

MINISTRY MATTERS

Vol. 3 No. 42 October 27, 2017

*The purpose of Ministry Matters is to provide an opportunity for the leaders of Timothy to share what is happening in their ministry areas. Each Friday, Ministry Matters is emailed to Timothy's executive board, elders, staff, commission leaders and other lay leaders. **If you wish to include something, please email it to Diane Mayfield (dianem@timothylutheran.com) by 8am Thursday.** Feel free to share this document as you wish.*

From Diane Mayfield—Connections Coordinator

Please email items for the Nov. 3 Ministry Matters to me by Tuesday, Oct. 31, at noon. I will be out of town from Nov. 1-6 so will prepare next week's Ministry Matters on Tuesday afternoon. The document will still be emailed on Friday, Nov. 4 as normal. Thanks for your help!

From GIVE Commission—Pam Sbisa, commission leader

GIVE Commission met on Oct. 23 with Pam Sbisa, Chris Hruska, Diane Mayfield and Nancy Nowiszewski attending. Pam opened the meeting with prayer.

Nancy shared her October Care Ministry Report:

- Spiritual Gifts Worship Series: In November, the sermon series for this emphasis is "The Gifts God Gives." Timothy's Spiritual Gifts Inventory, introduced as part of this series, will be available for all to take on Timothy's website. Staff and lay leaders will be notified via email about people interested in/gifted in various ministries of the church, thereby allowing for meaningful connections to enhance ministry.
- Ask, Thank, Tell: Ask Team members include Pastors Rich, John and Rod as well as Steve Schild (elected elder), Diane Mayfield (executive board) and Chris Hruska and myself from GIVE Commission. The team met on Oct. 19. Significant progress is occurring in all 3 subcommittees. Thank-you's were sent by three of the 'thank-ers' to those who helped with most recent Welcome Inn meal. Tell Committee is designing a "tell card" to provide a means in which people can share how lives have specifically been impacted by others. As we move into the new year, January and February will carry through with ongoing Ask, Thank, Tell opportunities.
- Compassionate Care: Great news! Vicki has accepted a job with Target beginning Nov. 1 and will be working 35 hours per week at a higher pay per hour than her conference center job. She has been looking at rental properties and is considering moving to an apartment if her older son does not continue to live with the family. She is also starting to make plans for furnishings for the new lodging, which she will move into by the end of February.

I am in the process of developing an application for those interested in living in the house; the application will be available to our members by mid-Nov., with Jan. 1 as the deadline for submission. I will share the application with the GIVE Commission after it has been reviewed by the Compassionate Care team.

- Because of the ongoing, frequent requests for hotel assistance by mostly those who receive assistance from the government (disability, social security, SSI) or whose need cannot be accurately determined, I am recommending to the GIVE Commission that hotel assistance be discontinued at this time and that instead, we focus on how we can improve and expand our transitional housing program in the Blue Springs area, which would lead to more positive and permanent changes in the lives of those who are helped through this program. Changes to consider:
 1. Cap the length of residency at 12 months.
 2. Require that the adults in the house be working prior to moving into the house.
 3. Explore the possibility of paying for electric and gas bills for the house (billed to the church or have the person living in the house bring in the bills that are in their name to be paid by the church). (NOTE: Commission suggested establishing a reasonable cap for these utilities to encourage responsible usage by renter.) The resident would provide for phone service. Cable & internet would be discouraged so that they can save for new housing.
 4. Provide a deposit and first month's rent (up to \$1,600) when the resident moves into his/her own housing.

Funds for this care ministry would continue to come from the contributions collected during the Thanksgiving offerings as well as designated offerings made throughout the year.

- Hillcrest Transitional Housing: Annual gala was Sat., Oct. 21, at the Hilton Garden Inn in Independence; six gift baskets were provided by Timothy members for the silent auction and nine members attended the event.
We celebrated the graduation from the Hillcrest program of our resident (Megan) on Sun., Oct. 22. Seven Timothy members were present to celebrate with Megan, who will be moving into a graduate apartment this week until the first of the year. She regains custody of her two children on Dec. 15. We will have a new resident soon in our apartment.
- Cancer Companions: Training for churches is offered to provide support for families impacted by a cancer diagnosis. We have purchased the starter kit (with funds donated for cancer support programs) and have registered Gary Williams and Lucy Johnson for the training, which has been moved from Oct. 7 to Nov. 4 at First Baptist Church, Blue Springs. I will work with Gary and Lucy to develop a support program that will serve the needs of our members, plus the community.
- Live Well: This is an 8-week informational group that focuses on how diet, exercise, and faith can bring balance to one's wellbeing. We have 12 people attending the 8-week group, which concludes on Nov. 20. We may offer the program again in early 2018
- DivorceCare and GriefShare: *Surviving the Holidays* workshops for both programs will be offered soon (Nov. 11 for GriefShare and Nov. 14 for DivorceCare). The information about the workshops will be shared with the community through the *Examiner*.
- Electronic Giving: An insert with information about the ways that one can give (online, Give+ app, envelopes) was distributed on Oct. 14-15. A copy of the electronic card, to be

placed in pew racks and used during services by those who give electronically were shared with the Commission.

- Welcome Inn: Our next meal (turkey and the sides) will be served on the Sunday after Thanksgiving (Nov. 26). A devotional booklet entitled “The Hope of Christmas” will be distributed to participants, in addition to other items we have available to give away.
- Christmas Giving: I am in the process of learning the needs of the individuals and families we will be sponsoring for Christmas. We will receive lists from Hillcrest, Our Redeemer and Community Services League in addition to those identified through Care Ministry. Giving Trees will go up Nov. 22, and Journey to the Manger will be held during services on Dec. 9-10.
- Flu Shots: This was available at the North Campus through the Hy-Vee mobile unit on Sun., Oct. 15, 8:30-11:30am; only 8 people received their flu shot so we will reconsider whether we want to offer this opportunity next year.

Connections Coordinator Report: Diane reported that Ministry Matters, *Get Connected* and *Celebrate* continue to be her main focus. Additionally, this time of year includes publishing year-end Annual Reports from staff, commission leaders and board chairpersons. Deadline is Nov. 15 in order to prepare packet of reports for Dec. 3 Voters’ Meeting. Reports should include recap of 2017 programs, activities, and events as well as goals for 2018.

Next GIVE Commission meeting will be Mon., Dec. 4, 6pm, Room 303, North Campus (rescheduled from Nov. 27). Chris closed the meeting with prayer.

From GROW Commission—Mary Low, secretary

GROW Commission met on Oct. 23 with Mary Reed, Ryan Kuecker, Miriam Lindemann, Dawn Twenter, Diane Mayfield and Pastor Rod attending. Mary Reed opened the meeting with prayer.

Old Business:

- Confirmation Prayer Pals: Mary Reed shared that this program is off and running. All students in grades 6-8 have a prayer pal. We plan to host a “reveal party” on Wed., Dec. 13, between the Advent Services. Each Prayer Pal will be asked to arrive at 6:30 with a Christmas CARD for his/her student. A mixer game will be played to reveal each pair. Plans will be finalized next month.
- Sunday Morning Children’s Ministry: The Commission learned more about the formats currently in place at the North and South Campuses. Discussion focused on if these are best meeting the needs of Timothy’s families. Discussion will continue next month.
- Middle School Sunday School: This class is up and ready to go. Pastor Rod will send out an announcement to all confirmation students.

New Business:

- Mary Reed mentioned that we are nearing the end of our 2-year commitment as members of the GROW Commission. She encouraged each of us to prayerfully consider remaining on the commission for the next two years.

Next GROW Commission meeting will be Nov. 27, 7pm, Room 102, North Campus.

Ryan closed the meeting with prayer.

Upcoming Dates to Remember:

Oct. 28—School Ministries Gala/Auction, 6pm, The Cotillion, Blue Springs
 Oct. 28—Ministry in Action Cottage Meeting, 10am, Room 501, North Campus
 Oct. 29—Ministry in Action Cottage Meeting, 11:30am, Room 1206, South Campus
 Oct. 30, Nov. 6, Nov. 13, Nov. 20—Live Well Sessions, 6:30pm, Fireplace Room, North Campus
 Nov. 2—JourneyMen Take the Lead event, 6:30pm, Family Life Center, North Campus
 Nov. 4-5—LWML Nut & Candy Sale preorder dates, both campuses
 Nov. 5—School Board meeting, 11:30am, Room 1101, South Campus
 Nov. 6—Executive Board meeting, 6pm, Room 303, North Campus
 Nov. 7—Elected Elders meeting, 7pm, Fireplace Room, North Campus
 Nov. 8—*Children of the World* concert, 6:30pm, Sanctuary, North Campus
 Nov. 13—GO Commission meeting, 5pm, Room 1101, South Campus
 Nov. 13-20—Operation Christmas Child collection dates, South Campus
 Nov. 15—Deadline to submit Annual Reports
 Nov. 15—Deadline to submit *Get Connected* items (Dec., Jan., Feb.)
 Nov. 22—Giving Trees up at both campuses
 Nov. 22—Thanksgiving Eve services, 4 & 6:30pm, North Campus
 Nov. 26—Welcome Inn meal, 12:30pm, at motel
 Nov. 29, Dec. 6, Dec. 13—Advent Services, 4, 5, & 7:30pm, North Campus
 Dec. 2—Women of Hope Prayer Breakfast, 9-11am, Fellowship Hall, North Campus
 Dec. 3—Annual Voters’ Meeting, 11:30am, Auditorium, South Campus
 Dec. 9-10—Journey to the Manger, all services
 Dec. 10—“Jingle Bell Beach” (children) & “Glory and Wonder” (adult) Christmas musical, 6pm, South Campus
 Dec. 18—ECC Christmas Program, 7pm, Sanctuary, North Campus
 Jan. 4—“Ask” Discipleship Team Meeting, 1pm, Fireplace Room, North Campus
 Jan. 6-7—First Fruits Weekend, all services
 Feb. 10-11—Commitment to Growth Weekend, all services