

Deaconess Report 2014-2015

Matthew 25:35-36 NIV

For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.

We have had another busy year! Our first event was decorating for the Good Friday service and providing the communion elements. We then provided the refreshments for the graduation Sunday, in May. In June, we celebrated our fathers with having strawberry shortcake and we served it during fellowship 15 and served about 100 people! We try to serve the dads first and all are served until the goodies are gone. We hosted cake and ice cream for to celebrate Ben and Sherri Day and their 20th year of serving TMCC. What a privilege that was! We assisted with the harvest dinner in November, and made several small purchases for the new kitchen. In February, we hosted the Movie and Munchies night for our Valentine's event. We had a good turnout and greatly appreciate the help of the Awana kids for babysitting!

Our responsibilities include:

Organizing and recruiting volunteers to staff the nursery – The rotating schedule seems to be working out very well.

We set up meals for those who have had surgery or illness several days a week for dinners, for two weeks and coordinate with use of a tool called "Meal Train" which is a password protected site that allows people to volunteer for preparing and taking a meal to one of our church family. One of the deaconesses will call to fill in any "holes" in the schedule. This past year we set up and arranged for 7 family meals to be delivered.

We also donate Gideon Bibles in memorial of the church family members who have died this past year. We donate 5 bibles per person and have donated for 5 people.

We provide the paper supplies and the coffee and supplies for Fellowship 15 and the kitchen. We have wonderful volunteers who make the coffee, keep the coffee, tea, hot chocolate and snacks set out so we can enjoy them before and during Sunday school, and then cleaning up afterwards. We are grateful for the donations that help to purchase the coffee and those who sign up to bring snacks. Fellowship 15 is growing and we are working to plan to accommodate the growth and have enough coffee made for those who enjoy it. The snacks are completely supplied by volunteers each Sunday. We spent just over \$550.00 in coffee supplies from April to the end of December. The costs are going up, and we are trying to manage them and keep the coffee coming.

In addition, we support the "sunshine" ministry, sending out birthday cards to those youngsters who have had their 70th birthday (and more☺), those who have had surgeries or illnesses, have

had a new baby or are just married. Cards are sent to give encouragement and celebrate the praises in our church family. This past year 295 cards were sent out from March 2014 to February 2015. Your donations of cards have been greatly appreciated. For newly married couples, the sunshine ministry will provide a small gift to encourage and bless them.

We filled 1 baby baskets for first time parents, at our church, through the year, collect items to put into the basket from donations of diapers, wipes, toys, blankets and little outfits from you, the church body.

We tried to start a newlywed basket for young couples getting married and just starting out. 1 basket was given and the sunshine ministry will be absorbing the newlywed gifts, and it will become a smaller gift that will encourage and bless the couple. (A couple's devotional and a nice bookmark).

Every month, we prepare communion and get the elements made and set up (as well as cleaned up) including the Good Friday service.

We will also be assuming the organization of the ongoing kitchen committee, who will be responsible to keep our kitchen clean and organized. Currently, the committee is a work in progress, and we will have more details and we will be asking for volunteers in March, so we can have a smooth transition in place by the end of April. We had a detailed training after our deaconess meeting on February 3, and we are looking forward to taking on this new ministry, and as well, look forward to working with more of our church family to make this ministry a blessing to the community and to us as a church family.

Thank you for the privilege of serving you this past year.

Your Deaconesses