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Alliance Women

Fiscal Year 2011/2012

Alliance Women continue to be an active group in the church who keep our missionaries and their needs in prayer. In addition to our times of prayer, we have hosted on three occasions this year, young women from our church who have spent time experiencing another culture and who have been changed because of that experience. In addition to a group of nine women who attended our spring conference in Lombard this year, four women also attended the annual workshop in June which highlights the emphasis of the year for Alliance Women which is the 4/14 window. One of our meetings was devoted to explaining this window, which is an age group which has been targeted by missiologists around the world as being one of the most significant groups to reach in these last days before Christ's return. Throughout the world God is giving the gift of faith to those in this age range and they are believing Him for great things. Our Christmas Tea is always an event to which unbelieving women are invited with the knowledge that the good news of Christ's coming will be clearly presented. Over the years a number of women who are not followers of Christ have consistently attended. Join with us in praying that the eyes of their heart will be open to God's love in Christ. At least seventeen women are attending the Bible studies on the person and work of the Holy Spirit that are sponsored by Alliance Women. It is encouraging to let the Holy Spirit teach us about His role in our lives and to share together what is being learned.

Respectfully submitted,

Alliance Women President

Awana Clubs
Fiscal Year 2011/2012

We had a very successful and blessed year. It was our second year of the Cubbie program and God has continued to bring us 4-8 children (Pre-Kindergarten) each week.

The Sparks (Kindergarten, First and Second Graders) and Truth & Training (Third thru Fifth Grade) programs have continued to be a great blessing to about 20 children for the past year. Dorothy and Tom have done a tremendous job with all that they have put into the program such as plays and skits that displayed God's Word.

This past year we sponsored monthly family dinners that encouraged the families of our clubbers. As always, the Grand Prix Car Building and Racing Event was tons of fun and a huge success.

We have such a great group of God-centered leaders and the Lord has blessed each of us. We had 4 children accept Jesus as their Savior and we are seeing many other new children coming this year to the program. (About 40 this past week!) We join with others who are praying that God would give us 75 children to come to Awana, and that God would impact entire families for Christ. We are grateful that we have the ongoing support of the leadership of the Alliance Church. We pray for the coming year to be even more successful.

In Christ's service,

Awana Commander

Assistant Treasurer

Fiscal Year 2011/2012

Thanks to all who faithfully served on the counting team this past fiscal year – to accurately count and record the tithes and offerings every Sunday morning. As a result, everyone who financially supports the local operations and ministries of our church and CMA can do so with full confidence that their contributions are handled discreetly and accurately.

Working with the church office staff, procedure changes and new guidelines were implemented in Spring 2012 to improve accountabilities and efficiency in the overall process.

Individual giving reports for 2012 should be distributed before the end of January; please let me know if you find any errors or have questions about your giving report.

Respectfully submitted by,

Assistant Treasurer

Backpack Bash
Fiscal Year 2011/2012

We gathered on the first Sunday in August this year to offer the love of Jesus to families in our community by giving away school supplies and backpacks. It was also such a fun church-family time – right down to the very last Chicken Dance in the parking lot led by Amber! We have photos to prove it.

Praise the Lord for a wonderful outreach and the generosity of His people. Once again, the amount of supplies almost exactly matched the number of kids we served. That continues to be amazing, and yet it shouldn't be, because there is a faithful prayer team who diligently prays for many months before the big day. If you would like to be part of the prayer team next year, kindly contact the church office.

This was our 3rd annual Backpack Bash School Supplies Give-Away
We helped more than 200 children this year with school supplies. Almost 100 families
The weather was beautiful – again
More than 75 workers – many hands make light work!

Please remember to pray for the children who received their school supplies.

In the service of the King,

Backpack Bash Director

Building and Grounds

Fiscal Year 2011/2012

Building and Grounds serves the body of Alliance by maintaining and cleaning the church grounds and facility. Our goal is to make this a presentable place to minister and a blessing to both our Lord and His people. As far as the Lord is doing His work in us and through us, we are obeying His command in John 13: 14 &15.

Building and Grounds has seen God's answer to prayer in a few areas this year. God has blessed in providing for new soffits and gutters, new replacement windows for the lower level, as well as some smaller updates around the church. An additional blessing this year was the offer of the Pfeifer Small Group to help paint the inside trim of the lower level windows. We are still working on the possibility of a new handicap ramp, new softener system, and water heater.

Housekeeping is a part of the Building and Grounds ministry. While the Lord blessed in providing 3 new helpers this year, He has also opened doors to minister in other areas of the church body. Through the Housekeeping Ministry, the Lord showed some of us a need to lift our youth in prayer during Youth Group meetings.

Housekeeping lost a helper when a student left for college, but we gained Silvia, Donna, and Norm. Diane is still helping when she can, but she is also going to school full time and looking for a job. We appreciate the time she can give. The Lord has been graciously providing as we lift our needs to Him.

The Lord has blessed those of us who serve in this ministry, but we hope that even more He has blessed those we serve through this ministry.

In Christ's love and service,

Building and Grounds/Housekeeping

Children's Ministries

Fiscal Year 2011/2012

Praise God for men, women and young people who are committed to teaching our children! God has been faithful to provide teachers and helpers for all of our classes this year and we have been seeing an increase in the number of young people attending. This will probably necessitate the addition of another children's class soon. This year a coffee was held to honor all of the personnel involved with working with our young people---quite a list. We are continuing through the Bible chronologically using Group Publishing's *Faith Weaver* series. Currently the students are learning about Joshua and the faith involved in taking Jericho by God's plans, not the Israelites'. This is not just a story from the past but a present day challenge to live not by sight but by faith. The quarters beginning in December and March will continue our journey through the New Testament. Please pray that all of the work with our children will be done in and through the power of Holy Spirit and that He will accompany the Word of truth with conviction and repentance as well as faith to believe God for great things. God longs to accomplish His work through each of us, even the younger ones among us!

Respectfully Submitted,

Children's Ministry Director

Crossroads Care Center Ministry

Fiscal year 2011/2012

Once again our gracious God has maintained a wide open door for ministering the Gospel of Christ to the residents of Crossroads Care Center in Woodstock. The Alliance Ministry Team has been permitted access to the patient rooms and community areas virtually unhindered.

Ministry to the residents revolves around an informal chapel service scheduled to meet at 2pm on the 3rd Sunday of each month. Prior to the start of the chapel service, the ministry team visits residents in their rooms inviting them to the service. At times, there may be opportunities to pray with residents in their rooms or encourage them in Jesus should they be unable to attend the service. The Alliance ministry team consists of Frank, Carol, Konrad and Maren, and Rahn. In recent months we have been experiencing a number of relatively new residents participating, several of whom know Jesus. Our gatherings are characterized by a sense of receptivity to the truth of Christ as we boldly proclaim Him in song, testimony, through the reading of Scripture, and the preaching of the Gospel. It is not uncommon for residents to express how much the meeting time means to them. To God be the glory! This year, one resident and his girlfriend, who lives off site, prayed to receive Jesus as their Savior outside of the context of the chapel service. Praise the Lord!

Prayer requests would be as follows:

- That God would work powerfully in the lives of each resident and staff member drawing them to saving faith in Jesus.
- That God would increase the size of our ministry team and perhaps eventually be able to provide two Sunday services per month.
- That God would empower the ministry team members by His Spirit as we proclaim Jesus.

It is a privilege and blessing to minister to the residents of Crossroads Care Center. May Christ be glorified in that place.

In Christ,

Crossroads Care Team

Family Vacation Bible School

Fiscal Year 2011/2012

- Vacation Bible School at Alliance Bible Church was held from July 9th – 13th.
- Holy Land Adventure – Bethlehem Village.
- FVBS is held with no charge to the participants and families are encouraged to attend together.
- Had an average of 103 attendees per night.
- Nine professions of faith.

- Thirty-nine families were in attendance in the program.
- About 500 items were donated to the 2012 Back Pack Bash by attendees.
- Egypt is on the schedule for July 2013.

Respectfully submitted,

FVBS Director

Men's Breakfast

Fiscal Year 2011/2012

We meet the first Saturday of the month @ 7 am @ the church. The meeting starts with songs to the Lord & prayer. The subject may be a witness presentation, a testimony, prayer request, a request for help of a person etc. Our band is made up of men of our group who come as early as 6 am to practice songs picked by them or who is giving the program. The most interesting happening is to hear the Pastor's sermon Sunday further explaining the message God gave to each of them.

We are thrilled lately that several young men & boys have been attending our meetings. They say they want to be a part of our group to learn & hear the happenings of the men and how the men came to know the Lord. They have good input to offer or feel free to ask questions.

We have had speakers from missions such as a couple who are going to Papua New Guinea, she as a R.N. & he as an electronic specialist supporting Wycliffe doing the translations.

Our team is made up with cooks and kitchen people that feed our group faithfully.

Average attendance is 20-25.

Respectfully in The Lords Service,

Men's Breakfast Leader

Missions Conference
February 11-15 and February 22 & 26, 2012
Fiscal Year 2011/2012

Our first missions conference in 2012 featured the Johnsons from Ecuador. The Alliance has been phasing out missions work in South America and they were the last missionaries to leave that country. They have retired to Florida.

We heard from the Howards during our second missions conference gathering. They are serving with the Bozo people in Mali. Who can forget their enthusiastic story telling?

Our faith promise is \$20,090! From March 1 to Oct 31, 2012 we have given \$14,702 to missions so far.

Nursery Ministry

Fiscal Year 2011/2012

The Nursery has been open every Sunday at both the 8am and 10am services this year. We have had many ups and downs with our volunteer staffing requirements but the Lord has been faithful in providing enough willing hands to keep the nursery open. The Nursery accommodates children ages 0-4 and is offering a preschool curriculum as well as free play time. Curriculum this year has been the David C. Cook curriculum that we already purchased a number of years ago. We are considering a curriculum change to the new Discipleland Nursery Curriculum.

We have offered Children's Education Manual training numerous times throughout the year to accommodate new volunteers and have continued to process Children's Worker Applications and Renewal Applications. We have also worked closely with Rowena, who heads Children's Ministries this year, to coordinate our efforts with the K-5 class, youth group and Family Vacation Bible School.

In Fiscal Year 2012-13, we will focus on updating the nursery with a new area rug and look into purchasing a new bound carpet remnant. We have also changed the volunteer scheduling to offer a more consistent presentation of the curriculum to our 2-4 year olds.

Prayer requests for the nursery include more willing hands to come forward and serve, wisdom and guidance as we deal with behavior issues and challenges and God's blessings on these little ones as they begin to experience and learn God's kindness through the hands of our volunteers.

In the service of our King,

Nursery Co-Directors

Operation Christmas Child

Fiscal Year 2011/2012

Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Packing Party was held November 13th in the church auditorium. We enjoyed packing the boxes with personal gifts and praying for each child and family who would be receiving them. Thanks to everyone who helped – even those who found it hard work to wrap some of those pesky boxes came to be a blessing.

132 boxes were packed, more than any year that we have been participating in this ministry! It is a 20% increase over last year.

Norm joyfully delivered them to the drop off church in Woodstock. He said it was a delight to be able to help, and volunteered to be the delivery person next year, too.

Our boxes went to Ecuador, Dominican Republic, Ukraine, Zambia and Indonesia.

Emily received a kind note and photo of the young boy who received her box. The Samaritan's Purse worker was delivering boxes in Quito, Ecuador and was with him when he opened the box. What encouragement it was to all of us to have such a personal connection! Who knows? Maybe we will greet each other in heaven some day. Please continue to pray for the children who will receive our boxes this year.

In the love of Jesus,

OCC Director

Praise Team

Fiscal Year 2011/2012

- Team plays during 10 am service
- Always open to new musicians, vocalists, projectionists, sound board specialists, sermon recording technicians.
- Contact Kary for more information.

Respectfully submitted,

Worship Leader

Small Groups

Fiscal Year 2011/2012

We currently have 70 people enrolled in seven small groups; one group meeting on Sunday evening, two meeting on Monday evening, one on Tuesday afternoon, two groups meeting on Thursday evening, and one group meeting on Friday evening.

The 70 people currently enrolled in the ministry represent 58% of our total potential adult members and regular attendees at the Alliance Bible Church. This is down from a high of 62% in 2009.

For the seven small groups we are averaging a weekly attendance of 25. This is 36% of the total enrolled.

Average attendance among the seven groups ranges from four per meeting to ten.

Our greatest weakness is reaching out to people outside the membership and/or regular attenders of the church.

Our greatest strength is the love and fellowship enjoyed by those who attend on a fairly regular basis.

Respectfully submitted,

Small Group Director

Softball 2012

Fiscal Year 2011/2012

- 17 year old – co-ed league
- 16 year olds can play with a signed waiver
- We finished a little over 500 for the year (6-5).
- Two players from our team played in the 2011 All-Star Game.
- Games were on Monday nights

Respectfully submitted,

Softball Coach

The past year Elsi and I have been in front of the Youth in the Spanish Service, we meet every Thursday at church. During that time we have good fellowship, followed by a small devotion (I try to keep it short) we also pray for each other before we end the night.

This past year we had a chance to take a camping trip, I really felt God spoke to us in many ways while we took this time away from the everyday life stress.

Every once in a while we meet with the other churches within the Spanish district. We have good fellowship with the rest of the Spanish youth in our district.

God has put in my heart to reach more youth to our group and our church. Please pray that God guide us to reach the Spanish High school Youth in the McHenry area.

Blessings,

Spanish Youth Directors

Web and Outdoor Signage

Fiscal Year 2011/2012

I'm not aware of any stats or specific stories on how the website or digital ads have helped anyone. (Many families who attended the Backpack Bash said that they saw the digital outdoor sign advertising the event and that's why they came.)

I would like to see the website become a stronger and more relevant tool for our church and outsiders. We need to keep content fresh. I'm always looking for ideas and details about events. The web doesn't cost us like paper or printing/photocopies do so there's no reason why we shouldn't be promoting events with more details. Our web calendar is just scraped from the paper calendar and bulletin—we should expand on the details here. Ideally the homepage banners would be updated every two to three weeks. If we could coordinate the digital ads to match that would be fantastic.

Respectfully submitted,

Web Master

Women's Ministry
Fiscal Year 2011/2012

The women's ministry team has been meeting as needed this year. Marilyn resigned this year from the Women's Ministry team. We have been seeking the Lord as to who to ask to join the team. We spend time in prayer for women of our church, family, friends and our church body. We send notes of encouragement as prompted by the Lord and send notes of thanks for the many helping hands at our events.

We ministered in a variety of ways last year. We coordinated meals for those who needed them helped with Vacation Bible School and hosted two women's breakfasts to show the love of Jesus to those in our church family. We provided counsel to those who asked, various Bible studies, child care and focused year long on our Secret Prayer Pals program which provided prayer support for all ladies who signed up.

- October 2011 – Apple Picking at Royal Oaks Farm
- November 2011 – Operation Christmas Child
- December 2011 – Progressive Dinner & Secret Pals revealed
- January 2012– No events
- February 2012– Missions Conference
- March 2012–Meal Planning Seminar
- April 2012– Helped with Children's Worker Appreciation Coffee
- May 2012– No events
- June 2012– No events
- July 2012– Pray for & help at Vacation Bible School/Baby Shower for Justine
- August 2012– Help with Backpack Bash and Church Picnic
- September 2012– Fall Women's Breakfast (Making Journals by Tina)

Thank you to all those who helped in these activities. If you would like to become involved in women's ministries, please contact Charla or Denise.

In the service of our King,

Women's Ministry Directors

Youth Ministry
Fiscal Year 2011/2012

Youth Ministry Purpose Statement:

Alliance Bible Church Youth Ministry exists to REACH others with the good news of Jesus Christ, being ENCOURAGED, IGNITED and PREPARED through His Word to SERVE others and HONOR God with our lives.

FY 2012 Youth Group

- 6th – 12th grade meets combined on Friday Nights
- Average 20-30 youth/night
- Using the Awana Trek/Journey Material for Scripture Memory; 9th – 12th grade are still doing weekly Bible readings.
- Large Group Discussions include the Sermon on the Mount and three video series: ***Surrender*** (Francis Chan), ***King David*** (David Nasser) and ***Dug Down Deep*** (Joshua Harris).

- January 2012 we attended Snow Trip. This is an annual weekend retreat. This year's theme was on Grace and Law.
- In April 2012 we attended the Game Day Dare 2 Share Conference.
- In June 2012 we attended the annual summer camp program in Lowpoint, IL. The camp board changed the name to Great Lakes Bible Camp.
- In July many of the youth group teens assisted with Vacation Bible School at Alliance Bible Church: Holy Land Adventure – Bethlehem Village.

Respectfully Submitted,

Youth Directors