

Welcoming, Fellowship and Growth Ministry Annual Report for 2008

Communications Committee members: Vandy Bradow (newsletter editorial board), Carol Clark, Shannon Core, Sue Cottle, Polly Gamble, Aurora Gregory, Carolyn King, Susan Lane (newsletter editorial board), Dot Littleton, Lavon Page (webmaster), Anne Pope, Ann McLaughlin (chair)

Fellowship Committee members: Ed and Ruth Klemmer, Sue Rogge, Vandy Bradow (chair)

Greeters Committee members: Scottie Bell, Ann Duffell*, Marge Eckels, Bill Lamb, Jeanne Ledbetter, Robert Parrish, Anne Pope, Carson Roach-Howell, Julia Robertson, and Sue Cottle (contact)

Growth Committee members: Ed and Ruth Klemmer, Roger Manus, Jane Smith (chair)

What we learned:

- * Off-site picnics are problematic. Try again after worship and closer to CUCC?
- * CUCCers are not nametag people. Nametags are on hiatus.
- * An up-to-date website with an online calendar will get used by members and visitors.
- * The News and Observer ad is not meeting our needs. We reallocated the funds to buy the visitors' info glass case and contribute to the ad campaigns.
- * People like to be able to sneak out after worship; we don't need a deacon stationed at the second sanctuary door to greet and help with traffic flow. We do need the Greeter to help people find the Vaughan Fellowship Hall after worship.

What we did:

Building relationships

- * Welcomed members and visitors in the narthex through weekly Greeters. Clarified their role before and after worship and coordinated with ushers and Steve.
- * Welcomed newcomers at two Newcomers' Brunches, March 16 and September 7.
- * Asked Forum to arrange chairs in conversational crescents for Fellowship Hour.
- * Sponsored a Fellowship Hour after worship every week led by the Klemmers.
- * Initiated follow-up with members we haven't seen for a while; contacts are being made by Steve and Robert.
- * Sent cards to our college-age members in September (Tai chi & SJM) and Advent (Monday Lunch Group).
- * Accepted with gratitude the work of CUCC's ministries to sponsor church-wide events which build relationships. *See the list below.*
- * Initiated "5th Sunday lunch and program" events planned by Ministries *see below*
- * Sponsored fellowship opportunities: Shrove Tuesday pancake supper, P2e, Adult Christmas party, and the ill-fated and canceled Lake Wheeler Picnic
- * Reviewed with Steve and Carol their process for follow-up with repeat visitors

Communicating what's up

- * Disseminated 11 editions of the newsletter electronically and by mail
- * Revised standard information in weekly bulletin
- * Increased use of email alerts for event reminders and changes
- * Revised content and design of CUCC's website (www.communityucc.org). Added online calendar and upcoming events. Placed key documents (check request, fellowship procedures, etc.) online.

- * Mounted a glass information case in the Vaughan Fellowship Hall to invite those attending meetings of visiting organizations to participate in the life of our congregation
- * Worked with ushers to initiate placing paper information (bulletin, newsletter, brochures) in the Vaughan Fellowship Hall.
- * Initiated a seasonal bulletin board (Welcome Back, Advent) with entry-level activities while keeping the boards in better order.
- * Maintained the tract rack.
- * Arranged for Greeters & Carol to keep fresh copies of the brochure & newsletter on the Narthex table.
- * Thanked Forum for creating a Community UCC Sunday Forum Facebook page.

Becoming visible outside our walls

- * Flew two permitted special events banners: Stop Torture Now (in conjunction with Social Justice Ministry) and God is still speaking, (in conjunction with the ad campaign)
- * Contributed to the regional (\$200) and national (\$100) UCC radio ad campaigns and, with the help of all CUCC Ministries, made sure we had entry-level activities which visitors could visit.
- * Suggested that the God's Green Earth canvas bags include CUCC's name &/or email address and helped research green sources for the bags.
- * Contributed ideas so that our grounds might better tell our story to and welcome the neighborhood during the grounds design project.
- * Wore CUCC-design nametags when representing CUCC at public events (pilot project): Wake UP transit conference, environmental seminar, Greenpeace PR event.

Events planned by the Ministries are the heart of where we have fun together.
Many thanks to the Ministries who sponsored these opportunities.

Event	Date	Ministry	Intergenerational
Lenten Film Fridays	Feb./Mar.	Adult Ed	no
Shrove Tuesday pancake supper	Feb. 5	Fellowship	yes
Farewell, Pastor N'Sumbu	Mar. 9	Deacons	yes
OGHS Celebration potluck	Apr. 6	Community Outreach	yes
Auction	Apr. 12	Stewardship	no
Art Sunday	Apr. 20	Arts in Worship	yes
Graduation celebration	May 18	Deacons, Youth Ed, Youth Group	yes
Welcome, Pastor Claudio	June 29	Deacons	yes
P2e	July 6	Fellowship	yes
God's Green Earth	Aug. 1-	Childrens Ed & JCC	yes

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Church school kick off potluck	Aug. 24	Christian Education	yes
Ordination of Pastor Luis	Oct. 19	Deacons	yes
Early Voting + Bus + Lunch	Oct. 26	Social Justice & JCC	yes
Harvest dinner	Nov. 8	Stewardship	yes
Concert by Mary Pickering	Nov. 14	Stewardship	yes
NIN Celebration	Nov. 29	Community Outreach	yes
Advent Wednesday Soup +...	Dec. 3, 10, 17	Deacons	yes
Family Advent Celebration	Dec. 6	Christian Education	no
Adult Christmas Party	Dec. 13	Fellowship	no

* Ann Duffell moved to South Carolina during this year.