

## **Mission Ministry Team 2010 Annual Report**

Under the new GLC constitution, effective 2010, the former Mission and Ministry Committee was approved by GLC Council to regroup as the Mission Ministry Team (MMT). Unfortunately, the number of active members dropped from seven to four. Joyce Geary served as interim chair through February. Rick Langner and Wendy Luedke became co-chairs, beginning March 2010. This initial plan evolved into Wendy taking the administrative chair role and Rick serving primarily as liaison to both Thrivent and Faith Mission. Ruth Fortis was the fourth member and the MMT liaison to Trinity Seminary. Paul Feldman served as Council liaison to the MMT.

Due to necessary reductions in the GLC operating budget, the MMT was forced to reduce benevolence support across all budget line items. All benevolence payments were, however, made on time during 2010.

Fortunately, the MMT was able to meet most of its goals for 2010, if on a reduced scale. Due to reduced team membership, the number of activities supporting each goal had to be reduced or streamlined. As recommended by Council earlier in the year, the MMT will review carefully its list of goals and many activities in January 2011. The team hopes, once again, to produce more complete support of each 2011 goal. Actively recruiting new members, and narrowing the team's focus to those issues about which it feels most strongly should be helpful in creating that result.

Following is a list of the MMT 2010 goals and a brief description of the activities supporting those goals.

- 1) To encourage, support and promote service as an outgrowth of worship.**
  - a.** Ruth Fortis and her team of talented quilters from GLC and Ascension LC produced 137 quilts sent to Lutheran World Relief in late autumn.
  - b.** Coordinated by Rick Langner, GLC volunteers served dinner at Faith Mission six times during 2010. Thrivent Financial for Lutherans provided funding for both of the above activities.
  - c.** The LSS Food Pantry was supported by GLC donations of food and cash to the annual "Souper Bowl." In addition, members donated time working in the Food Pantry several days during the summer months.
  - d.** The GLC week to volunteer with the CRC Summer Lunch Program was again coordinated by Bob and Jan Davis. Under their direction, GLC members provided free lunch, snacks, books and storytelling to the children of the Broadmeadows area.
  - e.** Other activities: birthday cake purchased and delivered to Summit's Trace (former Lutheran Village) residents in Feb; "care packages" of edible goodies assembled and mailed to GLC's college students and

members serving in the military; GLC supported the second annual Worthington CROP Walk. Sponsored by Thrivent Builds, GLC adults and youth participated in Shack City. Over 20 members participated in the fundraiser, "LSS Night at the Stadium" in July.

**2) To educate the congregation about mission work and social welfare issues, and to encourage action and advocacy.**

**a.** The MMT sponsored a successful mission fair held at the end of May. Local, regional, and international organizations which receive benevolence dollars from GLC provided representatives to staff tables for the fair.

**b.** Adult forum classes, in conjunction with education staff and team. Topics included an international effort to eradicate malaria and KIVA, the micro lending program.

**c.** Advent Tree of Needs – The recipient organizations were Oesterlen, Summit's Trace, LSS Outreach and Disaster Ministries, Faith Mission and Play & Learn. A wonder outpouring of gifts met most of the "wish list" needs.

**3) To promote MMT events through newsletters, bulletins, email and the bulletin board.**

Regular announcements appeared in bulletins throughout the year, newsletter articles were created when necessary, and the bulletin board was devoted to various Thrivent Builds / Habitat for Humanity activities.

**4) To screen requests sent to GLC for new ministries, and to approve and support through door offerings unexpected needs locally and in the world at large.**

Gethsemane participated in the ELCA plea for financial assistance to Haiti earthquake survivors in January. Due to the budget reductions during the first six months of the year, we were not able to take on any new ministry requests.

**5) To continue to organize at least one service trip to support LSS Outreach and Disaster Ministries in SE Ohio (or where needed, as directed by Mary Woodward.**

Due to the much-reduced MMT membership and regular GLC volunteer support of Thrivent Builds, organizing a work team for SE Ohio was not possible.