

CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP
ANNUAL REPORT - 2009

“God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.”

Psalms 46:1

The Christian Women's Fellowship (CWF) remains sensitive to, and grows with, the issues facing women here and around the world. Through CWF sponsored events, women are invited to share the good news through worship, Bible study, issue study, mission study, service/action, fellowship, leadership training and stewardship. Along the way, we have become friends with women from all over the country and across the globe. Through them and the Quadrennial Assembly (QA) experience, our relationship with God has grown deeper.

Disciples Women (CWF) 2009 Regional Spring Projects: **Quadrennial Scholarships** - to assist and encourage women to attend the Quadrennial Assembly in Greensboro, N.C., June 23-27, 2010; **Breaking the Chains of Modern-Day Slavery (Human Trafficking)** - mostly women, very young girls and children are abducted and/or forced to labor for someone else against their wishes occurs all over the world, including the U.S.A.; **Bosnia - Build-A-Village** - confronting the harsh social and economic realities in Bosnia after the most recent civil war by supporting Veterinary Service in order for livestock to remain healthy and well cared for; establishing a Milk Cooperative to generate income, provide primary health care, and regain dignity for returnees; establishment of a Community Entrepreneur Fund so participating families identify income opportunities, organize trainings, make investment decisions, and the returns are then re-invested into the community.

We continue to support Ambika Ganapathi, who lives in Karnataka, India and is now in the ninth grade. Through our support she is able to continue her education and her village receives agricultural and educational assistance also.

In May we sponsored a Bake Sale to raise funds for Lindsay Spengler following complications from surgery in Mexico in her ongoing RSD treatment.

We held our Annual Ice Cream Social on July 18 - this year to benefit the CWF programs.

For several Sundays during the summer CWF Visuals were a part of morning worship highlighting programs sponsored by our Disciples Women: • In 1887 Disciples Women organized the National Benevolent Association (the “first” NBA) providing homes for orphans. Over the years homes were built through HUD to include the elderly, disabled and provide childcare • Since 1950 Disciples Women have given over \$127,000,000 to missions... (over and above their congregational giving)! • In 1989 the first Woman-to-Woman Worldwide trip visited Northern Ireland and Scotland. Since then 177 Disciples Women and 9 men from 28 regions have traveled to 24 countries experiencing the similarities, as well as the difficulties, women face in raising their children and supporting their families.

On November 25 we hosted the Community Thanksgiving dinner and service. We anticipated a larger number of participants this year due to the economy. 150 lbs. of potatoes were mashed, 25 turkeys were roasted, 500 dressing balls, 13 gals. of green beans and 6 gals. of sauerkraut were served, 40 pumpkin pies were baked, and over 400 meals were served/delivered.

In December we shared in Shoebox gifts (Operation Christmas Child), Stockings for children at the Compassion Cupboard, and at our December General Meeting we brought gifts of mittens, gloves, scarves, hats, sweaters and coats for children and adults at the Compassion Cupboard.

In addition to the above, CWF members oversee flowers for the church altar, prepare and serve meals following funeral services of our members, perform on-going Community Outreach Projects and remember our shut-ins through our Christian Concern and Prayer List. We collect Blessing Box Offerings for Disciples Mission Fund and Gift of the Heart Kits: Hygiene Kits, Baby Kits and School Kits for Church World Service and support the Compassion Cupboard with food items, monetary gifts and as volunteers during the monthly distribution.

As fundraisers to help support our mission programs, we continue to sell Pecans and Cashews. In addition we sell Rada Cutlery (which we use in the church kitchen, at home and as gifts). Rada has expanded its line and now offers cutting boards, dips, dessert and cake mixes, baking stones, soy wax candles and gift sets.

Krysta Weatherholtz, CWF President 2009-2010