

Minetto United Methodist Church

Accomplishments of the past year, October 2009–September 2010

1. Ministry to our parish

- a. Pastor Chuck went before the Central Lakes District Committee on Ministry in June and was certified as a candidate for ordained ministry and was granted his license as a Local Pastor. Bishop Matthews and the Conference Board of Ordained Ministry made his appointment to Minetto UMC official, effective June 1st, 2010.
- b. Pastor Chuck's Bible study, using the book *Lord, Give me Patience and Give it to me Right Now*. Study is for everyone and is intended to be a 12-week study, but may be shortened if some sessions are combined.
- c. A church planning retreat was held on August 11 at Fallbrook Lodge with 28 people in attendance. A great many ideas and comments were received and will receive attention over the coming days and weeks.
- d. Sunday school classes have been offered.
- e. Vacation Bible School was held.
- f. First Tuesday Bible study for women was held every month. Their study was called "Living Above Worry and Stress". An average of 12-13 regularly attend. The sessions are such that one can join the group at any time during the year. Study materials are distributed ahead of time. June Tryon (343-9692) facilitates the group.
- g. Prayers & Squares Ministry has made prayer quilts for 73 people and at least 40 comfort pillows over the past three years and presented them to people locally and beyond.
- h. Gifts were made and delivered to shut-ins during Advent and Lent. Cards and notes are regularly sent to shut-ins and those who are ill.
- i. Prayer Circle meets every Thursday morning to pray for people in the local parish and beyond, including Upper Room prayer requests, which are received electronically each week.
- j. Secret Sister program continued with 18 participating. It culminated in May with an evening together where our secret sisters were revealed.
- k. Book chat has been a monthly gathering of women who discussed a book by Patsy Clairmont entitled, *I Second That Emotion*. Wynnette Dohse led the discussion, which consisted of study questions, video clips, and Bible readings. The group will likely continue with another book after completion of the Pastor's Bible study.
- l. Blood pressure screening is offered monthly and records of the results are kept.
- m. Laity and pastor have made many visits to shut-ins.
- n. Safe Sanctuaries policy was adopted and is being implemented.

2. Ministry beyond our parish

- a. Shared ministry apportionment payments and all other bills have been kept current in 2010.

b. Noisy Can & Special (Haiti) Offerings:		
January:	Haiti relief	\$427.43
February:	Health and Wellness Committee / UMCOR kits	\$94.29
March:	Free Will dinner	\$63.48
April:	Malaria nets	\$136.83
May:	Camper / scholarships	\$165.91
June:	Vacation Bible School	\$96.10
July:	Helping Hands @ State Street Methodist	\$91.28
	Total	\$1,075.32

- c. Non-perishable food has been taken to the Salvation Army each month.
- d. Three members took Early Response Training in March 2010, under the auspices of the United Methodist Volunteers in Mission.
- e. School supplies were collected for students of the Minetto Elementary School.

3. Services to our community

- a. Freewill dinners, served on the fourth Sunday evening of each month, were begun in February. No payment is requested but donations are accepted. Up to 70 people have been served.
- b. Members of the church established a vegetable garden for the Oswego County Opportunities house on Benson Avenue.
- c. Osteoporosis exercise group has been meeting in our building. Gloria and Frank Bickel and Marilyn Stephens have received Osteo Leadership training and are leading the group.
- d. New Horizon's chorus began. Sang at the Joy of Christmas, Springside Retirement Center, Camp Hollis, Minetto Magic, and PEO picnic.
- e. Concinnity, Sounds of Brass, New Horizons Band, and New Horizons Chorus, rehearse here. Several members of our parish are members of these groups.
- f. Hosted a band and choral concert in the sanctuary and operated a refreshment stand in the park as part of Magic in Minetto.
- g. Working cooperatively with the nurse at the Minetto Elementary School, we provided Christmas gifts to two Minetto families of need. Funds were raised with a freewill offering and dinner at the Joy of Christmas program and other donations.
- h. Our annual Harvest Turkey Dinner has become a well-anticipated experience for many people of the community. We served 958 dinners in 2009.
- i. Our twice-a-year rummage sales provide good, used clothing and other items at reasonable prices.

4. Property maintenance

- a. Volunteers keep our gardens blooming and lawns trimmed throughout the summer and walks cleared during the winter.
- b. Recently completed projects include steps and railing at front of parsonage, parsonage roof and a kitchen window replaced, parking lot sealed and marked, and large butternut tree by kitchen door trimmed.