

MINISTRY OF SOCIAL CONCERNS 2009 ANNUAL REPORT

As we reflect on 2009, we look back proudly at what was accomplished through our outreach. Once again, the congregation tithed 10% of the regular offering to the work of the Lord outside of these walls. A substantial increase was given to Metro DC Synod and the ELCA, thus more support for the programs of each. In addition, we were able to financially support the following organizations:

CCCFP	Pastor's Discretionary Fund
Calvert Literacy Council	Christmas in April
Thorne Memorial Golf Tourn.	Mar-Lu-Ridge
LSS (Camp Safe Haven)	Calvert Healthcare Solutions
Safe Nights	ELCA Youth Gathering (Service Project)
Meals on Wheels	Habitat for Humanity
Barstow Acres Therapeutic Camp	Calvert Hospice
Navajo Evang. Lutheran Mission	Gettysburg Seminary Food Pantry
Operation Christmas Child	Community of St. Dymas

Throughout the year, several projects were part of our outreach.

- In January, used children's books were collected for the Latino Ministry in Langley Park to help Latino children learn the English language.
- The Souper Bowl of Caring collected donations for CCCPF in February.
- Christmas in April, headed by Keith Williams, brought out a number of volunteers as we worked on two houses.
- The Bee-Attitudes (Barbara Harris, Matt Hall, and Devin Page) brought home the trophy for the Bee for Literacy sponsored by the Calvert Literacy Council in May.
- Teddy bears were purchased in honor or memory of mothers for Mother's Day and donated to Calvert Hospice.
- The Relay for Life team, headed by Sandy Griese, made their contribution toward finding a cure on a long night in June.
- In July, infant clothing, toys, diapers, etc. were collected for Birthright of Prince Frederick thanks to Joan McCuiston's leadership.
- School supplies were collected in August.
- Personal hygiene products and cleaning supplies were collected in September.
- Gently used coats were collected in October.
- An attempt to house the homeless through the Safe Nights program took place in November. Unfortunately (or fortunately) we only had guests on three nights during the week. Thanks to Joan McCuiston and Charlie Bauerdorf for their leadership.
- Holiday baskets were purchased for the needy for Thanksgiving and for Christmas.
- Saint Nicholas participated in the Tree of Angels program to help bring the joy of Christmas to the less fortunate. Special thanks to Gus Wolf, Carol Blatt and Donna Callauti for their hard work.
- Gifts of Hope were bought to help support the ministries of the Metro DC Synod.
- Each month our volunteers provided dinner to the residents of Project ECHO. Thanks to Jean Smetana and Sherrie Thompson for coordinating and delivering those meals.

- All year long, we collected nonperishable food for the Calvert Churches Community Food Pantry. Thanks to Dawn Hogsensen for transporting those contributions.

As always, I am indebted to the Social Concerns Ministry Team of Carol Blatt, Erika Demme, and Gus Wolf as well as the people of this congregation who are so generous and charitable at heart. Saint Nicholas is truly a place that sees its place in this world as the body of Christ doing His work to His glory! May we strive to continue in 2010!

In His Service,
Kathy Dangin