

2011 ANNUAL REPORT



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Senior Minister Rev. Ivan E. Greuter

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Youth Minister Rev. Cedric Allen

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PROFESSIONAL STAFF

Rev. Ivan E. Greuter 2432 Chestnut St. (217-223-7214)
Youth Minister, Rev. Cedric Allen.....1817 Maple St. (217-592-6977)

2012 CHURCH OFFICERS, COUNCIL, and MINISTRIES

Moderator James Fox
Vice Moderator Scott Darrow
Church Clerk Carol Howerter
Treasurer Sandra Tomlin

COUNCIL COUNCIL

2012

Judy Daniels
Scott Darrow
Wayne Lock

2013

Bruce Cannell
Abbey Langenburg-Cannell
Corey Miller
Kevin Wellman

2014

Joan Drummond
Keith Smith
Wanda Weed

MINISTRY OF THE DIACONATE

Class of 2012

Robert S. Buddemeyer
Carol Buddemeyer
Doris Durk
Ron Durk
Glenn Glessner
Lareva Glessner, Chair
Sandra VanOs
Ruth Willis
Carol Williams
Lem Williams

Class of 2013

Gib Allen
Nata Selves
Jakay Steckler
Connie Wells
William "Bill" Wells
(1) Vacancy
(2) Vacancy
(3) Vacancy
(4) Vacancy
(5) Vacancy

MINISTRY OF THE TRUSTEES

Class 2012

Barbara Hutchens-Bugh
Joyce Kuhl
Andy Miller
Rex Thomas

Class 2013

John David Harker
Virgil Hochgraber
Joyce Kelle
Lynn Sprick, Chair

Class 2014

Harold Willis

FINANCE

ANDY MILLER
Barb Hutchens-Bugh
Joyce Kuhl
Lynn Sprick

PERSONNEL

BARB HUTCHENS-BUGH
Joyce Kelle
Lynn Sprick

PROPERTY

REX THOMAS
John David Harker
Virgil Hochgraber
Harold Willis

CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH OF QUINCY, IL

SENIOR MINISTER'S REPORT 2011

“Jesus said, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.” This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.”

Matthew 22:37-40 (New Revised Standard Version).

Baptists have been evangelical and socially conscious people for two hundred years. The first Baptists in England and America were concerned about a person's salvation through Jesus Christ and right relationships in the community. The key principles of the Baptist tradition were rooted in individual liberty, freedom of conscience, and the transformation of society through individual relationships (e.g., soul liberty, freedom of conscience, priesthood of all believers, separation of Church and State, etc.). Our forefathers and foremothers were on the cutting edge of applying Biblical ethics to social concerns, such as the abolition of slavery, alcohol and illegal drug addictions, child labor practices, city planning, human trafficking, illiteracy, poverty among children and the working class, sexual purity, suffrage, and other issues affecting individuals and society. The efforts to address these social concerns were motivated by Jesus' teachings in the Bible, known as the Great Commission (Matthew 28:16-20) and the Great Commandment (Matthew 25:31-46). Baptists focused their mission work on these two areas: world-wide evangelism and social justice.

God has continued to offer the two-hands of ministry (evangelism and social justice) to our world through Central Baptist Church of Quincy, Illinois. We faced a tough year for ministry and mission as we witnessed the burst of the housing bubble, the sharp downturn in the economy, rampant unemployment which exceeded 10%, and a record number of faithful members of Central Baptist Church who went to their eternal rest. This was one of the hardest years of ordained ministry for me as I faced my final year in the Doctor of Ministry program at the University of Dubuque Theological Seminary, the diagnosis of Crohn's and Colitis diseases, staff changes, and congregational financial uncertainty; always looking to the Lord who is my strength.

As a Minister of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, I served my Lord during the 2011 year:

- † Working 2,472 hours, an average of fifty-five hours each week
- † Making 505 pastoral visits to the hospital, nursing homes, and individual homes
- † Officiating the Ordinance of the Table of the Lord twice each month and on holy days
- † Officiating the Ordinance of Baptism for Seventeen (17) Believers: Allison Chewning, Damon Gibson, Tyler Gibson, Jessica Ingram, Joe Ingram, Lois McManus, Paul Morales, Maddie Hughes, Macy Greuter, Haley Kerkhoff, Tyler Harker, Natalie Valenciano, Jaci Fletcher, Lawrence Fletcher, Jerry, Stacy Gibson, and Carolyn Triplett.
- † Officiating Six (6) Weddings
- † Officiating Thirteen (13) Funerals
- † Reading more than 8,000 pages for scholarship books and journals, wrote four twenty-page papers and attended two intense weeks of lectures for the Doctor of Ministry degree at the University of Dubuque Theological Seminary, Dubuque, Iowa. Started Ministry Project (writing 90 devotions on the Doctrine of the Trinity) and writing 250 page dissertation

- † Completing the application for the Clergy Renewal Sabbatical Grant proposal with the Pastoral Relations Committee of the Ministry of the Diaconate
- † Participating in the two area ministerial alliances: Christian Ministers Fellowship and the Quincy Area Ministerial Alliance
- † Serving a second term as Area II Moderator of the American Baptist Churches of the Great Rivers Region (overseeing our covenantal relationship with twenty-one churches in West Central Illinois)
- † Participating in the *Transformed by the Spirit* Initiative with the Rev. A. Roy Medley, General Secretary of the American Baptist Churches USA
- † Preaching regularly by being absent from the Pulpit only seven times as outlined in my "Pastoral Agreement":
 1. January 23 – Vacation (Pulpit Supply: The Rev. Cedric Allen)
 2. March 20 – Continuing Education, Doctor of Ministry at the University of Dubuque Seminary (Pulpit Supply: Ms. Adina Butler, Director of Children’s Ministry)
 3. May 29 – Continuing Education, Doctor of Ministry at the University of Dubuque Seminary Pulpit Supply: The Reverend Doctor Woodrow Burt, President of Hannibal La Grange University)
 4. June 26 – Vacation (Pulpit Supply: The Rev. Cedric Allen)
 5. July 3 - Vacation (Pulpit Supply: Ms. Adina Butler, Director of Children’s Ministry)
 6. October 9 - Vacation (Pulpit Supply: The Rev. Cedric Allen)
 7. October 16 - Vacation (Pulpit Supply: The Rev. Cedric Allen)

It has been a humble honor to serve Christ among you this past year. Please keep my family and me in your prayers!

Rev. Ivan E. Greuter

Ministry of Youth Report 2011

Train up a child in the way he should go:
and when he is old, he will not depart from it.

Proverbs 22:6 (King James Version)

We are thankful to God for the opportunity to serve Central Baptist as the Youth Minister (PT). We prayerfully accepted and started this position in April. The transition from full time to part time required that changes be made and we all know how easy change and transition can be for adults and youth. Through the grace of God, we were able to start building relationships with the Adult Volunteers and the youth to get us off to a wonderful new beginning in ministry.

At our first meeting, we each went around the room, taking a turn to define **respect**, to find that we all had a different definition of the word from our individual life experiences.

To be on one accord, R.E.S.P.E.C.T., was give a new meaning to us, as the Youth Group: (Reverence, Eyes/Ears, Samaritan, Peace Maker, Evangelism, Christ-like Mind, and Teachable.)

Administration:

- Established Monthly Meetings – Minutes posted on the bulletin Board outside the Office.
- Created and circulated a newsletter introduction for Youth and Parents

- Introduced Covenant of Conduct to establish structure
- Visited most and met parents at their homes or church that did not attend Meet the Youth Minister to build relationship with families
- Recruited 2 volunteers to bring volunteers to five Cindy Brown, Chet Coonrod, Sandy Van Os added Mary Lock and Ronna Rife (Still actively recruiting)
- Spiritual Gift Inventory Assessment
- Youth Room Remodel (Wall Removal, Painting, Carpet/Tile Placement)

Instruction

- Wednesday Night youth Group
 - Began teaching themed curriculum from Simply Youth Ministries then break into small discussion groups led by Adult Volunteers after main lesson is taught
 - God'd Big Story
 - Discovering Who God Created Me to Be
 - Who is God
- Sunday School
 - Began new study series at the start of the school year. Great Characters of the Bible – How God Used Ordinary People to Accomplish Extraordinary Tasks, by Dr. Alan B. Stringfellow. This is allowing us to see the victories, defeats, joys and sorrows of our own lives and how God is able to take our failures and bring about His ultimate purpose.
 - Adam, Eve, Cain and Able, Noah and His Sons, Abraham (Currently Studying)
- Drama
 - We were invited to the preview of “Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat” This was after a study of the life of Joseph.

Evangelism/Mission

- Mission Trip – Indian Murrow Children’s Home, Muskogee, OK
- VBS – Cancelled due to storm that shut down parts of city

Worship

- Sunday Morning Worship Leader
- Special Announcements of Youth Activities made by youth
- Testimonies shared with congregation by youth from SKWIM, Young Christians Weekend and Mission Trip

This year 2 youth have come forward to accept Jesus Christ as their personal Savior and have come forward to become members of Central Baptist Church.

Fellowship

- SKWIM and Young Christians Weekend were attended, led by Ryan Donoho
- BBQ X2
- Movie Night (Facing the Giants)
- Themed LOCK-IN
 - Hoodwinked – John 10:10
 - Holiday – John 3:16
- Monthly recognition of Birthdays

- Swimming at the YWCA
- Bonfire and Weiner Roast hosted by Andy and Deidre Miller
- Family Camp – largest youth participation of youth
- Trunk of Treat – Halloween Alternative
- Mystery Trip – St. Louis, MO
 - City Museum
 - St. Louis Zoo
 - IHOP
 - Carrollton, IL
 - Kampsville Ferry

In the incoming year, it is heart's desire to grow in Relationships with the Youth Ministry Team and Youth and continue serving when called upon in the Ministry of Central Baptist Church.

Rev. Cedric E. Allen

CHURCH COUNCIL REPORT

Blessed are we who serve a risen savior. Our Triune God has mightily led at Central Baptist Church in 2011. I believe with all my heart that our new system of church governance is working. I've heard it echoed on the Church Council that things are running smoothly and more is accomplished in a smaller time frame than under the old cumbersome board system. Through adoption of the revised Bylaws our congregation has affirmed and empowered worker's to use their God given talents in various ministry areas to support His kingdom.

We have many serving in the permanent ministries of the church, but we can always use additional laborers. These ministries include:

1. The Ministry of the Diaconate
2. The Ministry of Trustees
3. The Ministry of Missions
4. The Ministry of Fellowship and Family Life
5. The Ministry of Children
6. The Ministry of Youth
7. The Ministry of Worship

All of these ministries invite members to serve an unlimited number of terms except the Ministry of Trustees and The Ministry Council or Church Council. This allows individuals who are blessed with skills in an area to serve indefinitely because that is their passion. Church leadership does not want to limit people's service, but rather promote using one's gifts according to God's call. Ministry Teams responsible to an appropriate Permanent Ministry of the Church may consist of members as well as non-members. This is designed to get everyone involved in service and win the unsaved to Christ.

Central is a loving church reaching out to neighborhood youth through our Wednesday night programming and has an active youth program. We are blessed to have a vibrant Sunday School Program and various small groups to support our ministry through fellowship, service, and spreading the "Good News" of God's saving grace. God's truths are preached and taught at CBC. We are managing all of our programs through Him without going into debt. Our church's books are balanced and we remain fiscally sound.

I commend our church leadership for discerning God's direction for our church and for

uniting us through His love. There are always tough decisions, especially in our present economy, but the body of Christians at Central have remained steadfast in moving forward with a positive focus on service through Him. I pray continued blessings upon Pastor Ivan, Youth Minister Cedric Allen, and all of the ministers working on His behalf at Central.

Ephesians 4:11-13 It was He (Christ) who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

Jim Fox, Moderator

REPORT OF THE CHURCH CLERK

Total number on roll as of End of December 31, 2010. . .492

ADDITIONS during the year 2011:

Letter. 0
 Baptism. 15
 Christian Experience. . 0
 Restoration. 0

Total Additions . . . 15

LOSSES during year 2011

Letter. 3
 Death. 8
 Member of record. . . . 0
 Erasure. 0

Total Losses. 11

Net Gain for 2011 – 4

TOTAL NUMBER ON ROLL as of DECEMBER 31, 2011.... 496

WE WELCOMED THESE NEW MEMBERS IN 2011



Welcome
 Our *New*
 Members

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>Chewning, Allison
 Fletcher, Mrs. Lawrence (Jaci)
 Fletcher, Lawrence
 Gibson, Damon
 Gibson, Tyler
 Gibson, Stacey
 Greuter, Macy
 Harker, Tyler</p> | <p>Hughes, Maddie
 Ingram, Joseph
 Ingram, Mrs. Joseph (Jessica)
 Kerkhoff Haley
 McManis, Mrs. Lois
 Morales, Paul Jr
 Triplett, Mrs. Don (Carolyn)
 Valencio, Natalie</p> |
|--|---|



IN LOVING MEMORY

Verna Baltzer
March 17, 2011

Mary Ann Fornell
April 5, 2011

Aubrey Pryor
May 6, 2011

Marie Arment
July 20, 2011

Charles Husted
September 29, 2011

William Selves
October 5, 2011

Aulton Mason
October 17, 2011

Virginia Hess
November 25, 2011

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Howerter, Church Clerk

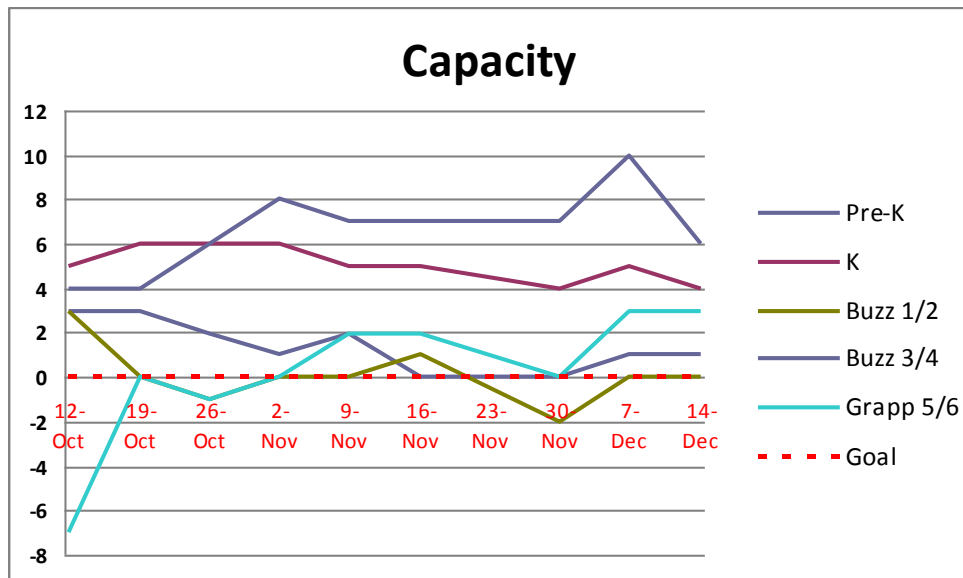
PERMANENT MINISTRY REPORTS

MINISTRY OF CHILDREN –

This past school year the Ministry of Children launched a new Mid-Week programming for school age children Pre K through 6th grade. The acronym BuGs (**B**uilding **U**p **G**od's **S**ervants) was selected to be the name of the program. Curriculum was purchased from Group Inc, and reviewed and approved by the Church Council. This is the same program that supplied Central Baptist's Sunday school and Vacation Bible School programs. The lower grades (Pre K to 4th) used Buzz and the older grades (5&6th) used Grapple.

Both curriculums were developed with the volunteer teacher in mind. Everything they need to teach the lesson is provided in a convenient format.

The overall mid-week program has been successful. The volunteers are developing relationships with these children with less chaos and behavioral problems in the classroom.



To ease some of the stress and burden on the teachers it was decided by the Ministry of Children to establish a maximum ratio of 5:1 per teacher. Registration could be made on line, by phone and also letters and registration sheets were hand-delivered to the children at their homes. Those students who registered early were assured a spot in the class room, all other registrations were placed on a wait list according the “Wait List” policy developed and approved by the Ministry of Children.

The Wait List was reviewed after the first three weeks and those students who had not attended for three consecutive weeks were contacted and given the opportunity to return or be removed from the wait list. When an opening was created, the next student in that age group was contacted and informed of the opportunity to come to BuGs Bible Club.

At this time we have 11 adult volunteers who can accommodate at max 55 students. However, as behavioral problems occurred the number of children and their particular challenges are taken into consideration and that ratio was adjusted on an as needed basis to ensure that the group as a whole would function with the least amount of distraction and disruption for other children in the class. Also is takes into consideration what the individual teachers feel they can handle safely and in a Christian manner without overstressing themselves. These policy decisions made it a more enjoyable experience for both teacher and children.

The goal of the children’s Ministry is to provide a safe loving environment where the children will feel welcome and be in an environment to learn about Jesus and his saving grace and love.

MINISTRY OF DIACONATE FELLOWSHIP FUND REPORT – Lem Williams

The Fellowship Fund has met the needs of several in the church and community in year 2011. The fund started 2011 with a balance of \$460.82. Thanks to the church congregation, the Fellowship Fund received offerings and gifts of \$8,808.82. This is over \$1500 more than last year.

The Fellowship Fund, with the approval of several Deacons, has helped 57 different needs of: rent, food, medical expenses, utility bills, car repairs, and pest extermination. Additionally, the fund provides monthly financial support of the Horizon’s soup kitchen cook and Unmet Need Committee. The expenditure for the year was \$8,147.87, up \$1,151 from 2010. The fund has a balance of \$1,121.77 to start the year of 2012.

Again, thank you for your support of this ministry with your generous gifts. As the needs increase, so has the giving. In 2009 gifts and offerings were \$6088.28, in 2010 it was \$7,263.36, and in 2011 \$8,808.82. One of our Deacons is always saying we are a giving church.

Respectively Submitted,
Lem Williams

MINISTRY OF FAMILY LIFE – Chet Coonrod

Upon the institution of the new Bylaws at the beginning of 2011, the old Board of Christian Education was broken up into various Ministries, one of them being the Ministry of Family Life.

The Ministry of Family Life never held an organizing meeting at the beginning of the year, and consequently, never actually formed or held meetings during 2011.

There was some confusion as to who exactly was to have made up the Ministry of Family Life – in the end, some former members of the Social Committee acted as an ad-hoc group to put together several meals and carry-in dinners during the year.

Family Camp was organized and carried out by most of the same people who had done it in previous years, and it was quite successful.

Respectfully submitted,
Chet Coonrod

Past Chairman of Social Committee, and presumed acting Chair of Family Life

MINISTRY OF MISSIONS – Peggy Cumby, Chair

The Ministry of Missions met monthly in 2011. Thank you to the members of the Ministry of Missions for their time and service to missions and to Pastor Ivan for serving as secretary.

Thank you to the congregation for your financial support of Missions this year and for also supporting the monthly mission projects that were sponsored by the Ministry of Missions.

In April the Great River Region Mission Conference was held at Cherry Hills Baptist Church in Springfield. Those from Central attending were Ramona Hochgraber; Marilyn Shrader; Betty and Rex Thomas; the Greuters -- Pastor Ivan, Rexanne, and their children.

In 2011 we were privileged to have the following missionary speakers during Sunday morning worship services. On Sunday, May 22, Taku and Katie Longkumer were guest speakers at both worship services and they also visited with Sunday School classes. The Longkumers are newly appointed missionaries to Northern India. Then on Sunday, October 30, Ruth Mooney was our guest speaker for both worship services. Ruth updated the congregation on her ministry in Costa Rica and also promoted the World Mission Offering.

During the year of 2011 we sponsored the following monthly mission projects:

- January – Health Kits for CWS.
- February – Souper Bowl of Caring
- March – Pennies for Right to Life Campaign
- April – Easter offering for Lake Baptist Camp
- May – Honor Flight special offering
- June – Campbell Soup labels for Murrow Indian Children's Home
- July – Back to School Fair
- August – Madonna House special offering
- September – CROP Walk
- October – Operation Christmas Child
- November – Thanksgiving Offering
- December – Diapers and baby items for Care Net

MINISTRY OF TRUSTEES – Lynn Sprick, Chair

2011 began with several budget challenges. In March it was necessary to release Pastor Ryan Donoho as Minister of Youth and hire Rev. Cedric Allen on a part-time basis. The youth ministry program has continued to increase in both activities and number of students. When the Ministry of Children returned to seminary to complete her studies, Adina Butler was not replaced. We have continued to make small scholarships for her. The hours of the secretary and custodian were also reduced. However, these hours were reinstated by the end of the year. Carolyn Brown, our dedicated secretary of over 40 years, retired the end of July. Carolyn was presented with a love gift at a quarterly business meeting and dinner. On September 1, Karen Dietrich began her duties as Executive Secretary. The staff reductions allowed Central to have a budget that closed the year in the black. A successful Stewardship Campaign was held in the fall and a balanced budget for 2012 was presented and accepted. In October, in honor of Pastors Recognition Month, a love gift for Pastor Ivan was organized and a gift presented to him of \$3045.00, thanks to the generosity of the congregation. The Repair of the Roof Campaign was also brought to a successful completion. The Ministry of Music positions were filled by Pastor Ivan and Margaret Mealiff until part-time replacements could be found. This will occur at the beginning of 2012. The year was both challenging and rewarding as we continue to carefully monitor Central's finances. I would like to publicly thank the Trustees and congregation for their love and support as difficult decisions were made.

God Bless,
Lynn Sprick, Chair of Trustee

MINISTRY OF WORSHIP – CHOIR DIRECTOR – Rexanne Greuter

This was a productive year in the music department.

Tasks completed in 2011:

- Selected congregational hymns for each Sunday.
- Led the congregational singing at the 8:30 service.
- Recruited Worship Leaders for the 8:30 service.
- Selected and directed the Easter Cantata "No Greater Love" by John W. Peterson.
- Directed the Easter Cantata again when the choir gave a special performance at Good Samaritan Home.
- Selected and led the handbells in Easter specials.
- Led the handbells in a special performance at Good Samaritan Home.
- Recruited and scheduled summer specials.
- Coordinated the cleaning and maintenance of the Handbells by Advanced Bell Systems, Inc.
- Selected choir anthems for the 8:30 service during the winter and fall that reinforced the theme of that worship service.
- Selected and directed a Christmas Cantata "The First Noel" by Joe E. Parks.
- Selected and directed, with the help of Mary Cannell, the children's Christmas program "A Bunch of Gifts for Christmas" by Cathy Skogen-Soldner.

Thanksgiving:

- For those who directed the choir, led hymns, and chose hymns in my absences this year.
- For the choir members and handbell choir members.
- For Andy Miller who ran the sound and recording for both cantatas.
- For Connie Glessner who directed a song during the Christmas cantata and advised me on several choral subjects.

- For Mary Cannell who worked with the fifth and sixth grade narrators and made sure everything went as planned during the children's Christmas program.
- For Cathy Allen who loaned the jingle bells to make the children's program complete.
- For the Pryor family who provided for the maintaining of the handbells in memory of Aubrey.
- For the "angel" who helped provide funds for new music and supplies.
- For Carol Howerter who faithfully found volunteer greeters for both services.
- For the many musicians who glorified God during the summer specials.
- And, finally many thanks to and for Zeke Howerter, Carol Howerter, and Jane Rupert for being the worship committee, sounding boards and a great help and support to me.

I am thankful to God for the choir members, accompanists, sound technicians, guest directors, and musicians who glorified God this year in the music program.

Rexanne Greuter
Choir Director, Central Baptist Church

MINISTRY "TEAM" REPORTS

DECORATING TEAM– Jane Rupert, Chair

The sanctuary is decorated for the different holidays. This year we had new miniature flags from the different countries where we have missions. We used these in the sanctuary for decorations. Pictures were used in the sanctuary in memory of our military. Flowers were donated at Easter, Christmas, and other times. We thank each family who remembered their family and the church with flowers when special occasions such as birthdays, anniversaries, or funerals come. Thank you! This year we had a new Christmas tree; the Angel tree in the Parlor. The angels were beautiful and after Epiphany the decorations for the holiday have been taken down and a new year begins.

CHUPPERS – Marilyn Smith, The Chuppers Team

Chuppers (church suppers) has served nutritious meals from September through May on Wednesday nights. Average attendance is 135 adults and children. We continue to serve free meals to most of the children. Thanks to a few faithful donations we are able to buy our weekly supplies. Also thanks to everyone who help; cooks, beverage servers, cashiers and those who clean the tables weekly.

Marilyn Smith & Frances Trantor

CUB SCOUT TROOP 3 – Matt Smith, Boy Scout Pack #3 and Troop #3 disbanded in 2011.

NELLIE BOTTS FOLEY SCHOLARSHIP FUND – Lounette Chatten

UBERT C. ALLEN, JR. MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND – Jakay Steckler

AMERICAN BAPTIST WOMEN'S MINISTRY

SARAH CIRCLE – Peggy Cumby

Sarah Circle meets monthly on the second Thursday of the months January through June and September through December. At our May 12 meeting we finished our Fruits of the Spirit study guide. In September we started a new study guide, Cultivating Contentment. Both study guides are from the Women of Faith series.

Our largest fundraiser was held on Thursday, May 19, when we served the Retired Teacher's Luncheon. Sandy VanOs coordinated this American Baptist Women fundraiser for us. This fundraiser generates dollars to help underwrite our yearly missionary support and circle dues.

We planned and organized a service project on July 14. Nine members met to clean and organize the 3rd floor Resource Room. After we finished we met for dinner at Wendy's. On July 20, five members enjoyed a road trip to Coralville, IA for a day of shopping and a time of fellowship.

On September 30, an American Baptist Women organization and information meeting was held. All three circles were represented. Su Langenburg, Donna Baird, and Peggy Cumby are the Sarah Circle representatives.

Once again in November, our service project was to coordinate with the Ministry of Missions to check the Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes for delivery to a local drop-off site. We have enjoyed this service project for the past several years. We add additional items as needed to the shoeboxes; secure the shoeboxes per guidelines; inventory the total number of boxes for each -- girls and boys; etc. This year there were 72 Operation Christmas Child Shoe Boxes collected. Peggy Cumby, Su Langenburg, Luke Cumby, and Abby Cannell delivered the shoeboxes to the local drop-off site.

Also in November we helped Circle 31 with their homemade pie fundraiser. Judy Mixer and Peggy Cumby helped to slice and serve the pie. This was held on Sunday, November 20.

Our annual Christmas Party was on Thursday, December 8 at The Patio. Each year we have a themed ornament exchange; this year's theme was "fabric".

JOY CIRCLE – Nata Selves

CIRCLE 31 – Cindy Brown

The members of Circle 31 met on the second Friday of each month and participated in devotions or bible study, fellowship, and the following activities:

- Cleaned the Nursery
- Helped prepare food for the Valentine Banquet
- Enjoyed game night
- Made paper folded spring gifts for the shut-ins
- Provided one helper and two desserts for the annual ABWM fundraiser Retired Teacher's Luncheon
- Enjoyed going out to eat
- Made a Christmas/Winter gift for the shut-ins
- Made Pies to raise funds for ABWM so that the ministry might send gifts and support to our missionaries.

A representative of Circle 31 was sent to the Information Sharing Meeting of ABWM. This meeting included representatives of the three ABW circles. We received a treasurer report and were able to allocate our White Cross donations. Each circle had an opportunity to share plans for the year. Representatives will meet again on Friday, March 23, 2012 at 11:30 p.m.