

**COMMUNITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
COMMUNITY OUTREACH MINISTRY
2009 ANNUAL REPORT**

Excerpts from CUCC's Constituion and By-laws are in blue:

The Community Outreach Ministry shall be called to encourage our Congregation's participation in mission programs within the wider United Church of Christ as well as local, state, and national charitable organizations to feed, clothe, shelter and spiritually nurture the stranger and those in great need and any other such charitable actions.

- **Meals on Wheels.** Three routes were delivered each 2nd Wednesday of a month by CUCC members.
- **Wright Center.** Coordination of this project was passed from Geri Bowen to Julia Robertson in May 2009. Meals were prepared and served by CUCC members on the 3rd Sunday of each month except March and October (which have long been done by another UCC church)
- **Method Child Development Center.** Five CUCC members and two visitors gave their time for a workday at the Center; COM publicized (newsletter) the opportunity to donate to the Center when you buy at Food Lion or Harris Teeter.
- **Urban Ministries' Food Pantry.** We made a change to the food bag list as a result of talking with the people at the pantry when one CUCC group toured Urban Ministries. CUCC donated this year 337 food bags to the pantry.
- COM publicized (newsletter) the opportunity to donate to the **Interfaith Food Shuttle** any Lowe's Foods Rewards S&H Greenpoints
- **Passage Home.** Many CUCC members donated time, money, and goods to prepare an apartment for a formerly homeless woman and her child, and then took a potluck lunch to welcome the woman. We have also helped with school supplies for the child, Christmas gifts and gift cards, and caring support. Two CUCC members are keeping in touch with the family, who expect soon to move into permanent housing
- **Virtual Marketplace of Meaningful Gifts.** We raised \$495 this year for the agencies, as follows:
 - Good News Message Church \$20
 - Friends of Residents in longterm care \$115
 - Loaves and Fishes \$330
 - N.C. Peace Action \$10
 - National Federation for the Blind \$10
 - Passage Home \$10

It shall be the calling of this Ministry:

A. To receive and investigate requests for special benevolent giving, acting upon them with recommendations to the church or by use of funds made available to the ministry.

CUCC participated in the following special offerings in 2009:

One Great Hour of Sharing offering held in spring totaled \$2873.

Neighbors In Need offering Sept. 13, Welcome Back Sunday, 2009 \$1972

CROP Walk 10 people walked, and raised \$1780.

Veterans of the Cross (formerly the Christmas Fund) totaled \$1470

B. To recommend to the Stewardship Ministry benevolent projects for the annual budget.

The following benevolent projects were included in COM's annual budget in 2009:

- Urban Ministries
- Loaves and Fishes
- Method Child Dev Center

- Alliance of Aids Services
- Interact
- FIGS
- Food Bank East NC
- Women's Center
- Passage Home
- Triangle Pastoral Counseling
- Emmaus House

C. To promote understanding of the Community Outreach program through regular activities of the church and in special meetings which the Ministry may organize.

Agencies of the Month: (each organization came to speak at length with the COM committee and then delivered a Mission Moment to the congregation during worship)

- Passage Home (and this resulted in our new involvement with preparing an apartment)
- Emmaus House

One Great Hour of Sharing, Neighbors in Need, CROP Walk, Veterans of the Cross (formerly the Christmas Fund). For each of these special collections, COM organized mission moments to explain the work that would be done with the donations.

Tours of Urban Ministries (recipient of the largest piece of COM's budget). Six CUCC members toured in June and twenty on Nov. 2 or Nov. 11. Several other members had already toured the place, so now more than 30 from our congregation have seen Urban Ministries first hand.

Maintained the **Mission Moment calendar** on the CUCC website so that people would know what Sundays were available for Mission Moments.

D. To recommend to the church any action to be taken to assist in the work of Raleigh InterChurch Housing, Inc. Frank Gailor, Marge Eckels, and Peg Hulslander are on the Board.

This 100-unit apartment building on Method Road near the State Fairgrounds is in such dire need of repairs that safety is an issue and a great deal of money is needed to do repairs; repairing all 100 units (which will require moving tenants while their units are being repaired) is expected to take two years, once the money is acquired. The Board members, especially Frank Gailor, have worked many hours this year, investigating sources of money for the project. HUD has agreed to extend the term of the loan secured some years ago for repairs, which was to be due this year. The next step is to establish a budget and plan of action, which will require the help of an architect. The Board has identified three and will be screening them over the next few weeks. With a budget, plan of action and time table, they will be ready to begin serious work with HUD on securing the loan guaranty that is necessary to finance the repairs.