

Congregational Life Committee Report for 2011

Committee Members: Debbie Lee, Chairperson; Carol Buikema, Lynn Gunn, Tracy Hughes, Nancy Jones, Donna Morris, Christine Ramos, Tammy Snider.

Task Forces: **Ushers & Welcomers:** Led by Chuck Hughes

Care Network: Led by Marilyn Pagan-Banks/Denise Grossman(2011), Deb Derylak (2012)

2011 was a busy year for all of us. Our By-Laws state that the Congregational Life Committee "shall have general responsibility for ministering to and caring for individual members and the Congregation as a whole", and while this is a pretty tall order, we had a good time working together on the following endeavors while deepening our friendships as well:

- Scheduling and/or hosting all regular Sunday morning coffee hours
- Kitchen clean-up and organization
- 5 dinners for the Lenten programs
- Dinner for the Northside Cluster Group of churches meeting at WAUCC
- Organized and decorated for the Easter breakfast
- Helen Dimmick's 100th birthday celebration
- Church School Rally Day Ice Cream Social
- July church picnic at the lakefront
- Reception for Polly Ullrich's Memorial Service
- Organized the September Church Retreat
- Centennial reception for Alice Hunt
- Receptions for Loren McGrail's presentation on Palestine and the Interfaith Service at WAUCC
- Intergenerational Bowling Party
- Wellington Way breakfast
- Advent wreath-making accompanied by lunch and a mini bazaar featuring WAUCC artisans

Ushering Task Force headed by Chuck Hughes. To quote Chuck, "increasing membership and maintaining our sense of community starts in the Narthex on Sunday morning. As we enter the church, whether newcomers or long-time members, a friendly greeting from ushers makes us feel welcome". And so, a very big thank-you to Chuck and to all of our warm and welcoming ushers. They do, indeed, add so much to our Sunday morning worship experience.

Care Network, under the leadership last year of Marilyn Pagan-Banks, Denise Grossman, and now Deb Derylak, has worked diligently to find more ways to build communication, strengthen the bonds of friendship and spiritual support within our congregation, and to provide physical support in the form of helping hands wherever individual members may need it. The work that Care Network does is sometimes behind the scenes, but it is the work that makes our church feel like family.

Congregational Life Committee and its Task Forces are all about facilitating community within our church. There are many more things we would like to do, if only we had more hands, so we invite you to join our Committee or one of our Task Forces. We'd love to have you!!