

# West County Assembly of God 2007 Annual Report

Jared M. Stoner, Interim Senior Pastor



Prepared for Annual Meeting  
March 9, 2008  
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# MEETING AGENDA

March 9, 2008 6:30 p.m.

Opening Prayer.

Approval of the minutes from March 11, 2007.

Report by the Secretary as to whether a quorum is present.

## Reports:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. Interim Senior Pastor, Jared Stoner     | 15. Library, Paula Lucas                        |
| 2. Church Administration, Louie Salazar    | 16. Missions, Patrick Brookman                  |
| 3. Children's Pastor, Mike Dollard         | 17. Men's Ministry, Scott Hill                  |
| 4. Youth Pastor, Todd Harris               | 18. Mpaact Girls Ministry, Stacey Seipp         |
| 5. Pastor of Congregational Life, Ken Wolf | 19. Nursery, Bob Bollinger                      |
| 6. Music Department, Louie Salazar         | 20. Nursing Home Ministry, Nelda Schloeman      |
| 7. Adventurers, Mike Dollard               | 21. Prayer Ministries, Ed Neustrom              |
| 8. Agape International, Jose Kadavil       | 22. Royal Rangers, John Schloeman               |
| 9. Axis, Jared Stoner                      | 23. Shut-Ins, Marilyn Hadding                   |
| 10. Buildings, Kevin Pyatt                 | 24. Ushers, Kent Addison                        |
| 11. Businessmen's Luncheon, Paul Henry     | 25. West County Christian School, Janet Gregory |
| 12. Cross, Kent Addison                    | 26. Women's Ministries, Kathy Salazar           |
| 13. Grounds, John Verdon                   | 27. Treasurer, Barry Aldridge                   |
| 14. Greeters/ Hospitality, Carol Moffatt   |   |

Questions on the written reports will be entertained from the floor, but the reports will not be read aloud.

## New Business:

1. Election of **two** deacons for 3-year terms. Nominees: Patrick Brookman (incumbent), Lawrence Hadding, Suzanne Heins and Stan Roberts. Bios are on page 5 of this report.
2. Re-ratification of **four** elders for 5-year terms. Nominees: Kent Addison, Marilyn Hadding, Carol Moffatt, and Nelda Schloeman. Bios are on page 6 of this report.
3. A proposed by-law change concerning church membership. The change is an amendment by addition of the following to Article I. Membership, Section 2, Letter B: **Membership candidates will complete a membership class describing the privileges and responsibilities of membership of this Assembly (Matt. 22:37-40 and Matt. 28:19-20).** The new reading is **"The Pastor will present the names of those who apply for membership with recommendations to the Joint Committee. Membership candidates will complete a membership class describing the privileges and responsibilities of membership of this Assembly (Matt. 22:37-40 and Matt. 28:19-20). The Joint Committee will meet . . ."** The Joint Committee recommends passage.
4. A proposed by-law change concerning the nomination of lay elders. The change is an amendment by omission of the following in Article III. Elections and Vacancies, Section 4: **" . . . prior to the annual Business Meeting or special business meeting called for that purpose."** The new reading is **" Lay Elders will be nominated by the Pastor in consultation with the Council of Elders and approved by a vote of the Joint Committee. They will be ratified by a majority vote of all votes entitled to be cast by members present at the next Annual or special business meeting....."** The Joint Committee recommends passage.
5. 2008 Budget – Barry Aldridge.
6. Report from the Pastoral Nominating Committee.
7. Open from the floor.
8. Adjourn.

## 2007 WCAG Annual Business Meeting Minutes

March 11, 2007

### Order of Business

Meeting called to order by Pastor John Wilson @ 6:30PM.

Pastor John Wilson offered the opening prayer.

1. Minutes from the **February 2, 2006 WCAG Annual Business Meeting** were ratified.
2. Quorum verified – 102 of 304 voting members required for quorum; 138 members were signed in.
3. John Wilson presented the reading of the Biblical qualifications for Deacons; 1 Timothy 3:1-13.
4. Department Reports:

Senior Pastor, John Wilson	Grounds, Patrick Brookman
Church Administration, Louie Salazar	Food Services, Kent Howard
Children's Pastor, Mike Dollard	Buildings, Kevin Pyatt
Youth Pastor, Todd Harris	Youth Ctr Bldg Project Update, Kevin Pyatt
Music Pastor, Louie Salazar	Ushers & Greeters, John Verdon
Pastor of Congregational Life, Ken Wolf	Royal Rangers, John Schloeman
Adventurers, Mike Dollard	Businessmen's Luncheon, Frank Sexton
Nursery, Barry Aldridge	Women's Ministries, Kathy Salazar
Missions, Scott Hill	Kingsmen, Michael Cox
Axis, Jared Stoner	Cross Team, Kent Addison
Missionettes, Stacey Seipp	Treasurer, Bob Sander
West County Christian School, Janet Gregory	
5. Transition Team Issues – Scott Hill
  - Request for members to be involved
  - Introduction of Jared Stoner as Interim Senior Pastor
6. Bob Bollinger, Kent Howard and John Verdon were elected for 3-year terms on the Board of Deacons.
7. Proposed Building Project Master Plan – Kevin Pyatt
  - Kevin Pyatt presented the Master Plan carried forward from the Building Committee
  - Kevin Pyatt made a motion to accept the proposal; Mark Bowman seconded the motion
  - Questions about the timeline, space utilization, funding, etc. were raised
  - Motion to table the discussion made by Mary Sander; the vote passed
  - Next step is for the Building Committee to fill in the information gaps and prepare a follow-on presentation for an additional meeting
8. Endowment Update – Scott Hill
  - The documents are finalized and the Investment Policy is in place
  - Trustees are being sought after; individuals interested in filling these roles should notify the Board of Deacons
  - A kickoff meeting is forthcoming as well as training and fund raising campaigns
9. 2007 Budget – Bob Sander
  - The 2007 WCAG Budget was presented by Bob Sander
  - Bob Sander made a motion to accept the 2007 Budget as presented; Ed Neustrom seconded the motion; the vote passed
10. Open Items -
  - Observation made about the inability to see the overhead presentations in the sanctuary

Meeting adjourned with the Doxology at 8:30PM

# Deacon Nominees

Two deacons will be elected to 3-year terms serving from March 2008—March 2011. Nominees are:



**Patrick Brookman, Incumbent**

Patrick and Marianne have attended WCAG since 2002. They have 6 daughters: Janet age 21, Abigail 19, Grace 14, Clara 9, Laura 8, and Rebecca 4. Patrick has served WCAG as a small group leader and as a team member in the Nursing Home Ministry. His spiritual gifts are hospitality and helps.



**Lawrence Hadding**

Lawrence and his wife, Marilyn, have attended WCAG since 1982. They have 2 grown children and seven grandchildren. Lawrence previously served as a deacon at WCAG for six years. He has also served as a Sunday school teacher and a Small Group Leader. His spiritual gifts are service and giving.



**Suzanne Heins**

Suzanne and her husband, Dale, have attended WCAG since 1987. They have three children: Mariel, age 15; Julia, age 12; and Michael, age 9. Suzanne has served as a Sunday school teacher, as a Choir member, Missionettes' leader, Greeter, Shut-In Visitation team member, Youth Parents' Board, WM Book Club Leader, and a Small Group Leader. Her spiritual gifts include teaching and faith.



**Stan Roberts**

Stan has attended WCAG since 1986. He is married to Carrie and they have one daughter, Charlotte, who is 15-months-old. Stan and Carrie are both very active in the music ministry at WCAG. He served in the audio and music ministries at churches in Chicago and Springfield. His spiritual gifts include serving others and encouraging others.

## Elder Re-ratification

Re-ratification of four elders for 5-year terms serving from March 2008—March 2013.

Nominees:



### Kent Addison

Kent and Sharon have attended WCAG since the late 1970's. They have two married children: Angela Meier and Kendall Addison. Kent's ministries at WCAG have included Usher, leader of a Small Group Bible Study, drama and music productions—acting and stage sets, Celebration of the Arts, designed the floor roundels in the entrance Foyer, center symbols in stained glass windows in Foyer, drawings for church publications, Church For Tomorrow team, design of the Cross, Chairman of Cross Team, and speaker for various church organizations. His gifts are in the visual and performing arts and the gift of teaching.



### Marilyn Hadding

Marilyn and Lawrence have attended WCAG since 1981. They have two married children: Mark, father of triplets, lives in Chicago, and Lari, the mother of two sets of twins, lives in Memphis. Marilyn has served as a Pastors' Prayer Partner, Young Marrieds' Sunday School teacher, Beth Moore Bible Study Group Leader, and 3rd grade Sunday School teacher. She and her husband Lawrence lead a Small Group Bible Study. She is appointed to pray at the altar. Her spiritual gifts are serving and teaching.



### Carol Moffatt

Carol and Jim Moffatt have attended WCAG since 1983. They have two children, William and Anna. Ministries that Carol has been involved in at WCAG include Choir, Orchestra, the Women's Ministries Board and the Church for Tomorrow team. Her spiritual gifts are hospitality, administration, and exhortation.



### Nelda Schloeman

Nelda and John Schloeman have attended WCAG since 1969. Ministries at WCAG include Children's Church Ministry, Dinner for 12, Host for Thanksgiving Dinner, Sunday school teacher, and Nursing Home Ministry. She has served as an Elder since 1998. Her spiritual gifts are intercession and exhortation.

## Report from the Interim Senior Pastor



**Pastor Jared Stoner**

Dear Church Family,

The following information offers a quick glance at some of the most important statistics of the 2007 year.

### **Membership**

Total Membership—344

Voting Membership—302

New members added to the church – 10

People removed from the active membership roll:

Attending other churches—22

Moved from the area—10

Deceased—6

Babies born to church families—5

Babies dedicated—5

Weddings performed—6

People baptized in water—8

### **Deceased**

Bernice Smith 4-12-07

Bill Banks 4-16-07

Larry Larison 6-22-07

Paul Hartwig 7-5-07

Robert Bennett 8-8-07

Ruby Silvey 12-19-07

### **Relocated**

Joseph & Lydia Blankson—Chicago, IL

Prinson & Mercy Yohannan, Overland Park, KS

Art & Olivia Aquino, California

Jan Wilkinson, Delaware

Zach Evans, Texas

### **2007 Council of Elders**

Kent Addison

Paul Arrington

Dick Birkner

Marilyn Hadding

Carol Moffatt

Ed Neustrom

Nelda Schloeman

### **2007 Board of Deacons**

Barry Aldridge

Bob Bollinger

Patrick Brookman

Kent Howard

Kevin Pyatt

Bob Sander

John Verdon

**But more than anything else, God wants us to trust Him; He wants us to look to Him for our strength, security, provision, and joy.**

The year 2007 has brought momentous changes to West County Assembly of God. Pastor John Wilson retired after nearly thirty-eight years of faithful ministry. April 2<sup>nd</sup> began a transition this church has never yet had to go through—seeking God for direction in calling a new Senior Pastor. The Pastoral Staff, Deacon Board, and Council of Elders have provided consistent leadership during this time, attempting to make progress in moving the church forward while still giving adequate time and energy to the pastoral search process. It has

been my *privilege* to serve alongside these wonderful men and women of God. God has proven His faithfulness once again, and I am truly grateful.

Leadership transitions nearly always bring with them a certain level of insecurity and sometimes difficulty. And while we may not be able to change the feelings we experience during a transition like this, we certainly have a choice about how to respond to them. Probably the greatest single temptation is to look around for something tangible to put our trust in, whether a king (1 Sam. 8:18-20), an idol (Exodus 32), a sacrifice (1 Sam. 13:10-12), or an alliance (Isaiah 8). But more than anything else, God wants us to trust him; he wants us to look to him for our strength, security, provision, and joy. We can draw near to Him, filled with the confidence that He will draw near to us in response (James 4:8). We can look to His hand for everything we need (Psalm 123:2). We must avoid the temptation to trust anyone or anything else, declaring our solidarity with the Psalmist who proclaims, “We trust in the name of the Lord our God” (Psalm 20:7).

## Report from the Interim Senior Pastor (continued)

And as we draw near to Him, we continue pressing forward with the work God has given us to do. We refuse to tread water or mark time. Instead we are planning and executing what we believe is in the best interest of the church and what will leave it as strong as possible in preparation for the next transition that will mark this church—the call of its second pastor. We can rest assured—the faithfulness of God which has sustained this church for nearly forty years will continue to sustain us as we trust in Him and respond in obedience to His Word. It's a wonderful privilege to be your pastor during this time.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Jared

### **Addendum: A Change in Missions' Funding**

In past years the Missions' budget has been a fixed amount. For the last few budget years, we have transferred 30% of undesignated income from the general fund to the Missions' account. That 30% does not include monies given by congregants of WCAG specifically designated to a particular mission project.

This year we are proposing a slight change from that procedure. Let me first explain why.

- For the last two years we have had to come to the congregation at the end of the year and ask for money to help us make up income shortfalls. In order to be good financial stewards of God's money, we cannot continue that practice.
- The Deacons, Elders, and Pastors all feel a desire to place a greater emphasis on direct congregational support of missions.
- We believe there are strategic plans that need to be implemented in order to promote the general health of this assembly. One of those plans is the addition of a fulltime Pastor of Adult Ministry position (filled by Pastor Mike) and the resulting hire of a new Children's Pastor. That change requires more money in salaries and benefits.

In order to accomplish these things, we have made

the following change to the 2008 budget. Rather than supporting Missions *solely* through a transfer of money from the church's general funds, we are going to have an annual Missions' Convention and ask for faith promise pledges for missions' giving. The reasons for making such a move are as follows:

- It helps balance the financial commitment to Missions between the operating funds of the church and the members of the congregation, which in turn allows us to redirect operating funds to strategic plans.
- Giving to Missions is an offering, not a part of tithes per se.
- The church will continue to give a portion of its funds to Missions, but we feel that continuing to give 30% from general funds prevents us from making other necessary changes.

We want to give everyone, from the youngest to the oldest, a greater opportunity for personal involvement in missions through faith promise pledges, a greater commitment to prayer for our missionaries, and more personal interaction with those we support. A Missions' Convention will allow us to do all those things.

As a result, the 2008 budget shows a 25% transfer from general funds to the missions' account. Even though this is a decrease of 5% from last year, our Missions' Committee has carefully looked at our current commitments, and every missionary and missions' project will continue to be funded with the 25% transfer.

Any new missionaries we add for support or new projects will need funding from outside the general funds transfer. To fund these new Missions' projects, we are going to have a Missions' Convention in May and take faith-promise pledges that will be fulfilled during the last two quarters of 2008. After this first Missions' Convention in 2008, we plan to have one every fall that will collect pledges for the following year and allow

the leadership to budget accordingly. We believe this will help us meet all of our goals: fund strategic initiatives, have more personal involvement in missions' giving, and have the same or greater support of missionaries and missions' projects.

**We can rest assured—the faithfulness of God which has sustained this church for nearly forty years will continue to sustain us as we trust in Him and respond in obedience to His Word.**



## Report from the Administrative Pastor

**Pastor Louie Salazar**

Some of the priorities this year have been the following:

1. Continue to develop the administrative office to work as a liaison between the staff, deacons, and service providers to accomplish the completion of various projects.

Projects have included building repairs and maintenance, grounds maintenance, equipment inventory, and repair. With a facility as large as WCAG and with some of the building getting older, this is a constant and ongoing process.

2. Make the administrative office available as a resource to department heads and other church leaders for ideas, programming resources, creative use of resources we already have, and the location of new resources. In 2007 our website, [www.wcag.org](http://www.wcag.org), took on a brand new look. We are continuing to make it very useful for our congregation in terms of current information. We would like to effectively present WCAG on the internet to prospective new attendees.

3. Administrate the Purchase Order system, approval of check requests within deacon-approved guidelines, check signer, and “in house” liaison between the treasurer and finance office. We help the department heads keep on budget track and assist the treasurer in preparing the annual budget and annual report to the congregation.

4. Be a resource to the Pastoral Nominating Committee and make sure that the committee has all the printed, audio, and video materials they need to effectively do their work. Make follow-up phone calls and send emails to get more information about candidates and request additional materials from them. Attend committee meetings.

5. Be a resource to our Interim Senior Pastor regarding procedures and policies, organizational and church finance information, and generally help him from the administrative side of church day-to-day operations.

Pastor Louie is a member of the National Association of Church Business Administrators, both the national organization as well as the Gateway Chapter. In 2006 he completed a two-year certification program through the NACBA, the leading national education/certification program for Church Administrators. The letters FCBA after his name in our printed materials indicate that he is a Fellow in Church Business Administration.

**Make the administrative office available as a resource to department heads and other church leaders for ideas, programming resources, creative use of resources we already have, and the location of new resources.**



## Report from the Children's Pastor

**Pastor Mike Dollard**

The West County Assembly of God Children's Ministry activities in 2007 included Mega Sports Camp, which was coordinated by Stacey Seipp; Kids' Camp at Carlinville, IL; and Hide 'n' Seek Kid's Club on Wednesday evenings.

The Children's Church Services take place at 8:15AM with Mickey Button. Sheila Jafarian teaches on the fourth Sunday. My wife, Gail, and I, along with Stacy Newton and Mr. Friendly, take care of the 11:00AM service. The services are spiritually based, exciting, fun, and challenging. The 11:00AM 3-year-old Children's Church staff is Maureen and Liz Thompson, Connie Wilson, Mary Sander and Lori and Rachel Cannon.

Ernie Roberts, Children's Sunday School Superintendent; Gary Denny, Marie Sooklall, and Jack Head, Support Staff; do an excellent job. We have a wonderful group of dedicated teachers.

The Junior Bible Quiz team has had an exciting and successful year under the direction of Kristy Moore. Helpers are Bob Bollinger, Rita Harris, Tom & Julie Darby, Yvonne Cordell, and June Kinger.

I am blessed to have a fine, dedicated staff of Sunday School teachers from the 3's through fifth grade, Children's Church teachers and helpers, Missionette sponsors and helpers, Royal Ranger Commanders, and great volunteers.

**The Children's  
Church services are  
spiritually based,  
exciting, fun and  
challenging.**

## Report from the Youth Pastor



**Pastor Todd Harris**

SR Youth had a banner year in 2007 in many of its “normal” aspects. We conducted two outreach services, and both were amazing successes. We had over 125 guests last year. As for mission projects, we had two summer weekend trips. One was to Dyersburg, Tennessee and the other to Vermillion, South Dakota. In both locations, the services were led by the youth ministry team. The total income in 2007 for Speed-the-light and the two mission trips was over \$14,000. About 20 students from WCAG participated in the annual Mexico Mission trip.

Our Fine Arts program flourished in 2007. At district level, we saw five presentations win the overall award of merit. Twenty-seven presentations advanced to the National Fine Arts Festival in Indianapolis, IN. There we had three presentations that placed in the top five, and Clif Gilliland in Male Vocal Solo received Award of Merit champion (PT was his personal voice instructor).

Exodus ministry continues to be an extreme blessing with Dennis and Susie Powers leading this great group every Wednesday night. The senior trip Sunday School class is always challenging students in what they believe and why. Sheri Harris leads this ministry as well as the choir, ministry team, and fine arts participants, and she serves as the band leader for the worship team. In 2007, the youth participated in the corporate worship services in many ways and sought to continue to learn to minister more and more. Liz Thompson led our Senior High Sunday School class, and Pastor Todd taught the Middle School youth. We look forward to a great year in 2008.

**In 2007 the youth participated in the corporate worship services in many ways and sought to continue to learn to minister more and more.**



## Report from the Pastor of Congregational Life

### Pastor Ken Wolf

It has been a real privilege this past year to continue serving West County Assembly of God as the Pastor of Congregational Life. It has been a very interesting and productive year.

In addition to the excitement surrounding Pastor John and Connie's retirement activities, our church staff spent much time working through many issues related to transitioning from Pastor John to his successor.

We also worked together to hold our first "Star Spangled Spectacular." The exciting thing was that we made about 50 new friends who attended the function as guests. As usual, the food and games were great, but the topper was the fireworks display. It was "SPECTACULAR."

We have instituted an ongoing food drive to benefit Metro Vision ministries. The need is great; grocery bags are available in the foyer. The response has been wonderful, and your generosity has enabled Metro Vision to meet the needs of the people that they serve. We pray that the congregation will continue to remember those in need through this ministry.

During the Easter season, I developed a devotional guide to be used during Passion Week to direct our thoughts toward the death and resurrection of Christ. Several hundred were distributed.

In May 2007, I directed the *Just Walk Across the Room* series. Pastor Jared preached on the topic each week, and fourteen small groups participated in the video and discussion segments. The study enabled many people to go beyond preconceived notions about witnessing and to discover that all it takes is friendship and just "walking across the room" to be a friend.

Our Christmas project this year was an emphasis on Advent. Several hundred devotional books and Advent calendars were given out. This year we added a coloring book, instructions for making an Advent wreath, and suggestions for various Advent projects. God enabled me to write devotionals for each day from December 1<sup>st</sup> through December 25<sup>th</sup>.

Each Sunday during Advent, Pastor Jared preached a sermon using the verse in the booklet that was emphasized for that day. During the Sunday services and the Christmas Eve service, a family representing a different country from around the world read a Scripture passage, lit the appropriate candle in the Advent wreath, and told a little about a Christmas custom in their home country.

We currently have 10 LIVING STONES small groups that meet for Bible study and fellowship at least bi-weekly. The combined attendance of these groups is about 100. There were also two Beth Moore Bible studies that were held during the year. God is to be praised for all He is doing in and among His people at West County Assembly of God.

At the end of 2007, I left the church pastoral staff and went back into "retirement." Donna and I remain as members of our congregation and will continue to serve the Lord at West County Assembly of God and wherever else He places us.

Respectfully submitted,

Pastor Ken Wolf

**God is to be  
praised for all He is  
doing in and among  
His people at West  
County Assembly  
of God.**



## Report from the Music Pastor

**Pastor Louie Salazar**

(2 Chron 5:13-14, NIV): “The trumpeters and singers joined in unison, as with one voice, to give praise and thanks to the LORD. Accompanied by trumpets, cymbals and other instruments, they raised their voices in praise to the LORD and sang: ‘He is good; his love endures forever.’ ”

“Then the temple of the LORD was filled with a cloud, and the priests could not perform their service because of the cloud, for the glory of the LORD filled the temple of God.”

The overall goal of the Music Department is to create an atmosphere in our church where the glory of God can touch our lives with his life-changing power. To that end, the following groups and events were a part of 2007:

The **Sanctuary Choir** ministered in morning worship services throughout the year. For Good Friday, we presented *The Living Last Supper*. Joann Brooks did a wonderful job of directing the production. It was very well received. For Christmas we performed *The Sounds of Christmas* that included the Choir, Orchestra, Youth Choir, Kid’s Choir, a men’s quartet, ladies quartet, and more. We have 50 Choir members on our roll. If you are looking for a ministry to be involved in, the Choir is a wonderful group to participate with. Overall, the desire to minister to our congregation is very evident from the enthusiastic participation of our Choir members.

The **Orchestra** played several songs for special music, accompanied the choir on several special songs, participated in the Easter and Christmas productions, and played for congregational worship each week. This year the Orchestra members have taken a real “step up” in the quality of their playing together, and several new student players have joined the Orchestra.

This past year the Choir and Orchestra members presented special music for our Christmas Eve service. Having both groups was a real treat.

**Special Music** was presented by vocal and instrumental soloists and ensembles in worship services, including the *West Countian Brass* and *Alavanza Trio*. Our Youth Choir is always a “hit” when they present ministry. Pastor Louie is a resource to our Kids’ Choir and their presentations.

A special feature of Christmas in 2007 was **An Unplugged Christmas**. We had a great time as many performers, from children to seniors, participated in this “first time” event. Hot chocolate, hot cider, and chestnuts “roasting on an open fire” were almost as much of a hit as all the great music and drama.

Another new event was our **Star Spangled Spectacular** held on July 1st. The Music Department’s contribution was our evening entertainment and the fireworks display. We had a great time together and met a lot of new folks who were invited to join with us.

Our **Technical Department**, directed by Dale Puls, continued its excellent ministry in our services this year. Our graphics team, directed by Bill Meier, is doing a great job projecting bulletin announcements, song lyrics, and some sermon notes on the large Sanctuary screen. Another opportunity is now available with the addition of permanent theatrical lights and a new lighting board. Dale has conducted one training session already, and we’ll do more training for sound and lighting in 2008.

Many thanks to everyone who gives their time to the ministry of music. We have nearly 80 people involved every week in rehearsals and services. The commitment and responsibility are to produce quality music and technical support every single week. We couldn’t do it without you! Thanks to Marie Roberts for her help with our Choir music and for the wonderful job with the Choir robes we use for Christmas Eve. Thank you, Kathy (my unofficial co-conductor) for all you do to make the ministry of music happen at WCAG.

The overall goal of the Music Department is to create an atmosphere in our church where the glory of God can touch our lives with his life-changing power.

# Ministry Reports

## Adventurer's

by Mike Dollard

The Adventurers, organized in 1991 for everyone age 55 and over, is still fulfilling its purpose to promote Christian friendship, fellowship, and ministry within that age group, under the leadership of Wade and Marcy Schott. A heartfelt thanks goes out to them ☺.

On the first Friday evening each month, we have a "pot blessed" or catered dinner with guest speakers. On the third Tuesday, we have a day tour to a local or regional attraction. We also have monthly theme dinners centered on different holidays. The dinners are well attended, and the fellowship is great!

Local tours this year have included Eagle Watching in Clarksville, the NOAA weather office in Weldon Springs, and a Christmas trip to Branson, to name a few. As part of our tours, we always have lunch at a carefully chosen restaurant. Our tours are well attended.

If you are 55 years plus, plan on joining us! We'd love to have you!

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## Agape International Fellowship

by Jose Kadavil

Agape International Fellowship had its first meeting on January 4, 2007. Our main purpose has been to reach immigrants, particularly the ones from India, with the gospel of Jesus Christ. It is estimated that 5,000 new people from India come to St. Louis every year; we believe about 98% of Indian immigrants are non-Christians.

We are reaching out with the gospel to more and more immigrants. On average, 30 to 35 people attend the

meeting, which is every other Friday. Since many in our group are Christians, our secondary goal has been to encourage spiritual growth and equip the people to reach others for Christ. There have been some challenging times, but by God's grace we have gained momentum. More young people are starting to come because of the influence of godly young people in our group. Through the work of the fellowship, some young families are partaking in the church Sunday Worship service and some are participating in other church ministries.

In several meetings, we have brought in speakers who have given testimonies about their conversion from Hindu and Muslim religions to Christianity. Several visiting gospel workers from India have given testimonies to the group.

We take an offering in most meetings, and the proceeds are used for the mission work in India. Over the year, we have donated close to \$1500 for gospel work in India. (Since non-Christians attend the fellowship and the main purpose is outreach ministry, we don't bring financial requests to the group).

We are looking forward to 2008 as a great year in which God will move mightily among the Indian people in St. Louis. There are a number of very strong Christians in the fellowship who share the same vision to reach Indian immigrants. Their support is continuing to bless the group.

Finally, we want to thank the WCAG leadership and members for allowing us to have our fellowship in the church. I also want to thank Pastor John, Pastor Jared, Ed Neustrom, and Joan Newton for their encouragement and support. Together, we will reach many more souls with the gospel of Jesus Christ.

With prayers,

Jose Kadavil

# Ministry Reports

## Axis

by Jared Stoner

2007 has been a challenging year for the Axis young adult ministry due in large part to my transition from Pastor of Young Adults to Interim Senior Pastor. Despite those challenges, the group has remained active. It has been involved in a number of social events including apple-picking, the City Museum, pool parties, a progressive dinner, and a spring and fall retreat, not to mention the lunches after church on Sunday and lots of informal time enjoying one another's company.

The group also participates in outreach ministries such as stuffing Christmas stockings and filling Easter eggs for Metro Vision Ministries. The first annual trivia night helped support these outreach events. Axis also hosts a softball and volleyball team for the purpose of building relationships with those who may not yet feel comfortable coming to church.

There are currently two Sunday School classes geared for young adults. Terry and Bev Strandquist lead one class that deals with a variety of issues, while Paul and Theresa Dau and John and Lois Lanham lead a young married Sunday School class. Terry and Bev also hosted a discussion group in their home focused on discussing contemporary issues, which has been succeeded by a Bible study the first and third Thursday of the month. It has been a joy to see God work in and through these activities. We believe that God is calling us to a greater love for each other, and we are working to that end. If you know people who would like to stay informed of upcoming events, please encourage them to send an email to [axis@wcag.org](mailto:axis@wcag.org).

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## Buildings

by Kevin Pyatt

2007 proved to be a year of transition and change. Thank you to everyone who came to the buildings and

grounds table at the Ministry Fair. John Verdon and I will be meeting and contacting those who volunteered to assist with buildings and grounds needs.

A significant change this last year was moving the day to day operations of general repairs and maintenance to the Administrative Pastor. The change will allow for a more efficient way for staff to call the appropriate repair company when something needs to be repaired or replaced. Another change was the addition of a cleaning company to clean restrooms and other common areas of the church on Saturday evenings after other groups using the church have finished their activities. I believe that the service has helped with the cleanliness and stocking of the restrooms and Foyers.

Major repairs in 2007 were replacements of an A/C unit and air handler for the three-year-olds' room in the CLC. A new roof was put on the Gym after several attempts to stop leaks. Heat exchangers were replaced in two units because of cracks. Much to everyone's surprise and the glory of God, the units still had warranties. They were repaired for just labor costs. We are slated this year to replace three more rooftop units that have surpassed their life expectancy. Those replacement funds have already been escrowed.

During the March 2007 business meeting, a proposal for a master plan of construction projects was presented to the members present. Much discussion transpired about where a new youth area should be located. As a result, the issue was tabled and slated to be brought back another date after further information was sought.

For several weeks after the meeting, I was approached by several people who shared their concerns about the youth room being located in the lower level of the CLC. Many of those concerns came from church staff as well as board members. The largest concern was trying to make progress on building projects without a permanent senior pastor in place to share in the vision of the church. The second was that for the last two years, we have operated with a large financial deficit. That makes it very difficult to venture into building projects when current operating budgets are being cut. Even though the progress has slowed for the time being, I am excited to move forward as soon as approval is given.

# Ministry Reports

## Businessmen's Luncheon

by Paul Henry

Frank and Hildi Sexton are the founders of WCAG Businessmen's Luncheon, which began on April 24, 1991. In the seventeen years since the organization started, the Sextons secured 827 speakers. Let us pray for Frank and Hildi who will be moving from St. Louis in a few weeks. They did a wonderful job and will be missed greatly.

The predominant task of the Businessmen's Luncheon is to proclaim and share the gospel. During 2007, forty-nine men spoke at the luncheon and opened their hearts to announce to the world and to us the Good News of Jesus Christ's salvation. The luncheon speakers always share the wonderful things the Lord is doing in their lives.

Weekly average attendance was 21. We are indebted to our cooks who are so faithful in their service. We want to thank Sue Flippin, Joan Henry, Bonnie and Bob Payne, Barb Phillips, Frank Sexton, and Bill Thomas. This group served 1001 individual meals in 2007. Other workers who help in the kitchen and dining room are Jim Cavanaugh, Howard Bundy, Mike Haln, Jolly Harned, Kay and Jack Head, Ron Moltz, Ernie Roberts, and others who pitch in as needed.

Your prayers are necessary in supporting the continuance of this very good ministry, which has been such a blessing to the St. Louis area for seventeen years.

Currently, only about 40% of attendees are from WCAG; we need more WCAG members and leaders to attend in order for this ministry to grow. I want to mention that I will temporarily fill in for Frank, but for only a short time. A new leader must be found soon.

## Cross

FINAL CROSS UPDATE  
KENT ADDISON, CROSS TEAM CAPTAIN

- June 28, 2007 All cross landscaping and sprinkler repairs and design changes were completed.
- September 30, 2007 A Cross Dedication Service was conducted on the lawn at the foot of West County Assembly of God's new 48'6" cross.
- November 20, 2007 All cross and wall sign lighting alignment, timer programs, and fixture problems were resolved.
- November 29, 2007 The cross dedication plaque was designed and manufactured. The plaque reads, "To the Glory of God 2007." I have the plaque in my possession, and it will be installed ASAP in a proper secure manner, weather permitting.
- December 6, 2007 I delivered all related cross project materials to WCAG for Paula Lucas to process and file for the church Library.

## Endowment

by Pastor Jared

On Sunday morning, November 18, 2007 the congregation selected Barry Aldridge, Joe Cordell, and Dale Heins to serve as trustees of the West County Charitable Endowment. Since that meeting the trustees have met four times in an effort to set up the necessary structures to launch the Endowment and begin fund-raising in earnest. We look forward to a kick-off in the not too distant future.

# Ministry Reports

## Grounds

by John Verdon

In 2007, we saw the erection of the new cross and supporting structures. Preparation for the installation of new playground equipment started with removal of a number of trees abutting the existing playground. Work day was on May 12, and a lot of clean up and maintenance was completed. We continue to benefit greatly from the assistance of volunteers, notably Eleonore Salzman, Mike Lucas, and Bob and Peggy Owens.

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## Greeters/ Hospitality

by Carol Moffatt

We continue with a wonderful, dedicated crew of greeters who faithfully stand at the front doors to welcome all who enter. I am most grateful that they self-manage very well. In November we added a visitor gathering area in the Prayer Room for welcoming visitors after the morning services. We have also positioned a greeter in the Foyer during Sunday school to welcome those who may arrive during that time.

We are continuing to evaluate our success and therefore continuing to tweak our methods. We are open for more volunteers in all areas. My heartfelt gratitude goes out to Artemisa Arrington, Marla Arrington, Sheri Beile, Pat Butler, Sandy Conrad, Carol Cotterell, Heather Koelling, Linda Mueller, Nancy Prinzivalli, Helen Sand, and John and Vicki Verdon. Our thanks also go to Louie Salazar who donated his CDs for visitor gifts.

## Kitchen

by Kent Howard

Almost every ministry in our church uses the kitchen at some point during the year. Some examples are periodic special events such as MPact Girls awards banquets and Men's Ministries and Women's Ministries functions, SRY dinners, and missions luncheons.

Wednesday Family Night Dinner is enjoyed by an average of 50 to 60 people each week. We have a faithful group of volunteers that have fun preparing, serving, and cleaning up each week. Another of our regular events is the weekly Business Men's Luncheon, also run by a loyal crew of volunteers.

This summer we celebrated a fun Hawaiian luau in honor of Pastor Mike & Gail Dollard's 20th year of ministry at WCAG. The kitchen is always in use for church events such as the Star Spangled Spectacular and the Trunk or Treat events as well. Thanksgiving Dinner this year was a big success. We had about 300 in attendance and everyone enjoyed the food and fellowship. Our Adventurer's had a special Christmas dinner with a full meal and special entertainment.

# Ministry Reports

## Library

by Paula Lucas

The WCAG Library was moved in 2001 to its current location, just to the left of the Sanctuary. At that time a computer program was purchased to provide easier access through an automated catalog. This year the latest version of the program was purchased and is much more “user friendly.” It allows “key word” searching and many advanced features for data input and retrieval that the original didn’t provide. In addition, the Library received a “newer” computer and printer in 2007 which eliminated the “freeze” conditions we had been experiencing.

The Library collection has 2700 items, including books and all types of media, and is nearing shelf capacity for the existing space. Currently, 116 items are checked out. The majority of the collection has been donated. However, thanks to being included in the budget process, the Library can now purchase some current titles, as well as equipment, shelving, materials, etc., as needed.

The Library is open on Sundays between services and on Wednesday evenings from 6:30-7:30. Access at any other time is available upon request in the Church Office.

Much work has been done to provide us with the ability to access the library catalog on-line. Look for the link on the WCAG website ([www.wcag.org](http://www.wcag.org)) in the near future. Should you have questions regarding our collections, their use, or information on how to donate materials, feel free to contact Paula Lucas at 636-391-7260 or through email: [library@wcag.org](mailto:library@wcag.org).

## Missions

by Patrick Brookman

### *Missionaries and Institutional Support*

God has truly blessed the people of WCAG. Many people made a financial pledge given in faith, and the Lord honored them by providing funds. As we enter into a new period at WCAG, we will maintain the same commitment to missions’ giving. As a church, we currently have no mortgage or other long-term debt, so we have been able to give literally millions of dollars to foreign and local missionaries and missions’ projects over the years. WCAG has continually ranked near the top of all Assembly of God churches in missions’ giving per attendee. In 2007, WCAG gave approximately \$400,000 to local and foreign missions, including approximately \$60,000 in designated missions’ contributions from various congregation members.

In 2007, we supported approximately 40 missionary families from around the globe with monthly contributions of \$400.00 per month. We continue to receive letters of testimony from these missionaries; they let us know how important our people’s contributions are to their ministry. For many of those missionaries, WCAG’s regular monthly support makes up a large portion of their annual budget.

We also support several local ministries and other organizations that spread the gospel through various forms of ministry to the poor, homeless, orphans, and the unborn. We give monthly support to the Pregnancy Resource Center, the Vitae Society, Sunshine Mission, New Life Evangelistic Center, Focus on the Family, Teen Challenge, Emerge Ministries, Metro Ministries, Metro Vision Ministries, Inner City Ministries, the Highland Children’s Home, Full Life Community Church, Campus Crusade for Christ, Central Bible College, and Evangel University. Other contributions to mission causes through one-time or designated gifts include Convoy of Hope, Latin American Child Care, Light for the Lost, Fellowship of Living Praise—Ghana Missions, Campus Crusade for Christ, and Sister Josephina’s Juarez Orphanage.

# Ministry Reports

## Missions (continued)

In addition, the people who participated in the WCAG annual Gobble Wobble raised over \$6,000.00 for Teen Challenge (over and above our regular monthly support). WCAG, with leadership from the Pendino Family, continues to provide Easter baskets to many local nursing home patients. In addition to our support of Sunshine Mission and New Life Evangelistic Center, our Benevolence Committee gave \$9,400.00 directly to local families in need during 2007, primarily through utility payments and grocery vouchers.

In 2007, we also gave \$16,500 to Stepping Into the Light Ministries in downtown St. Louis for replacement windows at the residential treatment center buildings that it owns and operates.

### **2008 Mexico Project**

Of course, a missions' report at WCAG would not be complete without mentioning the Mexico building ministry trip in February, 2008, in Juarez, Mexico. Our project was a new sanctuary building for Iglesia Nuevo Paz Church (New Peace Church), a relatively new Assembly of God church in an extremely poor area of Juarez pastored by Armando Olague. We want to thank Doug Hopper, Joe McClurg, and Phil McClurg for supervising the projects; and we thank Marla Arrington, Peggy McClurg and Barb Huhn for helping with the planning and logistics for the trip. A team of approximately 80 men, women, and young people from WCAG and the surrounding area helped with the project. People from Montana, Minnesota, and Wisconsin also participated. Through your generosity, time, and money given to work directly on the projects, an additional \$25,000 was given toward the purchase of an adjoining piece of land for Iglesia Nuevo Paz Church. A new church building was constructed on this property in 2008.

We want to give special thanks to all those who donated materials, gave scholarships, and prayed for those who were able to attend. We received several testimonies from individuals who were greatly touched on the trip and who would not have been able to attend but for the generosity of an anonymous contributor through a scholarship.

## *Youth & Children's Programs*

The Children's Ministry raised \$1,837.00 for Boys/Girls Missionary Crusade under the direction of Pastor Mike Dollard and his wife Gail. The WCAG youth group, Solid Rock, under the direction of Pastor Todd Harris and his wife Sheri, raised \$1,546.00 for Speed the Light. Speed the Light provides new vehicles for missionaries around the world. We can be very proud of our youth and children in our church; they are learning to give and support missions at a young age.

## **Conclusion**

Allow God to receive the glory for the faithfulness and generosity of His people. We should never forget that many of the blessings we receive can be directly attributed to our obedience in fulfilling the Great Commission through our missions' giving. Because of your commitment and faithfulness to give, many lives have been touched. Praise God.

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## **Men's Ministry**

by Scott Hill

Following the general vision statement of our church, the WCAG Men's Ministry adopted the vision statement in 2007 of **LOVING GOD, LOVING OUR NEIGHBOR, and LEADING OUR FAMILIES.**

In order to implement the vision, we began to have regular Friday meetings at 6:00 p.m. in the Faith Center with dinner and fellowship. We went to the Youth Chapel for worship, personal testimonies, small prayer groups, and a brief devotion. We had 3 of these fellowship evenings in 2007, and the first one was attended by nearly 60 men. In 2007, Butch Molinet, Chris Johnson, John Cannon, Bob Bollinger, Dan Sooklall, and Todd Lokey shared incredible testimonies of God's faithfulness, followed by devotions from Ken Wolf, Scott Hill, and Pastor Jared.

# Ministry Reports

## Men's Ministry (continued)

Ed and Mary Neustrom led the intercessory group that prayed the entire time we were meeting. Their intercession ministry has been instrumental in helping to break strongholds in the lives of men.

Additional small groups have developed from the Friday evening small prayer groups, including a group led by Bob Bollinger that deals with men's issues.

For 2008, we have scheduled six Friday fellowship evenings: February 29, May 2, June 20, August 8, September 19, and November 14. In addition, we are planning a two-day Men's Retreat on August 22-23 at the Marianist Retreat and Conference Center. We are looking forward to great things as we build relationships and encourage one another in the Lord.

We also held some events in 2007 with the help of Pastor Todd. We had a Friday evening skeet shoot at Busch Wildlife and the youth. that was attended by about 45 men and their teens. In addition, we held a Family Night in November in which the youth led in worship and family prayer. We look forward to additional events in 2008 where we can encourage men to bring their families and lead them in prayer and worship.

Our men also continue to help with other ministries in the church, including the Businessmen's Luncheon, Royal Rangers, Mexico missions, and home repair ministry to widows.

Finally, we want to especially acknowledge and thank Michael Cox for his years of faithful service in keeping the Men's Ministry going. We are beginning to see some of the fruit of Mike's labor, and the men of WCAG greatly appreciate all of the time and service he invested in the Men's Ministry.

## Mpact Girls' Ministry

by Stacey Seipp

**As you can tell by the title, Missionettes have changed their name.**

Effective March 15, 2007, the national Missionettes Ministries Department became the national Girls' Ministries Department. The change allows the church ministry department to broaden its scope.

To better reflect this encompassing role, the Assemblies of God Board of Administration has approved changing the name of Missionettes Ministries Department to National Girls' Ministries (NGM) Department. Also, Missionettes Girls' Clubs will now be known as Mpact Girls' Clubs — girls impacting their world.

In what ways is Missionettes expanding to reflect the name change?

The National Girls' Ministries Department is branching out to provide a variety of resources to help churches reach out to every girl in her church and community.

- Mpact Girls' Clubs (formerly Missionettes) will continue to disciple Daisies through Stars (and Rainbows).
  - Friends and Girls Only will also remain as they are and will now be a part of Teen Girl Ministries.
  - Teen Girl Ministries will develop additional discipleship resources that will be non award-based. This curriculum will not replace Friends and Girls Only. It will be an option for churches not already using those materials.
  - The Nationwide Sleepover will have a more intentional evangelistic focus. Churches will be able to use this event as an outreach to their communities.
  - Impact! Leadership Development will continue to offer tools to improve leaders of girls. Electronic media use will be enhanced to provide more easily accessible resources.
- Targeted resources for social concerns and parental enrichment and involvement in their daughters' lives are in development.

# Ministry Reports

## Mpact Girls Ministry (continued)

Answers to other questions can be found at the following website: <http://ngm.ag.org/questions/faq/>

This is our year in review:

On March 4<sup>th</sup>, we held the first of our two awards banquets. This banquet covered all awards earned from September 2006 through February 2007. We had over 80 children, parents, and friends in attendance.

On June 10<sup>th</sup>, we held our Honor Star Crowning. We crowned two girls: Caroline Cordell and Suzanna Remley. These girls worked hard to complete all the requirements, which made their parents and sponsors proud. This accomplishment is something they will never forget, and it creates a foundation for the rest of their Christian walk.

On August 26<sup>th</sup>, we held our second awards banquet, which covered all awards earned from March through August. We had our promotions to the next group and announced the following MPact Girl of the Year: Daisies, Rebekah Moore with runner-up Megan Stephens; Prims, Callie Hartung with runner-up Abby Scherer; Jr. Stars Elizabeth Cordell with runner-up Carson Hartung; Stars, Caroline Cordell with runner-up Suzanna Remley; Friends, Sydney Stephens with runner-up Lauren Gathman.

In September we started our new year, kicking off with National Girls' Ministries Week. In October we participated in the Nationwide Sleepover; the theme was Child of the King. Everyone was invited to wear royalty themed attire. We had a tea party, prince and princess, crafts and games. We ended the night with a Bible lesson, ice cream, and a movie. We had over twenty in attendance, not counting several moms. Some moms were even brave enough to stay the night.

We ended 2007 with a craft night. Sadly our caroling was cancelled due to bad weather.

Throughout the year, we met with several missionaries. We also had several family/friend fun events. One of my favorites was an ice skating event in February at Steinberg Ice Rink in Forest Park. These events gave the parents and friends of Mpact an enjoyable time

that allowed them to see some of the things we do in Mpact Girls' Clubs.

Caroline and Elizabeth Cordell were baptized in water.

We've added children to our groups in Rainbows and Prims. Our Friends program designed for middle school girls added graduated Honor Star Caroline Cordell to their group. We want to thank Sharon Hartung for her time, energy, and faithfulness spent with the Daisies this past year and previous years. We also want to thank so many of you who helped with special events and outings. We couldn't do what we do without you.

Our Mpact Staff:

Rainbows: Rita Harris and Lauren Harris  
Daisies: Stacey Seipp  
Prims: Kristy Moore and June Kinger  
Stars: Keri Stoner and Stacey Remley  
Friends: Lambda Stephens

Assistant Coordinator: Rita Harris  
Coordinator: Stacey Seipp

Substitute teachers and helpers: Pastor Mike, Rebecca Howard, Yvonne Cordell, Penny Bollinger, Becky Benedek, Sharon Hartung, and Jeanene Tiner

# Ministry Reports

## Nursery

by Bob Bollinger

Penny Bollinger assumed responsibility as the coordinator for the Nursery. In 2007 we established a goal of shifting costs in the Nursery. Most expenses were for paid workers. We felt that recruiting volunteer workers would enhance our stewardship of the nursery budget. We are making steady progress toward this goal.

The Ministry Fair was a blessing as we were able to recruit several volunteers for Nursery duty. Our goal is to be able to schedule each volunteer once every six weeks or so, but we still need more volunteers in order to achieve that goal.

We want to thank Penny for diligently recruiting workers and running the Nursery. We also thank all of the volunteers for their service working with our children.

The Nursery purchased a new paging system. The old system was outdated; it had missing parts and was insufficient to adequately cover all parents who needed a pager.

In the coming months, we need to look at updating the Nursery. It is in need of new paint, flooring, and possibly a redesign of the set up. If you are interested in helping or have ideas, please let Penny or Bob Bollinger know.

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## Nursing Home

by Nelda Schloeman

Approximately 150 residents from four local nursing homes receive ministry in church services conducted by 25 to 30 members of WCAG. The services are held on Sunday mornings between 9:45-10:45 a.m. at the following locations:

Brooking Park  
Garden View Care Center  
The Westchester House  
Town and Country

Each home has a ministry team with a leader or leaders who minister the word, along with someone to lead the singing, play the piano, play special music and/or sing a song, help residents find pages in the songbooks, pray with resi-

dents as needed, and give a smile and warm greeting. God has blessed this ministry with faithful, committed team members.

We were saddened by the loss of our dear team leader, Larry Larison, who went to be with the Lord in June. Thanks to all who stepped forward to assist Larry and the ministry at The Westchester House during his illness. Thanks to Benson Ebinne who felt called to be the new team leader at The Westchester House. The other team leaders are Marianne Brookman and Leonard Rhine at Brooking Park; John Christian at Garden View Care Center, and Michael and Lois Cox at Town and Country.

On Sunday, March 28, 2007, the ministry teams and their families gathered for lunch after the second service. It was a time of fellowship and giving praise to our Lord for his help in sharing the message of hope for eternal life through Jesus Christ. Pastor Jared read a scripture that expressed appreciation and encouraged us in the ministry.

In late spring, we began a hymn sing ministry at The Fountains (a retirement facility) every Thursday afternoon from 1:30-2:00 p.m. The team leaders are Joyce DeBoard and John Wilson. We are blessed to join together with the residents to sing praises to our Lord.

Thanks to the WCAG family for approximately 160 Easter baskets that were given to the residents who attend the nursing home worship services. Your ministry brought big smiles and tears of joy and helped the residents to feel loved. Mpart (Missionettes) and Royal Rangers were scheduled to go caroling at The Westchester House on the evening before Christmas, but the event was cancelled due to bad weather.

We all count it a special blessing to be a part of the Nursing Home ministry. It has been said, "This is an area of service where the givers are blessed far beyond the receivers."

Please pray for us as we have the following positions that need to be filled: a song leader at Town and Country, someone to help residents find the right page in the songbooks at Garden View Care Center, and other people who can help as needed.

# Ministry Reports

## Prayer Ministries

by Ed Neustrom

The goal of the general prayer ministry is to strengthen the culture of prayer in our church. We believe that worship and intercession are inseparably linked. We believe that by pursuing the first commandment through prayer, we will discover and support God's plans for the people and ministry of WCAG. We believe that prayer provides protection, provision, insight, direction, and encouragement for every facet of our church life.

The general prayer ministry of WCAG is distributed among the various departments and is divided into two main components: sustained prayer support and short term prayer support.

### **Sustained Prayer Support Praying Grandparents (PG)**

The focus of the Praying Grandparents is to provide intercessory prayer for grandchildren of WCAG attendees. The group meets to pray one Saturday morning per month and prays throughout the month using materials provided by the group. The prayer materials include a calendar with names, photographs, and birthdays for each grandchild listed for prayer. Praying Grandparents is led by Peggy McClurg with logistical support provided by Peggy Owens.

### **Pastors' Prayer Partners (PPP)**

PPP provide prayer support for pastors and their families. Each Partner volunteers to pray daily and to have special focused prayer for a specific day of the week and a specific day of the month. There are quarterly meetings at which the PPP meet to receive personal updates from the pastors and to have group intercession for the pastors. A monthly PPP newsletter is published that provides specific and current prayer information for the PPP. During each Sunday morning service, PPP provide focused intercession for the pastors and the church. The ministry is led by Ed Neustrom with help from other PPP.

### **Wednesday Morning Prayer for Pastors**

Wednesday morning prayer for the pastors is a time of general intercession for each pastor and is led by Tina Pendino and Linda Koelling.

### **Wednesday Evening Prayer Meeting**

Wednesday Evening Prayer Meeting is focused on the prayer requests that are submitted to the Church Office. It is facilitated by Pastor Ken Wolf.

### **Short Term Prayer Support Prayer Cover 2007**

Prayer Cover 2007 is a WCAG-wide intercession time that is focused on prayer support for the selection of a permanent senior pastor. The scope of the intercession includes the pastors, deacons, elders, the nominating committee, and God's plans for WCAG. The prayer times include over 230 half hour prayer slots distributed throughout the seven days of each week. The intercessors are provided with prayer guides and periodic emails to support them in their prayers. The prayer emphasis will continue as a part of Prayer Cover 2008.

### **Week of Prayer**

A Week of Prayer was held early in 2007 and provided a time of reflection and prayer for the church and the ministries of the church.

### **Saturday Evening Intercession**

Saturday evening intercessory prayer for the church and Sunday services is led by Ed Neustrom with the help of several other intercessors.

### **Aberdeen Scotland Mission 2007**

Prayer guides were developed and distributed. The mission team selected specific intercessors, and other intercessors participated as prompted by the Holy Spirit.

### **Juarez Mexico Mission 2007**

Prayer guides were developed, distributed, and used by the mission intercessors. Volunteer intercessors were paired with mission team members for the duration of the Mexico Mission project.

### **Men's Ministry Intercession**

Intercessors provide focused prayer for the leaders and the men attending each Men's Ministry group meeting. A variety of volunteers participate in this intercessory prayer time.

# Ministry Reports

## Royal Rangers

by John Schloeman

WCAG Royal Ranger Outpost 211 is thankful for God's faithfulness and help in 2007. The Rangers, their fathers, and Commanders participated in Councils of Achievement, campouts, backpack trips, and day trips. We hosted the St. Louis Section/Partial Northeast Division Pinewood Derby, attended the Northeast Division Ranger Kids' Day Camp, and the FCF (Frontier Camping Fellowship) Frontier Adventure. We participated in Christmas caroling at The Westchester House Nursing Home and prepared and set out luminaries for the Christmas Eve service.

Expedition Ranger Adam Seipp was inducted into FCF upon attending the Frontier Adventure and passing the tests that were administered.

In January Commander Don Stookey and Expedition Ranger Adam Seipp completed First Aid and CPR training.

Ranger Kids' Commander John Remley resigned his position in the spring. John was a valuable asset to the Outpost, and we miss him. Tom Donnelly stepped forward and filled the in the gap. In the fall Tom attended and passed the Ranger Basics Training Module. Jeff Anderson also stepped forward and has helped Commander Tom Donnelly with filling the Lieutenant Commander role.

Commander Don Stookey attended and passed the required Royal Ranger Training Modules to be a Commander. After Don completes the campout module, he will then have met all the requirements to receive the LMA Leadership Training award.

The Ranger Buck program was updated. It is working well and has given the boys flexibility in using awards money they receive at Councils of Achievement.

The Lord has helped our Outpost to grow spiritually and has blessed our work. We presently have 25 to 30 fine boys in our Outpost who are eager to develop their skills and learn God's word. We appreciate all the

Commanders and parents who have helped in many ways, and we want to thank a rather large number of Ranger Kids' dads who were very faithful in attending meetings and assisting Commander Tom Donnelly. Their ministry helped these boys to grow spiritually, mentally, and socially; it is preparing them to become godly men.

The RR Commanders appreciate your prayers regarding our ministry in the future. We are in need of men to be trained as Commanders and Lieutenant Commanders; in addition, there are vacancies on the Outpost Council. Please join us in praying for the boys and men in Outpost 211.

# Ministry Reports

## Shut-Ins

by Marilyn Hadding

The shut-in ministry is for those of our church family who are no longer able to attend our worship services due to health or other reasons. We want these people to know that their church still loves them and thinks of them. A shut-in receives at least one visit a month either by an actual visit to the residence or by phone call. Our visitors spend at least 30 minutes per stay, and some of our visitors even call on "their" shut-in two to four times a month. If you know of someone in our church family who qualifies and would appreciate visits, please contact the Church Office. Likewise, if you are interested in visiting one of our shut-ins, please let us know. Those involved in this ministry have reported that their time is rewarding and well spent.

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## Ushers

by Kent Addison

For fifty-two Sundays in 2007, the men and women ushers have faithfully served first, second, evening, and special church services. They work at their assigned doorways, greeting each person while handing out bulletins and other materials. They monitor their doors, direct people to seating, and assist worshippers with special needs. They collect and process the offering and count attendance in their assigned section. On communion Sundays they serve the elements to the congregation and to the staff in the sound booth. After each service the ushers pick up all materials, bulletins, and communion cups in the section they serve.

This all works not because of me but because of the leadership of the head ushers Bill Seipp and Kevin Karr and their team of ushers. The ushers are Tom Boltas, Wil Mathews, Mike Lucas, Pino Prinzivalli, Don Rothermich, Jack Head, Bill Black, Linda Karr,

Tom Donnelly, Wenceslao Conti, Richard Grant, John Koelling, Ron Moltz, John Verdon, Vicki Verdon, Jerry Talbert, Paul Henry, and Jon Newton. It is important to note that we need more men and women of all ages to help share the load of fifty-two Sunday services. People do get sick and at times must be out of town on business or vacation. I ask you to prayerfully consider this offer to serve the Body of Christ at WCAG as usher. Call me at 636-530-1847.

In His Service,  
Kent Addison, Elder

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## West County Christian School

by Janet Gregory

West County Christian School is midway through its 13<sup>th</sup> year at West County Assembly of God. With the addition of six new families this year, the school currently has 74 students, nine full-time teachers, four part-time teachers, one full-time secretary, and one full-time principal. The student body represents 38 churches in the St. Louis metropolitan area. Several families, including two families from WCAG, founded the school in 1984.

The school pays rent of \$1,600 per month to WCAG. By May 2007, the school will have paid WCAG rent totaling \$150,400. Regarding building maintenance, the parents of the students clean the CLC Lower Level restrooms each Wednesday and Friday from August through May. At the end of the school year in May, a Saturday cleaning and painting day is devoted to the Lower Level of the CLC.

# Ministry Reports

## Women's Ministries Unlimited

by Kathy Salazar

*"I pray that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and may please Him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God" (Colossians 1:10).*

2007 was an exciting year for the women of WCAG. We started out the year by "Ring in the New Year" at Spazio's with a wonderful celebration for over 200 women. Great music, fellowship, and good conversation made this evening extra special. In March we had our annual retreat at the Illinois Retreat Center in Carlinville. More than 40 women attended this retreat. Loretta Steiger, our Colorado Springs speaker, shared from God's word; celebration and worship made this retreat extra special. Some of our ladies did a great job as workshop speakers. It was an awesome week-end.

Quarterly Joy Fellowship luncheons gave our ladies opportunity to bring their friends to a wonderful time together. We had great speakers and good food, and our ladies had the opportunity to develop friendships at each luncheon. We also had a variety of Bible studies, some with live speakers, others with video, but all with the focus on learning more about God's word.

A new event this year was the development of a Book Club. Christian fiction is chosen a month ahead; we all read the book and then discuss planned questions while eating delicious desserts. This group has expanded our reading and has given another opportunity for women of all ages to connect in a non-threatening way. What fun!

Something else new this year is our Prayer Shawls. Over 20 women have made shawls and prayed over them. Our goal is to give them to women or children in the hospital or to people who have lost someone close to them. (This year we will add visits to those who are shut-ins). Presently we have given out more than eight shawls to ladies who needed a visible reminder that our thoughts and prayers were with them. If you know of someone who needs this wonderful ministry, let Donna Wolf or Kathy Salazar know.

The ladies in Spinners of Joy continue to use their skills to make things for those in need. This past year they sent children's quilts to orphanages in Mexico and Malawi, to Children's Hospital, and to the inner city ministry of Pastor Tom and Judy Sims. Preemie items have been delivered to Newborns in Need here in the St. Louis area. Our once-a-month work day is attended by 12-18 members and friends of the church. New workers are always welcome. Close friendships are formed as we work and pray together. Instructions, materials, and patterns are made available at each work day.

Our ladies stay in contact with missionaries through email and letters. We also sent out 25 boxes for Christmas to missionaries who cannot find goods for Christmas. It is a joy to hear back from many of them thanking us for those marshmallows, hot cocoa, oatmeal, and other items. Presently we are in need of ladies to stay in contact with missionaries who do not have someone who writes to them. Please talk with Kathy if you would like to do this.

Christmas time was celebrated this year with our first annual cookie exchange. What fun it was to take home cookies and recipes and to visit and share Christmas memories. By the end of the exchange, we were already planning next year's event.

Every person in Women's Ministry is important and needed, from board and committee members to ladies who attend; they are all necessary in order to have an impact not only on our women, but also the women in our community. Thank you to all who work so hard with me to accomplish that. Thanks especially to Louie, my husband, best friend, and rock. There is no way I could do this without you and the kids. I love you.

I feel honored and blessed to work with the ladies of WCAG, and I look forward to 2008 and all that God will do for us.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Salazar

# Ministry Reports

## Treasurer's Report

by Barry Aldridge

The money that the church receives is not ours but the Lord's. We strive to be good stewards of God's money. We've been blessed to see many spiritual rewards that have been accomplished with the help of your generous giving.

God has blessed us with a great staff in the Finance Office. In 2007, the Finance Office began sending quarterly giving statements rather than annual statements, which had been sent in prior years. We also included a summary letter from Pastor Jared. Thanks to everyone who has commented positively on this extra communication. If for any reason you do not receive a quarterly giving statement, please contact the Finance Office so that we can ensure timely delivery of your giving information.

Below is a summary of our income statement for 2007. (See attached reports for full details.)

	2005 (Audited)	2006 (review in process)	2007 (Unreviewed)
Contributions:	\$1,553,451	\$1,546,016	<b>1,619,009</b>
Expenses:	<u>1,404,900</u>	<u>1,411,116</u>	<u><b>1,645,012</b></u>
Increase (decrease) in Net Assets:	\$148,550	\$134,900	<b>(26,003)</b>

2007 saw significant expenses in this year of transition and a slight decrease in contributions. Our increase/decrease in net assets (net income) is reported at (\$26,003.) for 2007. The church uses cash account methods, so a significant portion of this net will be spent in 2007 for various projects including the Mexico Missions.

Near the end of 2006, Pastor John informed the congregation that we were running behind the budget for 2006. In the third quarter of 2007, we once again had the same scenario. The 2008 budget and a change in Missions' funding will help us avoid this kind of situation in 2008. We believe that the 2008 budget is realistic for our church in this period of transition.

In 2007 the church continued its commitment to reinvest 30% into missions. 2007 was a record year for Missions' giving as we invested \$484,949 into the mission field worldwide. We continually receive good news from our missionaries throughout the world; there are many changed lives as a result of our financial help and prayers. God has honored our church's commitment to missions by bringing souls to Christ across the globe. Thank you for your generosity.

The Staff and Deacon Board are committed to managing God's money by his instructions. Part of this commitment is related to the required repairs and improvements to the facilities that will enhance our ministries in the coming years. Once again a significant portion of our budget is designated for maintenance, repair and enhancement of our buildings.

Total Donor Designated funds was about \$226,000. The attached Balance Sheet details the Board Restricted and Donor Designated Funds, which totaled about \$356,000.

As part of the 2008 budget, we will continue to set aside approximately \$40,000 to build reserves for capital improvements including HVAC, playground equipment, sound board replacement, parking lot improvements, kitchen remodeling, and roof repairs.

The proposed operating budget for 2008 is as follows:

<b>Summary Budget:</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008 - Budget</b>
Total Income:	1,532,835	<b>1,492,419</b>
Expenses:	<u>1,532,985</u>	<u><b>1,426,238</b></u>
Increase (decrease) in Net Assets:	<\$ 150>	<b>66,180</b>

## Treasurer's Report (continued)

The proposed 2008 budget has been assembled with input from all of the Department Heads, Pastors, Elders and Deacons. A summary budget is attached for review. A detailed budget will be available upon request at the Church Office prior to the Business Meeting and at the registration tables on the night of the Business Meeting. After months of work and prayer, we believe this budget is a fair representation of our ministry plans for 2008.

The unaudited balance sheet and income statements for December 31, 2007 and the 2008 budget summary are attached for your review.

**West County Assembly of God Church  
2008 Summary Budget  
25-Feb-08**

Dept	Account#	Name	07 Actual	08 Budget	Percent of Income:
0	General Fund	Income			
<b>0</b>	<b>40100</b>	<b>Contributions</b>	<b>\$ 1,300,065</b>	<b>\$ 1,300,000</b>	
		<b>General Fund Income</b>	<b>\$ 978,423</b>	<b>\$ 1,001,060</b>	
		<b>Other Ministry Income (includes Missions Transfer):</b>	<b>\$ 660,134</b>	<b>\$ 491,359</b>	
		<b>Total Income:</b>	<b>\$ 1,638,557</b>	<b>\$ 1,492,419</b>	
		Gen. Fund Disbursements	\$ 849,369	\$ 734,454	49.2%
		Missions Disbursements	\$ 484,949	\$ 410,280	27.5%
		Training Fund Disbursements	\$ 22,632	\$ 18,180	1.2%
		Building Disbursement totals	\$ 189,185	\$ 163,941	11.0%
		Music Disbursement totals	\$ 12,407	\$ 8,800	0.6%
		Royal Rangers disbursements	\$ 5,429	\$ 6,800	0.5%
		Children's Dept. Disbursements	\$ 21,888	\$ 13,773	0.9%
		Women's Min. Disbursements	\$ 7,796	\$ 17,275	1.2%
		Youth Min. Disbursements	\$ 50,126	\$ 40,600	2.7%
		Missionette Disbursements	\$ 3,851	\$ 6,435	0.4%
		Young Adult Disbursements	\$ 8,769	\$ 5,700	0.4%
		<b>Total Disbursements:</b>	<b>\$ 1,656,401</b>	<b>\$ 1,426,238</b>	<b>95.6%</b>
		<b>Net Income (Loss):</b>	<b>\$ (17,844)</b>	<b>\$ 66,181</b>	<b>4.4%</b>

Continued next page

# Treasurer's Report (continued)

Run Date 1/10/2008  
Time 16:15:38

001 WEST COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF GOD  
Fiscal Year Beginning 1/1/2007  
Balance Sheet for Period 12 - December  
000 General Operating Fund

Page 1

Current Year

**A S S E T S**

Current Assets

010100 Bank Account (1st Nat'l Bank	58,729.71
010200 Bank Account (1st Nat'l Bank	225,683.59
010281 Certificate of Deposit (Cros	131,000.00
010285 Unrestricted - Board Designate	130,000.00
010400 Restricted Funds Reserve	78,119.74
010405 S.Alexander Scholarship Fund	17,073.35
010500 Petty Cash	100.00

Total Current Assets 640,706.39

Fixed Assets

010650 Land	23,500.00
010700 House	94,050.80
010725 Condo	58,950.00
010750 Church Buildings Original	1,787,214.47
010775 Sanctuary Under Const.	165,836.90
010800 CLC - Church Building Under	2,784,975.53
010807 New Multipurpose Youth/RR Bull	36,354.03
010810 Furn/Fix/Equipment Original	550,616.31
010830 Music Equipment	76,825.19
010831 Audio/Visual/Projection Eqpt	31,210.76
010832 CFT Cross	242,692.85
010833 Organ	12,289.35
010850 Transportation Equipment	109,600.91

Total Fixed Assets 5,974,117.10

Total Assets 6,614,823.49

**L I A B I L I T I E S**

Payables

021100 Cafeteria Plan	-1,000.00
021901 Accrued A/P Misc.	4,036.00

Total Liabilities 3,036.00

**E Q U I T Y**

031000 Retained Earnings (Last Year)	6,637,790.16
Retained Earnings (Last Year)-Current Ye	-2,628.87

Retained Earnings (Last Year)-Total 6,635,161.29

Total Equity 6,635,161.29

Total Liabilities & 6,638,197.29