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## **Elder Report**

Annual Report July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020

To say the least the last year has been the most difficult at times and most joyful at times.

The most difficult was that the Elder Board was compelled to ask for Pastor Rob Borkowitz' resignation. This situation didn't go very smoothly with many in the congregation asking questions. Understanding the seriousness of the situation and the impact it could have on the body we invited all past Elders to a special meeting to allow us to explain the events leading up to this and our reasoning. All past Elders were in complete agreement with us. With very heavy hearts we asked for and received Rob's resignation. We then asked Pastor Kyle to take on the additional duty of Preaching Pastor.

Pastor Kyle has been doing an excellent job of preaching, pastoring, and Shepherding the flock. Last month Pastor Kyle shared with the Elders and the newly created Vision Team, his One Year Vision for our church. One of the primary areas we will be focusing on is to develop a culture of evangelism within our body. He truly is a visionary and we support him in all he is doing. Pastor Kyle has been a joy to work with and we look forward to working with him in the coming year.

Another positive move was to bring Russ Davis on as an additional Elder. He also has been a joy to work with. Russ has a financial background and is also our Treasurer.

Then without warning we all were hit with Covid-19. Due to many of our congregation being over 60 years old, the Elder Board decided to cease having church as normal and "Live Stream" our Sunday morning and Wednesday nights on Facebook. Many of our congregation have the ability to watch on Facebook but for those who couldn't we tried to keep in communications with them via phone calls and letters and Brad Morris has been supplying them with CDs of the services and Bible Studies.

Pastor Kyle while preaching on Facebook encouraged us to share with our friends. Pastor Kyle keeps track of how many views our services. The numbers are very encouraging. We are trusting the Lord that many of these will come and attend now that we are opening back up.

Another encouragement is that with Covid-19 causing us to not meet together at the church our finances has been very stable. We thank you for your faithful giving.

We have a gracious family that has set up a matching fund to help reduce our mortgage on building renovation. We are thankful that many of you have contributed to this matching fund challenge. We believe the opportunity to see the mortgage paid off in the next year is a reality.

It was with excitement that we re-opened the doors for the first church service on June 21. It was well attended with everyone practicing social distancing. Within a few weeks the plans are

to have the Worship Team back and allow all to sign along. However, let's continue to practice social distancing in order to stay healthy.

In closing, the Elder Board wants to encourage everyone to consider our responsibility as believers to practice a culture of evangelism and how we can, with confidence, share the Good News of Christ's saving grace to the world.

The Elder Board covets your prayers as we lead our church into this new Fiscal year.

It's a joy to serve this church.

The Elder Board

## **Statistical Report**

Annual Report July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020

- There were two new members during this reporting period
  - o David and Merrill-Lee Pick
- Total Members are 94
  - o 2 Deceased since last reporting are:
    - Wanda Holm (8/19)
    - Bob Owens (8/19)
  - o Members that were dropped since last reporting are:
    - Rob and Karen Borkowitz
    - Savannah Borkowitz
    - Nik and Heather Mullinex
    - Russ and Joyce Pierpont
    - Steve and Shareen Sackett
    - Fred Saunchegrow
    - Christina Sletten
    - Mike and Darcy VanNyhuis
    - Matt and Amber Young
- There were no Baptisms during this reporting period

Respectfully submitted, Jean Camarata Office Manager

## **Semi Annual Meeting Minutes**

March 1, 2020 July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020

Carl Meyer welcomed everyone for making the effort to attend the meeting, Sunday March 1, 2020.

Opened with prayer and then read John 17:20 My prayer is not for them alone. I pray for those who will believe in me through their message.

55 members were in attendance. Merrill-Lee and David Pick and Emmanuel Joseph have completed the new membership class and have join our church.

It was asked for the minutes of the annual be approved. Bob Bartz made the motion. Roger Lear seconded. Motion carried.

Team reports had been printed for review prior to the meeting. Clarion Winzenburg made the motion for the reports be approved. Jim Grady seconded. Motion carried.

Jim Murray highlighted some areas that the business team has been or will be working on.

- 1. Youth air conditioner was replaced. Cost 6,000. Dick Jensen headed this project and did a great job.
- 2. Security system policy has been updated.
- 3. Window project is completed. Thanks Russ Davis and Dick Jensen.
- 4. Youth trailer was sold for \$750. Thanks, Dan Rousselow, for taking this project.
- 5. Minnesota parking lot is getting worse. Cost about 3,500 to repair the potholes. Will be continuing to solve this matter in the future.

Russ Davis, Treasurer, gave the financial report to the last six months. Thank you, Brad Morris, for his service has our treasurer for the last several years. Job well done!

- 1. Four cash accounts that total \$90,126.00
  - a. Checking account \$34,273.
  - b. Saving account \$9,852.
  - c. GBIF account \$22,866.
  - d. Scholarship fund \$23,135.
- 2. Liabilities total \$65,111.
  - a. Scholarship \$23,071.
  - b. Memorial fund \$11,347.
  - c. Parking lot \$8,139.
  - d. Youth \$4,496.
  - e. Global missions \$4,672.
  - f. Dec expenses \$13,386.
- 3. Last year at this time we were in the rears \$23,440. This year we are \$2,153 positive.
- 4. Because of what transpired in the last six month our budget has been changed.
  - a. For the period of July 1, 2019 thru December 31, 2019 our weekly budget was \$6136. For the period of January 1, 2020 thru June 30, 2020 our weekly budget will be \$4725. That is a decrease of \$1,411. Weekly.
- 5. Loan information: Balance as of July 1, 2019 \$184,000. Six-month payments \$11,847.

Contributions \$ 3,883. - \$ 15,730.

Balance \$ \$169,270.

Scott Blakesley made the motion to accept the financial reports. Don McGriff seconded. Motion carried.

Ballots were passed out for the members to vote on:

- 1. Vote to call Pastor Kyle Dywer to be our Senior Pastor
- 2. Vote to update our Statement of Faith
- 3. Vote of confidence for Russ Davis to be an elder

The outcome of the vote will be announced at the beginning of the worship service. (All were voted in favor).

Current scholarship participants are Noah Blakesley and Blake Hottle. Each receiving \$1250/per year. If anyone is interested in receiving this scholarship in the future, you may pickup an application in the office and then the elder board will review and approve of the scholarship. This needs to be done between March 1st and June 15th to be accepted.

Review from the elder board retreat: The passed elders, other qualified individuals and the present elders were in attendance for the retreat. Nathan Bryant for the assist program with Grace Brethren Fellowship attended the retreat. The assist program is to help churches that are struggling both with attendance, financial and no pastor etc. He was very impressed with our men and Pastor Kyle. He did not think that we needed their assistance at this time. Other matters were discussed, and the elders and the others will be meeting soon to discuss the plans of the church.

A question was asked if we were going to adding more men to the elder board? At this time and the size of our congregation, the elders agreed that four elders are enough at this time. They do have a list of eligible men that could be elders in the future.

No other questions were asked.

Carl thanked everyone for attending and state that the elders and Pastor Kyle are excited to see what Christ has for our church. We are a family of believers and we are extremely blessed. Meeting adjourned.

Reporting,
Jeanette Grady

## GRACE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH RECAPS JULY 1, 2019 - JUNE 30, 2020

Weekly	Building	Other	Total	Designated	Total Offering		YTD	YTD	YTD Dif	YTD Dif %
Goal	General Funds	General Funds	eneral Fund	Offerings	- Committee of the comm		Budget	Actual	\$ FmBudget	FmBudget
July	\$0.00	\$32,562.12	\$32,562.12	\$18,659.00	\$51,221.12	\$0.00	\$24,542.31	\$32,562.12	\$8,019.81	32.68%
August	\$0.00	\$20,947.10	\$20,947.10	\$1,843.59	\$22,790.69	\$0.00	\$49,084.62	\$53,509.22	\$4,424.60	9.01%
September	\$0.00	\$23,685.78	\$23,685.78	\$877.00	\$24,562.78	\$0.00	\$79,762.50	\$77,195.00	-\$2,567.50	-3.22%
October	\$0.00	\$19,997.79	\$19,997.79	\$2,140.00	\$22,137.79	\$0.00	\$104,304.81	\$97,192.79	-\$7,112.02	-6.82%
November	\$0.00	\$21,979.00	\$21,979.00	\$1,429.00	\$23,408.00	\$0.00	\$128,847.12	\$119,171.79	-\$9,675.33	-7.51%
December	\$0.00	\$33,553.48	\$33,553.48	\$1,664.00	\$35,217.48	\$0.00	\$159,525.00	\$152,725.27	-\$6,799.73	-4.26%
January	\$0.00	\$25,024.00	\$25,024.00	\$1,198.00	\$26,222.00	\$0.00	\$178,605.00	\$177,749.27	-\$855.73	-0.48%
February	\$0.00	\$20,417.02	\$20,417.02	\$1,800.00	\$22,217.02	\$0.00	\$197,685.00	\$198,166.29	\$481.29	0.24%
March	\$0.00	\$22,283.65	\$22,283.65	\$1,384.25	\$23,667.90	\$0.00	\$221,535.00	\$220,449.94	-\$1,085.06	-0.49%
April	\$0.00	\$21,960.10	\$21,960.10	\$804.00	\$22,764.10	\$0.00	\$240,615.00	\$242,410.04	\$1,795.04	0.75%
Мау	\$0.00	\$22,703.00	\$22,703.00	\$12,239.00	\$34,942.00	\$0.00	\$264,465.00	\$265,113.04	\$648.04	0.30%
June	\$0.00	\$19,740.00	\$19,740.00	\$24,874.00	\$44,614.00	\$0.00	\$283,545.00	\$284,853.04	\$1,308.04	0.46%

\$284,853.04 \$353,764.88

## **GRACE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH** TREASURER'S SUMMARY 2019-20 FISCAL YEAR END

AVAILABLE LIQUID FUNDS COMPARISON					
	AS OF 6/30/2020	AS OF 6/30/2019	CHANGE ONE YEAR		
Checking Community Savings GB Investment Fund GB Scholarship Fund TOTAL LIQUID FUNDS	\$70,604.56 \$32,245.56 \$22,979.70 \$22,623.06 \$148,452.88	\$7,125.38 \$500.00 \$22,636.62 \$24,770.88 \$55,032.88	\$63,479.18 \$31,745.56 \$343.08 (\$2,147.82) \$93,420.00		
TOTAL RESERVES, FLOW- THROUGH AND LIABILITIES (COMMITTED FUNDS) *	(\$102,714.27)	(\$36,277.94)			
NON-RESERVED FUNDS	\$45,738.61	\$18,754.94	\$26,983.67		

PROFIT AND LOSS COMPARISON					
	2019-2020 FISCAL YEAR ACTUAL	2019-2020 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET **	2018-2019 FISCAL YEAR ACTUAL		
Total Income	\$292,316.61	\$295,646.00	\$300,924.72		
Total Expenses & Pymts	(\$269,252.59)	(\$279,578.00)	(\$333,766.45)		
INCOME/(LOSS)	\$23,064.02	\$16,068.00	(\$32,841.73)		

## **FOOTNOTES:**

<sup>\*</sup> Examples are funds contributed for mortgage retirement, desinated missionary funds, bills etc. 
\*\* Budget was amended mid-year to reflect staff changes.

# **GRACE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH** Balance Sheet (Expanded) As of June 30, 2020

	Jun 30, 20
ASSETS Current Assets Checking/Sovings	
Checking/Savings 11050 · COMMUNITY NATIONAL 11200 · GBIF 113733-02	70,604.56 23,094.16
11210 · COMMUNITY SAVINGS 11300 · GBIF-SCHOLARSHIP 113733-21	32,245.56 22,735.75
Total Checking/Savings	148,680.03
Total Current Assets	148,680.03
Fixed Assets 15100 · Office Equipment 15300 · BUILDING IMPROVMENTS	109.12 786,327.43
Total Fixed Assets	786,436.55
TOTAL ASSETS	935,116.58
LIABILITIES & EQUITY Liabilities Current Liabilities Accounts Payable	
89000 · Accounts Payable	3,128.91
Total Accounts Payable	3,128.91
Other Current Liabilities 23000 · PAYROLL	1,910.14
27000 · FLOWTHROUGH	74,603.88
27350 · GRACE MERIT SCHOLARSHIP	23,071.34
Total Other Current Liabilities	99,585.36
Total Current Liabilities	102,714.27
Long Term Liabilities 26000 · NOTE PAYABLE BUILDING LOAN	154,897.39
Total Long Term Liabilities	154,897.39
Total Liabilities	257,611.66
Equity 30010 · Retained Earnings 39004 · CONGREGATIONAL BUILDING INVEST Net Income	514,868.31 139,572.59 23,064.02
Total Equity	677,504.92
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	935,116.58

# **GRACE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH** Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual July 2019 through June 2020

	Jul '19 - Jun 20	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense				
Income 40000 · CONTRIBUTIONS	284,474.04	290,246.00	(5,771.96)	98.0%
Total Income	284,474.04	290,246.00	(5,771.96)	98.0%
Gross Profit	284,474.04	290,246.00	(5,771.96)	98.0%
Expense 6999 · Uncategorized Expenses	4.34	0.00	4.34	100.0%
72000 BUSINESS COMMISSION	200,944.62	209,936.00	(8,991.38)	95.7%
92899 · CARE MINISTRY	1,448.73	2,664.00	(1,215.27)	54.4%
93311 · CHILDREN'S MINISTRY	2,500.16	4,566.00	(2,065.84)	54.8%
93600 · YOUTH MINISTRY	4,039.64	5,808.00	(1,768.36)	69.6%
94000 · COMMUNICATIONS MINISTRY	389.71	756.00	(366.29)	51.5%
94500 · MISSIONS - GLOBAL	44,866.00	44,868.00	(2.00)	100.0%
94840 · MISSIONS - LOCAL	4,600.48	6,510.00	(1,909.52)	70.7%
95000 · WORSHIP MINISTRY	2,111.62	2,460.00	(348.38)	85.8%
95700 · DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRY	1,369.87	2,010.00	(640.13)	68.2%
Total Expense	262,275.17	279,578.00	(17,302.83)	93.8%
Net Ordinary Income	22,198.87	10,668.00	11,530.87	208.1%
Other Income/Expense Other Income				
40110 · PARSONAGE 40200 · MISCELLANEOUS 41800 · INTEREST INVESTMENTS	5,400.00 1,715.54 727.03	5,400.00 0.00 0.00	0.00 1,715.54 727.03	100.0% 100.0% 100.0%
Total Other Income	7,842.57	5,400.00	2,442.57	145.2%
Other Expense 96510 · NON-BUDGET APRROVED EXPENS	6,977.42	0.00	6,977.42	100.0%
96540 · MISC NON-BUDGET EXPENSES	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
Total Other Expense	6,977.42	0.00	6,977.42	100.0%
Net Other Income	865.15	5,400.00	(4,534.85)	16.0%
et Income	23,064.02	16,068.00	6,996.02	143.5%

#### **Business Team**

Annual Report July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020

Here is a summary of the items the Business Team has been working on during the last year.

#### Finances:

At the conclusion of fiscal year July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020, we have \$70,604 in our checking account, \$32,245 in a savings account, \$22,979 in our GBIF savings, and \$22,623 in our Merit Scholarship Fund for a total of \$148,452 in our checking and savings accounts. At the same time, we have \$102,714 in our flow through and liabilities (committed funds) accounts. The liquid funds minus the committed funds then equals \$45,738 for non-reserved funds. This is a \$26,983 improvement over last year. Total income for the year was \$292,316 and total expenses and payments were \$269,252 for an income of \$23,064. In comparison to last year's net loss of -\$34,335, the results are considerably better.

We started the year with a renovation loan balance of \$190,000. Through the gracious support of one of our families, the loan was converted to a low interest loan underwritten by them while paying off the bank. This started in September of 2019 for \$185,000. As of early July, we now owe approximately \$155,000.

Another Matching Gift Fund was announced in May 2020. This time a very generous matching challenge of \$50,000 is in place. We are so very thankful for this opportunity. As of the time of this writing, approximately \$32,500 has been made available. This leaves \$17,500 yet to raise toward that goal. Lord willing, as this comes in, we will reduce the renovation loan by \$100,000 which will bring our loan balance down to approximately \$50,000! We are very close to a pay off! Praise the Lord! The assets and liabilities are listed in the treasurer's report. God has been faithful in meeting our needs. Thank you for financially supporting the ministry of Grace Fellowship Church.

With the global pandemic occurring late winter, it has been a year like no other. The church was not available for services or meetings for three months. The Business Team met three times in the last six months. Recently we made some adaptations to allow for enhanced air flow prior to reentering the building. Hand sanitizers and masks were procured and placed in the church. Thanks to Dick Jensen and Russ Davis for taking care of those items.

Youth room air conditioner - it was determined that the unit needed to be replaced. This was done last fall at a cost of \$6,000. There was some duct and sealant work that was

required at a cost of \$600. Young's Plumbing & Heating installed the unit. Thanks to Dick Jensen for overseeing this project.

Terms of Building Use - after a request was made to use the building on a regular basis, the Business Team determined that the building use policy needed to be revamped. The policy now addresses items such as security, supplies, snow removal, and others as a condition to use the building.

Inside window coverings - new window blinds and curtains were installed in rooms along the South side of the building. This puts the finishing touches on the window replacement project, and they look nice. Thanks to Russ Davis for completing this work.

The Business Team strives to keep the church in good condition and handles many maintenance items ourselves. Recent examples were a yard clean-up effort with fifteen people helping. We also had a pesky months long problem with our alley door. After many calls to a service supplier, a solenoid and keypad were replaced thus fixing the problem. Thanks to Dick Jensen and Brad Morris for their follow up on this - this is our most used entry point to the church.

Business Team members for <u>2019 - 2020</u> are Judy Banes, Brad Morris, Andrea Hottle, Dale Jeffries, Dick Jensen, Dan Rousselow, Jean Davis, Jerry Langham, Russ Davis, Larry Mullins, Jeff Kronscnabel, Rick Johnson, and Jim Murray.

Respectfully submitted, In Him, Jim Murray

#### Care Team

Annual Report July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020

Another year, albeit a 'challenging one' has come and gone here at GFC-Waterloo. Leadership and cooperation from our body has really stood out through it all, however.

As we mentioned in the fall, and by looking across the street, we see that the Neighborhood Thanksgiving Dinner was just not possible this year. If we look at making plans with that ministry in the future, we will keep the church body informed. There is a lot of construction to go through before that happens, obviously.

The Care Team assisted with two Bread and Cup services during the first half of the year, helping to administer the elements on August 11 and October 13, 2019. In addition, we helped to provide a 3-Fold Communion Service on Sunday afternoon, November 17, 2019. This was unique because we were able to honor the Neighborhood Thanksgiving Dinner by using a Love Feast of Thanksgiving fixings. Our spring 3-Fold Communion Service was cancelled due to the virus issues. The schedule of the Fall Bread and Cup and 3-Fold Services remains in flux, but keep them in mind!

We also saw some administrative changes in the Hospitality Ministry. We changed the administration of the Usher, Greeter, and Coffee Hostess teams to individuals of the Care Team. The internal members of the team are working diligently to make the new changes work, starting the teams up after the virus stoppage will be challenging, but it will work well. Diane has the greeter teams, Scott has the usher teams, and Jim is directing the coffee hostess teams. We can ALWAYS use more help, so please consider helping us in this area!

The spring of 2020 has been a challenge, as we all know. Now that things are opening up, the greeters and usher teams are starting to do their work, safely. If you know of needs because of virus hardships, let the Elder Board know, so we can work to minister to those needs.

Thank you, church body at GFC for your work here. We are proud to work alongside you!

Carl and Linda, Jim and Jeanette, Don and Diane, Scott and Beth The Care Team

## **Children's Ministry**

Annual Report July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020

#### **VBS** – Held August 5th-9th in the mornings

- Had about 34 kids attended
- o Theme was "Road Trip"
- Collected funds during the week for Titus Auto Garage Ministry of Sam & Anna Danforth in South Africa
- o Sunday, August 11th we held an all church lunch for the VBS kids to race their derby cars

#### **Nursery** - meet weekly year round

- The infant nursery is currently the only nursery staffed
- Volunteers serve once a month on a rotation basis: Andrea Hottle and Addison Grady,
   Jeff & Sheri Lesh, Elizabeth Clark, Rita Kehoe & Ivy Weber

#### Sunday School - meet weekly year round

- Classes are split up into two age groups right now:
  - Pre-K to K Ron & Vivian Weimer Lessons are taught using 1 Year of Sunday
     School Lessons For 3-5 year-olds by Angela Powell.
  - 1<sup>st</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> April Schwartz Lessons are taught using Truth78: Faithful to all His Promises: A Study for Children on the Promises of God

### Children's Church - meet weekly year round

- PreK-2nd lessons are taught using curriculum from Discipleland
- Teachers teach once a month on a rotation basis and a youth helper is there each week as well: Esly Dwyer & William Jeffries, Elaine Clark & Jameson Clark, Brent & Carolyn Johnson and April Schwartz and Brooklynne Jeffries

#### Due to Covid-19 classes have not meet since March.

Written by Athena Grady

#### **Global Missions**

Annual Report July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020

In November we joined Encompass in "Persecuted: A Global Prayer Event" where thousands of churches around the globe will joined together to pray for those in our movement facing such atrocities. We also shared a short video about it. We also shared a video update from the B. family on their ministry.

In December we once again supported the Gideons International and their Bibles for Jesus program. We also sent small financial Christmas gifts to each of our missionaries.

Due to to Covid-19 most things were cancelled or postponed beginning in March. We hope to be able to have a couple of missionaries visit and share with us this next year.

#### **Global Missions Team**

Athena Grady, Diane McGriff, Don McGriff, April Schwartz, Deb Johnson and Jim Grady - Elder Rep

## **Men's Ministry**

Annual Report July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020

As with all the activities of our church and well as our personal lives, the Covid-19 virus has changed Grace Fellowship men's activities drastically in the last three or four months. Prior to the arrival of this fearsome disease, the men of the church enjoyed their weekly breakfast gathering at Chick-Fil-A on Wednesday mornings. About eight to twelve men enjoyed this mid-week boost to the soul and spirit. Food, devotions, fellowship, stories (some completely true) were share and enjoyed. With the arrival of the "virus", restaurants closed, and it was safer to not meet anywhere. It wasn't long before Brad Morris made the arrangements for the "boys" to meet by the Zoom software on phones, computers and tablets. While it wasn't the same as sitting at the same table, it was great to see everyone and share with each other. We also had a few family members to greet who happened to walk by a camera's field of view. We had several new attendees join by Zoom who were working from home. Starting the month of June, the Wednesday morning breakfasts have continued at church with men bringing breakfast with them. It is definitely an improvement, but all are looking forward to a return to the restaurant.

Our monthly, Saturday morning breakfasts have been suspended with a plan to return to holding them in August. We will monitor the local, health conditions over the next couple of weeks before finalizing that decision. Dealing with this health crisis seems to be like writing a play at the same time it is being performed; no historic guidelines.

The Grace Family enjoyed a fall gathering at the Grady farm with a wonderful potluck meal with BBQ meat provided by chefs Dale and Jerry. Entertainment was provided by some of the many and multitalented folks that we have at Grace. It was a great time. Pastor Kyle declared that the "Almost-annual Fall Family Fest" would be changed to the "Annual Fall Family Fest".

Work has been done on the church property as needed with tree trimming, landscape cleanup and basement water seepage as examples. Snow removal and regular lawn care was provided by volunteers.

Christmas decorating was done by the church men again this year under the very capable supervision and direction of Sheri Lesh.

In Christian Brotherhood,

Men's Ministry

Proverbs 27:17 Iron sharpens iron and one man sharpens another.

## Partners in Education Report Lowell Elementary School

Annual Report July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020

#### Activities this past school year:

- Held a back-to-school lunch for the teachers and staff
- Collected school supplies for the students and teachers
- Recruited 48 people to be pen pals with 56 second graders
- Adopted a family with five daughters for Christmas. Each girl received several presents and the family was given practical gifts such as laundry soap
- Attended a meeting each month with other Partners at Lowell
- Saved HyVee receipts and Box Tops for Education
- Delivered bags of treats and small gifts to the second graders for monthly birthdays

Due to the pandemic, we were unable to do our usual spring activities, such as

- A Cinco de Mayo celebration for students with "almost perfect" attendance and behavior
- April through July birthday bags
- The final pen pal journals
- Meeting our little pals at a pizza party with gifts and a fascinating presentation by Mr Science, our own Dick Jensen

#### Many thanks go to

- All who are willing pen pals
- Those who contributed to and helped prepare the staff lunch
- All who helped provide school supplies
- The many folks who helped our adopted family have a blessed Christmas
- Everyone who prays for this ministry

The beautiful old Lowell building across the street is being torn down and removed as this report is being written. After the initial roof collapse, other dangerous conditions were found in some of the support beams. Asbestos had to be removed safely.

The new building will be wonderful too and meet modern requirements for people with disabilities. The parking should also be much improved! But it is not expected to open until the beginning of 2023. Meanwhile, the students are all being bused to the old Area 267 buildings off University Avenue in Cedar Falls.

PLEASE KEEP LOWELL STUDENTS AND STAFF IN YOUR PRAYERS, ESPECIALLY FOR PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH, as well as the people who will soon be constructing the new building.

Our main contact for several years, Adam Ahrendson is moving to Lincoln Elementary, where he will be the interim principal. Please pray for him and for whoever will be the new lead teacher at Lowell.

Joyce Helfer, PIE Coordinator

## **Good News Club- Children's Evangelism**

Annual Report July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020

Several of us at Grace Fellowship were holding Good News Club meetings after school seven Monday's each semester. Unfortunately, we have not been able to have Club while the students are at the Cedar Falls location, since they are bused home right after school each day.

We will be looking at the probability of starting again this year.

Joyce Helfer, Good News Club Coordinator

**Acts 1:8** <sup>8</sup>But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

## Women's Ministry

Annual Report July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020

Our first event was again in October. Where twenty-one wonderful Christian women who made 25 blankets in just under 2 hours. The blankets were given to House of Hope for children.

Our 2nd event was our traditional Cookie Exchange in December. The number of attendees was down from the previous year but the fun still was high.

Our spring event was slated for April 18, "Under His Wings," with Abby Turpin as our guest speaker. However due to the Covid-19 Pandemic, those plans had to be cancelled.

We are looking forward to getting together and making plans for later this year.

Respectfully submitted

Rae Jean Jeffries.

## **Worship Leadership Team**

Annual Report July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020

Over the past six months, since the last semi-annual meeting, the Worship Ministry was in full swing planning and leading weekly worship services until early March when the COVID-19 pandemic was declared and in person services were suspended at GFC. Roger Lear had plans to lead the GFC Choir in an Easter Cantata on April 12<sup>th</sup> but this was also cancelled due to the pandemic. A few music specials were prerecorded by the Lear's and Blakesley's and aired by Pastor Kyle during our Sunday morning livestreams throughout the 4 months of suspended services. Other than that, the worship ministry just continued to plan and be prepared for the day we would resume normal worship activities. In person services were resumed on Father's Day, June 21<sup>st</sup> 2020 and the worship team will begin leading live worship once again on July 5<sup>th</sup>.

One great improvement that came out of the pandemic period was that our audio/video team has purchased some new equipment to improve the audio and video quality of our service live streams. This has proven to be a huge improvement that folks who watch our live streams have reported really appreciating. Thanks for your continued prayers and support of our ministry. We love to praise our worthy God and Savior, Jesus Christ!

For Christ's Renown,

The Worship Leadership Team

## **Discipleship, Youth and Senior Pastor Reports**

Annual Report July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020

#### Senior Pastor Report -

What a joy it has been to serve officially as Senior Pastor since March of this year. Since that time, we have seen quite a lot of things happen, most prominently we have navigated and continue to navigate through a global pandemic of the coronavirus. With complete confidence and with all the glory to the Lord, I can say that we have navigated it well! We have continued our commitment to expository preaching. By God's grace **there has not been one Sunday** that we have not had the expository preaching of God's Word available via livestream or prerecorded message. This in itself, fuels my thankfulness to the Lord. To us, this may seem like not a big deal, but many churches didn't have the capability to begin digital ministries at the start of the pandemic quarantine and were thus delayed. We, however, began on March 15<sup>th</sup>, and since then have reached an astonishing number of people with our digital ministry via Facebook. I have had the blessing of meeting personally with many of you during this pandemic, and have spoken with twice as many over the phone. By God's grace and power we are still strong as a body of Christ, and I am very excited about the future.

#### Discipleship Report -

Discipleship got hit hard by the coronavirus. However, before the virus hit, our discipleship team was engaged in incredible ministries. Our Sunday schools were hitting record attendance, and we added Troy Renaud back into the teaching rotation! Merrill-Lee Pick has been doing an excellent job of leading the Women's Bible study group, and will continue to do so into the future. During the pandemic, we have suspended Sunday school and most all other discipleship ministries. However, discipleship has still been on going through our verse by verse study of the book of Galatians on Wednesday evenings via Facebook live. Believe it or not, we have almost taught through the entire book of Galatians! What a blessing! We have seen the Holy Spirit working through some powerful discussions about legalism and the Christian life. We are also looking forward to the day when our discipleship ministries such as Sunday School and Women's Bible Studies can begin in full once again.

#### Youth Report -

Ministering to the youth during a pandemic has not been easy. However, necessity is the mother of invention, and the Lord has allowed us to get creative with our ministry. From January to March, we were meeting normally, but as soon as the pandemic hit and schools closed, our ministry needed to change. Every week we began to meet for a Zoom Bible Study on Fridays and we had up to 12 people in those meetings! That gave everyone the opportunity to check up on everyone else, and it gave me the opportunity to minister to youth from a distance. We also had big plans for Momentum this year, but as with many other large-scale events, that was postponed until 2021. As with all our other ministries, we look forward to the day when the youth can joyously meet together once again.