

YOUTH AND FAMILY LIFE MINISTRY 2008 ANNUAL REPORT

The Youth and Family Life Ministry continues to be active here at Saint Nicholas. While some of our groups have been somewhat dormant this past year, new groups have formed, providing for the growing needs of the congregation.

The following is a list of events we have been involved in this year:

The Saint Nicholas Bible Bowl
Cupid's Café – "Some Enchanted Evening"
Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner
National Night Out
Rally Day/ Blessing of the Book Bags
Sullivan and Hyland Summer Concert Fundraiser
Fall Festival
Clare O'Shea Concert
Homeless Walkathon
Hanging of the Greens

Within our ministry there also are many groups that meet regularly and others that assist in the facilitating of events and activities here at Saint Nicholas:

- The In Crowd – Our high school youth group has stayed busy this year with a variety of faith based activities such as Bible studies, retreats, lock ins, Vacation Bible School and fun events, such as work camp, pool parties, ice skating and Hershey Park trips. Fund-raising for the National Youth Gathering in July of 2009 has kept them busy for the latter part of the year.
- Sunday Morning Hospitality Group – Many assist in meeting the congregation's needs to provide coffee and other refreshments for Sunday morning fellowship.
- Special Events Group – Arrangements for occasions such as Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner, Easter Morning Social, Confirmation Reception and other celebrations have been carried out by this committee lead by Angela Knepp.
- Men's Softball Team - Tom Blatt continues to organize and coach our team that provides great fun for both players and fans. We all enjoyed another successful season with them.
- Women in Service to Christ (WISC) – Our women's group, under the leadership of Brenda White, is always offering new and interesting monthly activities for the women in our congregation.
- Young Families Group – With our growing number of preschoolers this group was formed and gathers periodically for activities appropriate for families with little ones.

- Greeting Card Team – Robin Niosi has stepped up to lead this important part of our ministry.
- The Second Thursday Lunch Bunch – The popular Lunch Bunch meets monthly at local restaurants for lunch and fellowship.
- The Yada Yada Book Club - Our book club meets monthly at various homes to discuss the current selection.
- The Young at Heart – This group meets periodically for lunch and a movie.
- Fabulous Fridays – Once a month, Fridays are Fabulous at Saint Nicholas. We share a meal and evening of fun and fellowship. Activities have varied with the season and weather.
- Young Adults Group – A new addition to our ministry, Young Adults meet at Turnabout Café in Owings for fellowship and Bible study. Pastor Wendy leads this group.
- Fall Co-ed Softball – Another new activity added this fall, Co-ed Softball provided another avenue for excitement to our ministry. Lisa Hanson served as coach and organizer.
- Youth Planning Team – A group has been formed recently to coordinate and plan the activities of our busy middle and high school youth.
- Stephen Ministry – Saint Nicholas completed its third year of Stephen ministry with five caregivers and leaders. Six people received care during 2008. Along with Pastor Wendy, the team planned and led the third annual Service of Hope in early Advent. The team remains ready to serve with one-on-one Christian care giving.

Blessings,
Mary Jo Gebhardt