009

- ***Family Promise***

First Presbyterian Church of Clarkston has joined with other churches in the valley to assist homeless families while they search for housing. *Family Promise* is successfully guiding families out of homelessness into self-sufficiency. Our church coordinates efforts with the First Christian Church to provide temporary housing and meals. We are blessed to have so many willing volunteers who have hosted dinners, prepared and cleaned rooms for families, entertained children after dinner, provided transportation and been available to help in many other ways. Sarah Werner coordinates our church's efforts.

- ***Saturday missions***

Every second Saturday of the month, members of this congregation provide practical assistance to those in our valley who are in need. Bob Vallandingham communicates with *Interlink* to select and coordinate projects such as building wheelchair ramps, doing yard work, and moving households. We appreciate those who have been able to work on the projects, those who have prepared meals, and our partnership with *Interlink*.

- ***The Learning Club***

TLC, our faith-based after school program, is in its seventh (!) year and doing well. We have a talented and caring program director, Cheryl Jurgens, as well as a cadre of volunteers from our church and the community to tutor and mentor the students.

About twenty students participate in the program three afternoons a week. TLC also sponsors "pizza night" where children and their families gather each month for pizza and crafts.

We receive many encouraging comments from teachers about the impact our program has on the children and their families.

TLC board members are: Corrine Truksa (chair), Barbara Auer, Annice Edmundson, Cheryl Jurgens Dorothy Locken, Lloyd Wallis and Lois Devereaux.

- ***Alternative Dinner***

The church continues to enthusiastically support a December dinner for students enrolled in Clarkston Alternative High School. Myrtle DeTray, with whom the idea of the dinner originated, and Pat Paasch provide leadership for this event. Burt McCammon also plays an important role; he cuts firewood in the summer to pay for the turkeys served at the dinner. People from the church and *Women's Aglow* work together to prepare the meal and distribute small gifts to the students.

- ***Angel Tree***

Our congregation provides gifts for children of incarcerated men and women, through the Angel Tree Organization. This year, a Christmas party was held for the children while gifts were distributed. Judy and Bob Hepton, Alyssa and Steve Hopkins, and Jeannie and John Kirkpatrick have taken the lead in improving the lives of these children during the Christmas season.

Goals for 2010

- Support a mission team this summer. The 2010 trip will likely involve a trip to Alaska. Scholarship funds are available to anyone who wants to go on a church-sponsored mission trip.
- Continue to financially support local and regional outreach programs, as well as those sponsored by the Presbytery. (See the following financial report for a complete list of these programs.)
- To continue to be involved, in collaboration with other churches in the valley, with *Family Promise*. We may provide housing in our church for these families during the summer when TLC is not in session.
- Continue to provide a loving, nurturing environment for Clarkston children through the TLC program and to joyfully share our blessings through the Angel Tree program.
- Continue to honor Alternative High School students with a dinner during the Christmas season.
- Search for new ways to continue to spread God's word in the valley and beyond.

Mission Opportunities

Please consider becoming involved in missions:

- On the second Saturday of the month, come help build a ramp or rake leaves for those who cannot
- Prayfully consider going on a mission trip, and supporting those who do
- Financially support the *Mission Scholarship Fund*
- Volunteer to listen to children read in the TLC program
- Offer to provide a meal or other support for families in *Family Promise*
- Brighten a child's Christmas by providing an Angel Tree gift
- Assist with other mission projects

Thank you to all who support our church's important mission work through volunteering, money, interest, and prayer.