



Bethany Stewardship News

March 2015

Stewardship In Action

Our congregation supports many ministries that range from local to international. Many of these are supported just with our monetary donations. Others are supported with some combination of our money, time, or special talents. Any or all of these ways of supporting ministries presents us with daily opportunities for Stewardship, Fellowship, and Service to others.

The Hope Chest is a local ministry that has an immediate impact on people in our area. Your donations of articles of clothing and money make it possible for our congregation to serve others!

Pastor Chad recently had a visit from a man that had been the recipient of our ministry through the Hope Chest. He had been living in a difficult situation and needed long term help with clothing, bedding, assistance getting to doctors, rides to locations, and other assistance.

He left the area some months ago to try get his life back together and we had been wondering what had happened to him. Pastor Chad said he stopped by the office recently, and looked really good. He now lives in Iowa City, and has a job in Coralville. He has a driver's license and a van. Pastor Chad said he has really turned things around. He wanted to let Pastor Chad know that all the time and assistance provided by our congregation was very much appreciated!

Many of us no doubt wonder if anything we do really makes a difference in another person's life. Sometimes we actually find out. Here is an instance where we did!

Thanks for all you do in Jesus name!

Our Ministries

Hope Chest
Food Pantry
Quilters
Domestic Violence Intervention program
Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI)
Good Samaritan Fund
UI Lutheran Campus Ministry
UI Hospital Chaplaincy
Riverside Bible Camp
Shelter House
Angel Tree
Mbakweni, Tanzania
WBARC
Wartburg Seminary
Vacation Bible School
4th Sunday Free Meal
Eyeglasses Recycling
Printer Cartridge Recycling
Sunday School

Ongoing Needs

Hope Chest
Now accepting: **Spring and Summer Clothes**, especially children's; monetary donations to purchase clothes.

Food Pantry
Please pick up the latest list as you come in the door from the parking lot

*God's Work,
Our Hands!*

Thank You!

To the Friis family for donating a new, light-weight wheelchair .

To Curt Friis, Bill Holmes, John Black, Lauren and Matt Whaley, and all others who helped clear snow from the church grounds this past winter.

To everyone that helped in any way with the 3 recent funerals.

To everyone who helped prepare, serve, and clean up at the 4th Sunday Free Meals.

To our members that are prayerfully considering being delegates to the Synod Assembly May 29-30 in Des Moines.

To all who helped with the Wed. meals during Lent.

To all who attended the Wednesday Lent worship services and all who helped lead and prepare for it.

To the youth for serving a light breakfast on Palm/Passion Sunday.

Did You Know...

In the past three months:

-we've delivered 24 bags of food to the Food Pantry.

-the Hope Chest has helped 7 people.

-the Fourth Sunday Free Meal has served 84 people from our community.

-As a result of money donated to the West Branch Area Religious Council (WBARC) at year-end and generous gifts given in the offering on Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, and Good Friday, WBARC donated \$600 to help fund the Weekend Backpack Food program through the West Branch School system. This helps provide food over the weekend for 16 youth in our community. Also, WBARC housed an individual in a domestic violence situation overnight at Day's Inn until the situation deescalated.

Stewardship Meditation

**"They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers."
Acts 2:42 (NRSV)**

As we worship, so we live. Stewardship extends from our corporate experience of God in worship and fellowship with one another. In Acts 2, this community, grounded in its worship and fellowship, practices good stewardship through radically sharing and redistributing their possessions.

Ministry Highlight

Lutheran Campus Ministries

Lutheran Campus Ministry at The University of Iowa provides a safe place for students and faculty of all (or no) religious backgrounds to gather together and ask tough questions about life, faith, religion or God.

Ministry at LCM is provided from an ELCA perspective , which does not discriminate according to race, gender, ethnicity, socio-economic standing, sexual orientation, employment status, age or otherwise.

This is not a place where answers are always provided; rather, it seeks to be an inspiring and creative environment where we learn to formulate questions. Whether you are looking for fellowship, have questions about life and faith, or simply want to join us for a meal or a movie, our door is always open. We typically meet Thursday evenings at 6 PM at Christus House for dinner.

Stewardship Committee

Chair:

Greg Lipes

Members:

Nancy Bruns
Jon Twing
Laura Twing
Neil Korsmo
Chris Korsmo
George McCrory
David Poppen