

ON Broadway

Ann Arbor Christian Reformed Church Newsletter

March 2016

Is Stephen Ministry Alive at AACRC?

Marilyn Dahms



Yes! This is a ministry that started in our church in 2006 when Harvey Stob, Lillian Kuiper and Dottie Elliott went to St Louis, M) to be trained as Stephen Ministry Leaders. Over the last 10 years there have been 22 people trained as Stephen Ministry Care Givers. At present we have eight Stephen Ministers walking alongside of people in our congregation and many others who have been trained as Stephen Ministers and are still using their gifts in an informal way.

One way to think of Stephen Ministry Care Givers is that they are the “AfterPeople.”

- after the phone call you hoped you would never get.
- after the divorce papers are served and the bottom falls out of your life.
- after the funeral, when everyone has left and the emotions you’ve held at bay come crashing in on you.
- after the doctor says, “I’m sorry there’s nothing more we can do.”
- after the nursing home director shakes you hand and says, “Welcome to your new home.”
- after the last child honks the horn, waves and drives away—and the house suddenly seems empty.
- after the baby arrives, demanding more of you than you ever dreamed possible.
- after you find a pink slip with your final paycheck.
- after your family and friends have heard your story one too many times, but you still need to talk it out.
- after ... (you fill in the blank).

Stephen Ministers are ready to come alongside you and provide comfort and support for as long after as needed. Men are always paired with men and women with women in a confidential caring relationship. Please contact one of the pastors, Lillian Kuiper or Marilyn Dahms if you would like to find out how a Stephen Minister could be helpful to you.

Loving God, Serving People

Building a community loved and changed by Jesus, loving and changing the world for him.

Habitat for Humanity
2016 House of Faith
1222 Clarita St., Ypsilanti

Tim Johnson for the Service Deacons

The Ann Arbor Christian Reformed Church has a rich tradition of impacting the lives of those in our community by participating with other area churches in the Habitat for Humanity House of Faith project. Last year we worked on a house for Tia Walker and her sons Brian, Jayden and Shawn that was part of the 2015 Block of Faith project. This year the new project house that will be renovated during the months of April and May is on 1222 Clarita St. in Ypsilanti.

How can I get involved?

- Labor support at the house: No previous experience is required. Training is provided and all tools are available on-site. Sixteen and Seventeen year olds are welcome accompanied by an adult. Four to six volunteers are needed on each of the following dates: April 1, 2, 15 & 16 (9 am to 4 pm).
- Provide a lunch: Volunteers are needed to provide lunch for 17 hungry volunteers. Lunches are delivered to the worksite by 11:45 am. One volunteer is needed on each of the following dates: April 1, 15 & 16.
- Take pictures: Volunteers are needed to photograph our volunteers on workdays. Photos will be posted on the church website. A 2 hour commitment is required.
- Donate money: On March 27th, a special offering will be received during both morning services for the 2016 House of Faith project. Our goal is to raise \$3,000.
- Pray: Pray for God's blessing on the project, wisdom for the leadership team and safety for all of the volunteers.

How do I sign up?

- A volunteer sign up form will be included as a bulletin insert beginning on March 20th. Place the completed form in mailbox #168. Alternatively, you can e-mail me at tjohns35@hotmail.com or text 734-417-7773 (leave your name, volunteer date and whether you wish to help with the labor, lunch, or pictures).



With Jesus in the Upper Room

March 6: Lent 4, John 15:18-16:15

March 13: Lent 5, John 16:16-33

March 20: Lent 6, Palm Sunday, John 17:1-19

March 20: 6:00 pm evening worship

March 21-25, Holy Week Morning Devotions

Daily 30-minute service, beginning at 6:30 am followed by a light breakfast

Monday: John 2:13-35,
Jesus clears the temple

Tuesday: John 3:1-17,
Jesus' meeting with Nicodemus

Wednesday: John 4:5-42,
the woman at the well

Thursday: John 12:1-11,
Jesus is anointed by Mary

Friday: John 12:20-36,
Jesus predicts his death

March 24: 7:30 pm, Maundy Thursday with communion

March 25: 7:30 pm, Good Friday, John 19:1-19

March 27: Easter, John 20

Roots Winter Retreat 2016

Paul Machiele



Twelve of our middle school youth set off with three brave Roots leaders to Grace Youth Adventures in Mears, Michigan to participate in the Winter Blast over the January 22-24 weekend along with about 240 other middle school students from various churches mostly around West Michigan. Over the weekend our youth experienced four “Sessions” of worship with a dynamic youth pastor with a unique ability to interact particularly with middle school youth, combined with a Christian worship band that led us in praise. Our students were encouraged to commit or recommit themselves to a life of walking with Christ. These sessions were followed by small group time where we as leaders could further discuss and reinforce what they heard. In addition, the youth chose among a selection of short breakout discussions on Saturday on topics like leadership, time management and purpose in life.

Of course if you talk to the students what you are most likely to hear are the stories of all the many activities. Rock wall climbing, tubing, broomball, re-ball (like paintball but with foam balls), carpetball, pingpong, foosball, air hockey, euchre, and of course our side trip to the Silver Lake Dunes. Needless to say, we all came back a little exhausted and sleep deprived. Many thanks to Ross’ organization skills and the best weather weekend of the winter so far so we could all make it there and back safely.

Peter & Janet Payne: International Fellowship of Evangelical Students (IFES) Europe 2016

Missions Team

SWEDEN Feb. 27–March 9
Umeå, Gothenburg, Lund, Stockholm

POLAND March 9–19
Speaking at various universities in Poland

DENMARK March 19–26
National Easter Camp near Aarhus

ENGLAND
Easter with friends, IFES headquarters in Oxford.

Please pray:

- For students to choose topics soon, so Peter can prepare for each talk. For flexibility with the talks, good Q and A, good translators in Poland, Lithuania, and Czech Republic.
- For housing in each city, especially Stockholm, hopefully with families or students. The IFES hosts arrange this.
- For health throughout the trip, including sleep on first flight. For Peter and Janet to be an encouragement to the staff and student leadership.
- For teachable hearts for the Christians and courage to invite their friends. For prepared hearts for non-Christians who come and for friendship/follow-up from the Christian student groups.
- For us all to listen to the Spirit and run with Jesus!

