

Update on Salem's Mission Statement and Three-Year Plan

In 2009, Salem came together to develop a mission statement for our ministry:

To grow disciples of Jesus Christ through...

God-Rooted living

Relationships nurtured within and beyond the congregation

Outreach which empowers people in need

Worship that is welcoming and Spirit-filled

This mission statement still guides our ministry as we head into 2011. This mission statement also produced a three year plan that helped guide each ministry and support team throughout 2009-2011. In 2010, I sat down, along with a team of volunteers, to listen to each ministry and support team as they made plans and set goals for themselves through 2011. I have included those goals in this month's Tidings for you to review. As we are now coming to the end of the three year plan, I sat down with the teams again to listen to how things have gone, what goals they have accomplished, what ministries they are proud of, and what they would like to achieve over the next couple of years. I have also included this information for you to review. You will find this information for Education, Evangelism, Outreach, and Nurture. I will be highlighting the remaining teams in next month's Tidings. If you have any questions, please feel free to ask. We have such hard working and dedicated volunteers on all of our teams at Salem. Thank you for all you do to make Salem a Christian home for all our members and friends.

-Marie Broege

Nurture Ministry Team

We will grow disciples of Jesus Christ through relationships that nurture within the congregation:

Goals met during the Three Year Plan:

- Movie Nights Birthday cards sent to seniors
- Christmas Brunch Coordinate meals for those in need due to hospitalization, etc.
- Brunch after VBS Send cards to those who have not been in worship
- Picnic in the Grove Prayer Chain

Future Goals:

- Continue to host brunches Continue above ministries
- Post events on website Develop spreadsheet to help with attendance-send cards
- Launch a card club Host Progressive Dinners
- Taping of worship services for shut-ins

Outreach Ministry Team

We will grow disciples of Jesus Christ through Outreach that empowers those in need:

Goals met during the Three Year Plan:

- Identified the number of volunteer hours-volunteer dinner
- Used bulletin boards, Tidings, Power Point presentations to highlight ministries to others
- Made contact with Habitat for Humanity
- Monthly Outreach focus-Undie Sunday, Webster's, Sock-it-to-Poverty, etc.

Future Goals:

- Continue to work with Habitat for Humanity
- Continue to focus on established ministries
- Incorporate the Blanket Project each year with Confirmation class
- Recognition dinner for volunteers-2012

Education Ministry Team

Woven into all areas of the mission statement:

Goals met during the Three Year Plan:

- Using a strong United Methodist Curriculum for church school
- Hold a monthly gathering to celebrate birthdays, discuss offering designations, share events
- Partner with First UMC and El Buen Samaritano for Vacation Bible School
- Social outings for church school
- Bulletin board for pictures of children and youth in various events
- Confirmation class led "Nets for Malaria" and "Blanket Sunday" projects
- Articles are written in Tidings each month
- Children and youth involved in special services-VBS, Praisefest, Christmas Program, Liturgists

Future Goals:

- Begin a parent ministry group with topics to include: bullying, raising teens, etc.
- Faith sharing training for adults, children, and youth
- Opportunities for families to volunteer together
- VBS back at Salem in 2012
- Continue social outings for church school
- Involve children and youth in worship-skits, drama, music
- Confirmation classes to lead a mission project each year
- Host a family event for our members and community

Evangelism Ministry Team

We will grow disciples of Jesus Christ through relationships nurtured within and beyond the congregation:

Goals met during the Three Year Plan:

- Greeter guidelines established and will be included in letter mailed to greeters
- Visitor Center completed
- Visitors are sent a letter after they have visited and a home visit by the Pastor within the next four weeks
- Welcoming congregation Certification achieved
- Hosted "The Fall Family Fest", "Breakfast with Santa" and "Easter Egg Hunt"
- The above events brought in visitors and an increase in volunteers from Salem
- Pictures of staff on Welcoming Center
- Pew pads are working well
- Website is up and the Tidings is available on-line
- Our sign on Hwy. 59 has been a great way to advertise events

Future Goals:

- Include intergenerational teams to greet visitors
- Host "Get to Know You" gatherings for our visitors and new members
- Train greeters quarterly
- Welcoming Congregation Certification is renewable, so the team will continue to work on this
- Request to Endowment for a flip camera
- Update our website more often with pictures, events, etc.
- Develop a Facebook account
- Continue to use the sign for events
- Continue to host events for the community on our property
- Research demographics of the neighborhoods around us