

Bethlehem Lutheran Church Annual Report 2008

Ministry Services

Bethlehem Women of the ELCA 2008 Annual Report

“To mobilize women to act boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ.”

Mission Statement of the Women of the ELCA

The Bethlehem Women of the ELCA would like to thank the members of Bethlehem Lutheran Church, our Women’s Bible study groups (Ruth Circle and Lydia Circle) and Thrivent Financial for Lutherans for your generous support which helped make these gifts possible:

Mother’s Day Thankoffering (“Bethlehem Cares Fund”)	\$1,627.00
Pacifica Women of the ELCA	\$375.00
“Pajama Project” (BLC)	\$250.00
“Project Comfort Fund” (LWR--Quilt Sale)	\$1,000.00
Women of the ELCA (National)	\$400.00
<i>TOTAL MONETARY DONATIONS</i>	<i>\$3,652.00</i>

Inspirational Events

The Bethlehem Women participated in a number of inspirational events this year. Trudy Disselhorst and her granddaughter, Julie Wolf, attended “Come to the Waters,” the **Women of the ELCA Triennial Gathering** in Salt Lake City, Utah. The **Women of the ELCA Annual Gathering**, “Forever Young...Come As A Child,” was attended by Mea Hall, who served as our Delegate, Trudy Disselhorst, and Pamela Dugmore, who hosted a Lutheran World Relief Fair Trade Craft Fair. Several of us attended, “It’s A Small World...One Bread, One Body,” the **Springtime One-Day Gathering of the Pacifica Women of the ELCA**. Dana Roberts presented our Unit report at the **Quilters’ Fall Jamboree**, an annual event to honor the service work of women in 17 local Lutheran churches hosted by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans.

Mission Growth

Chairwoman Iriety Burrows is also the leader of **Stephen Ministry** and of the Sunday morning **Adult Bible Study Class**. “**Mothers and Others: Raising Faithful Older Adolescents**” is a monthly discussion group led by Mary Tigue-Velardi. The Women’s Bible Study groups, **Lydia Circle**, led by Marla Keith and **Ruth Circle**, led by Karen Cowles met monthly to study God’s Word.

Mission Community

Chairwoman Molly Hall, who is also a Stephen Minister and the Secretary of the Bethlehem Women of the ELCA, coordinates the E-Mail **Prayer Chain** and, with Kim Oswald, assisted in conveying food donations to St. Andrew's Episcopal Church **Food Pantry**. The Bethlehem Women gave financial support to the "**Bethlehem Cares Fund**," emergency financial aid to provide necessities such as food and health care to parishioners in need. Karen Cowles is the **Funeral Coordinator**; this year the Women hosted funeral receptions for our departed Sisters Fran Strecker, Pat Gault, Gloria Peter and Jodi Squire. Several Bethlehem Women are volunteers in the Auxiliary Chapter Board at **Carlsbad-by-the-Sea**, a California Lutheran Homes retirement community. Nancy Ingman and Marian Carpentier are co-chairwomen of the Board, and Molly Hall is a Board Member. The Board plans annual events including Christmas festivities. Nancy, Marian and Molly also volunteer in the "Front Porch Gallery," Carlsbad-by-the-Sea's non-profit art gallery.

Mission Action

Chairwoman Dana Roberts is also the leader of **Scraps & Prayers**, which completed the following projects:

School Kits (LWR)	87
Full Size Quilts	54
Baby Quilts	26
Swaddling Blankets	12
Prayer Quilts	07
Pastor Laura's Quilt	01

TOTAL KITS & QUILT 187

The **Wounded Warrior Battalion** received 11 of the full size quilts. The rest of the quilts were sent to Lutheran World Relief or were bought by members of the congregation. The sales of Full Size and Baby Quilts generated \$1,000.00 which was donated to **Lutheran World Relief's "Project Comfort Fund."** We have requested that Lutheran World Relief dedicate two commemorative bricks in the LWR "Quilt Plaza" at LWR Headquarters in Baltimore, Maryland. Bethlehem women who have commemorative bricks include Karen Cowles, Trudy Disselhorst, Pamela Dugmore, Nancy Ingman, Betty Irvin, Cheryl Monreal, and Gloria Peter. Flannel Baby Quilts were distributed to **Lutheran World Relief, Military Outreach Ministries**, and the "**Pajama Project.**" The sale of matching sets of Flannel Pajamas and Baby Quilts raised \$250.00 for the "**Pajama Project.**"

Lutheran World Relief Fair Trade Coffee and Chocolate sales were held bi-monthly by Arlene Skoor, with a special selection of gift baskets at Christmas time. The **Lutheran World Relief Fair Trade Hand Craft Fair** was part of our Christmas Bazaar. Bethlehem Women crafters and bakers participated in Bethlehem Lutheran Church's extremely popular second annual **Harvest Festival**. The Bethlehem Women were engaged in military support projects including the national effort "**Stand Down for**

Veterans” which supplies health kits and clothing to veterans in need, and coordinated Bethlehem Lutheran Church’s annual **Lutheran World Relief “World Hunger Fund.”**

Cheryl Monreal, who originated the **Giving Tree** and leads the **Secret Santa Project** every Christmas, continues to serve people affected by HIV/AIDS in her work with **UCSD Medical Center** and **“Eunime”** (an orphanage in Tijuana, Mexico).

The Pajama Project, 200+ volunteers led by Cherie Whiting, Suzanne Schmidt and Paula Leahy sewed an amazing **955** pair of colorful, fuzzy flannel pajamas to be distributed to children of local families in need.

Respectfully submitted with our heartfelt thanks by your sisters in Christ,

Pamela Dugmore, President

Kim Oswald, Vice President

Carol Sanders, Treasurer

Molly Hall, Secretary

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

Kim Oswald – Director of Children’s Ministries

Children’s Ministries Annual Report – 2008

It’s been another wonderful year with our children and parents here at Bethlehem. It’s been a year of something old – we continued our quarterly teaching approach during the school year with our dedicated group of 25 Learning Circles Teachers and 23 substitute teachers and a return to the use of the title - Learning Circles - for our Sunday School program. It’s been a year of something new - two new Directors of Children’s Ministries (I joined the team in mid-April with the departure of Linda Stuessi) and new curriculum for both the summer program and the 2008/2009 school year program. It’s been a year filled with the joy of children as they learn more about both the Old and New Testaments of the Bible.

We had a great time in July with Vacation Bible School learning about God’s Big Backyard. With 90 children (over half of whom were 3, 4 and 5 year olds) and a dedicated team of 27 adults (10 adult group leaders) and 24 teen volunteers; we sang, participated in puppet skits, learned about the Bible, ate well, played theme oriented games and learned of various missions this church supports. Through the generosity of the VBS families we raised \$1000 which purchased 250 LifeStraws to help the poorest in Africa drink safer water, we delivered dozens of Beany Babies to the PJ Project for distribution with the pajamas at Christmas and we filled bags with items needed by T.A.C.O. The children also learned about the quilts made by our Scraps and Prayers group which are distributed through Lutheran World Relief and to the Wounded Warrior Battalion at Camp Pendleton and sampled products sold by the Fair Trade Program. Fun and learning was had by all.

Also during the summer we concentrated on the Old Testament, an area not covered by the curriculum the children used during the 2007/2008 school year. Specifically we learned about Noah, Moses and Joseph. As we moved to the 2008/2009 school year we decided to use a new curriculum, FaithWeaver, which is on a three year cycle and covers both the Old and the New Testaments. We spent the fall beginning at the beginning with Genesis and during the winter and spring will be studying the New Testament. In mid-June we’ll return to the Old Testament. Attendance at the 9:00 Learning Circles has continued to grow with our largest classes being preschool and K-2nd grade and the nursery has had so many children that Caitlin now accompanies her mother, Suzi Westmoreland, each week so that they are prepared for the one or ten who

come to spend the hour with them. Because so few children attended the 10:30 Learning Circles, our last 10:30 Learning Circles class was December 14th. This fall has also seen our 5th/6th grade class participate in a field trip to the Del Mar Fairgrounds in December to decorate a Christmas tree for the CRC Holiday Basket program. Our 5th and 6th graders made 266 Christmas ornaments for their Christmas tree and helped decorate three other trees. We raised funds to buy flannel for more pajamas to be made by the PJ project in 2009 and collected candy to be sent to our troops overseas during the holiday season. Thirty 3rd and 4th graders were given a new Bible on the first day of the new school year Learning Circles as use of their Bibles is an integral part of the FaithWeaver curriculum.

And we just finished up a successful Wombat Divine Christmas program which featured our K-6th graders who had been taught to sign *Silent Night* by Suzi and Caitlin Westmoreland and a number of teens who have completed three or four years of American Sign Language. The Music Man guaranteed a full crowd for the 5:00 Christmas Eve service and the Children's Choir and Instant Christmas Program were appreciated by all in attendance at the 7:00 Christmas Eve service.

A year of change and renewal, a year of continuation of the old and implementation of the new. 2008 has been a good year for our children as they learn about God. It has been a good year for Children's Ministries at Bethlehem and I thank you for this opportunity.

Bethlehem Lutheran Church Endowment Fund 2008 Annual Report for Reporting Period October 1 2007 to September 30 2008

The Bethlehem Lutheran Church (BLC) Endowment Fund was established in December 2001 with the Lutheran Community Foundation (LCF) as the investment manager. The first member gift was deposited with the LCF in February 2005.

Gifts from Bethlehem members are sent to the fund and invested in a mutual fund. Grant requests approved by the Bethlehem Lutheran Council are sent to the LCF and grant checks sent back to BLC. Investment interest and capital gains accrue in the endowment fund and investment losses and administrative fees reduce the value of the endowment fund.

At the beginning of the reporting period there were five major gifts. One gift, the Gene Pease Scholarship Gift was granted to \$0.00 during the reporting period. As of September 30, 2008 there are four major gifts that comprise the BLC Endowment Fund. Three of the gifts have grant restrictions and one gift has unrestricted grants. Two of the gifts are Permanent and two are Temporary. A Permanent gift type is intended to be managed so as to maintain the principal and make grants from the gift earnings. A Temporary gift is intended to be granted without the restriction of maintaining the principal.

Gift Name	Restriction	Gift Type	Balance Sept 30 2008
<i>Anonymous</i>	Global outreach, scholarships for students in need attending Bethlehem Early Childhood Center, and local outreach.	Permanent	\$41,183.07
<i>Columbarium</i>	Additional construction of columbarium niches	Temporary	\$8,904.10
<i>Bill and Patti Harman Vision Fund</i>	Bethlehem Lutheran Church initiatives as identified by the current Pastor.	Permanent	\$9,002.49
<i>General BLC Gifts</i>	None	Temporary	\$360.18

The financial report for the Endowment Fund for the reporting period ending September 30 2008 is shown in the table below.

Balance on Sept. 30 2007	\$ 86,984.94	Notes
Contribution to Columbarium Gift	\$ 3,750.00	
Grants from Anonymous Gift	\$ (11,500.00)	Student scholarship grant to Early Childhood Center, grant to Center for Global Awareness, portable sinks for Early Childhood Center 1/2 day program.
Grant from Gene Pease Scholarship Gift	\$ (2,528.99)	Student scholarship
Grant from Bill and Patti Harman Vision Gift	\$ (2,000.00)	Healthy Start Initiative
Grant from General BLC Gifts	\$ (1,420.00)	Healthy Start Initiative
Capital Gains / (Losses)	\$ (14,951.04)	
Fund Administrative Fees	\$ (801.46)	
Dividends / Interest	\$ 1,916.38	
Balance on Sept. 30 2008	\$ 59,449.83	

2009 will see the formation of an Endowment Fund Committee. This committee will report to the Congregational Council and will create Endowment Fund By-laws, administer the Endowment fund, and make grant recommendations. Three congregational members have been asked to serve on this committee. If you are interested in serving please contact a member of the Congregational Council.

Dennis J Astroth

Health Ministry Report for 2008

One might ask why promote healthcare in our church. A church is the only institution that follows and cares for people throughout the span of a lifetime.

As Parish Nurse I spend most of my time caring for our parishioners by helping them stay healthy and whole in body, mind and spirit. I consult with, share information, advise, and comfort our members in need and those who are grieving. I visit them at home, in the hospital or rehab centers to check the status of their recuperation from illness or surgery. I transport and accompany parishioners to their physician's appointments, being their advocate through the healthcare system.

I work closely with our Pastor, Stephen Ministry, and other ministries of care. Several healthcare professionals in our congregation serve as advisors.

This year we formed a committee and started a new Bethlehem Cares Fund. This makes funds available for those in our congregation in need of groceries, medication, bills and other needs. We also

started new a group of members who make and deliver meals for those who are ill or need some comfort and care.

Other activities of 2008 include:

Blood Pressure screenings

Flu Shot Clinic at our church

CPR and 1st Aid class

Ongoing Yoga class

Breast Cancer Awareness

Maintain Care Notes and information board

Assisted with Maundy Thursday service

Helped plan Blue Christmas service

Planned Christmas Caroling and visits to 9 members

Of which one we sang into heaven.

Rose Moldenhauer, RN

Parish Nurse, 753-1026 X24

BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH MUSIC ANNUAL REPORT 2008

Music is an important part of worship at Bethlehem. We continue to select worship music that blends contemporary, traditional, and world styles in each service. Our new book of worship , Evangelical Lutheran Worship , has become our primary source for selection, but we continue to be open to many sources for music. It has been a joy working with our new pastor in planning worship each week. Pastor Laura brings fresh new ideas to the table and our worship services are more exciting than ever.

The Good News Singers continues to grow in musical ability. Three of this year's highlights were the Palm Sunday Cantata, Spring Concert and the Tenth Annual Christmas Concert. This year's Christmas choir was the biggest performing group that we've ever had for our Christmas concert. The sound of the group was phenomenal!

The Christmas Concert "Angels Rejoice" was well received by the congregation and we continued to perform to a full house. This year all the choirs of Bethlehem participated, totaling over sixty musicians. The Good News Singers sang Advent and Christmas songs from many musical genres. Teen Rock sang a jazzy version of "Silent Night" and "Jingle Bell Rock". Special solos were performed by Marilyn Stenoecin and Laura Thibault. Judy Collier added her holiday twist with a version of the Nutcracker Suite on the organ. The Children's Choir sang with enthusiasm featuring many voices on small solos and duets. Our Handbell Ensemble added variety with the beautiful ringing of the bells. Finally, the Good News Singers, Teen Rock and Children's Choirs combined to end the concert with a medley of traditional carols. We all left filled with the Christmas spirit.

Our Handbell Ensemble is eleven ringers strong who are committed to ringing bells for God's glory. This year we were blessed to receive the addition of choir chimes as a memorial to Gwen Humphrey's mother, Gladys Ladner. We have played many songs combining the handbells and choir chimes thus creating an interesting contrast in sound. We have also played handbells with other instruments, as we did with Louise Julig playing violin on an Advent carol. We also played one song just using mallets for our Christmas concert, which again was a new technique that we have experienced. Many continued to play on Christmas Eve and enhanced the 11:00 p.m. Christmas Eve service with their music. This group now provides another musical opportunity for those that want to use their instrumental talents.

The Teen Rock group continues with teenage enthusiasm led by Marilyn Stenoien and Bob Fell who work so well with the youth. The congregation thanks those youth who use their musical talents in God's service. Teen Rock performed last Spring, this Fall, at the Christmas Concert and will sing two more times in 2009.

We are so blessed to have many talented musicians in our congregation. We thank Dick Dubois for his faithful service as drummer for Teen Rock, the Good News Singers and Children's Choirs; Alec Wilkens for his expertise on the clarinet; Mark Weed and Mackenzie Sutphin who provide trumpet brilliance; Todd Waterman as a classical guitarist, and Louise Julig for her violin expertise. We also try to use our college students' talents when they are in town.

The Children's Choir has twenty-three young voices this year. They are very faithful in coming to practice and performed beautifully in the Fall and during the Christmas season. They will continue to serve the Lord in song into the new year.

We thank Judy Collier for her faithful service as organist. She is the only one on the music staff who attends every service (except when on her vacation)! We have enjoyed the major use of the organ in each service, the attention to songs relating to our daily worship texts, and her flexibility. Judy is always eager to try new styles and plays with a joyful spirit.

Sheldon Rosenbaum continues to be our accompanist for the Good News Singers. We are so lucky to have such a talented musician on our staff. Sheldon combines talent with a humble personality and we all enjoy working with him. His knowledge of music and his "time for humor" is greatly appreciated by all.

Our cantors lead the congregation in all the new music that we learn every season of the church year. Thanks to Mary Shaima, our resident liturgist and lead cantor, we have learned Setting Six, Setting One and Setting Ten in Evangelical Lutheran Worship. We thank Mary Shaima, Jan Cesare, Carolin Meinhardt, and Laura Thibault who continue to lead with such beautiful and strong voices.

Our Concert at 4 series finished the year with two concerts. In July, Organist Dale Sorenson played a rededication concert of our organ. Dale's concert demonstrated the

many capabilities of the newly renovated organ through diversity in hymnody. In September, Judy Collier and her friend Marje Fiene performed a 4-hand piano recital that was enjoyed by many.

We are also thankful for Daren Erisman who has brought thoughtful expertise to improving our sound system. With Daren's keen ear, our sound continues to improve in our worship services and in recording various concerts and recitals that are occurring at Bethlehem. Daren is upgrading our system by purchasing quality sound equipment through Craig's list and E-bay. We have appreciated the anonymous donations that are making this happen. Special thanks also to my teenage son, David Goetsch, who is monitoring the sound for the 9 a.m. services. Thank you David for your faithful service!

I am blessed to serve such a musically talented community of faith!

Thank you,
Mona J. Goetsch
Director of Music

FULL-DAY PRESCHOOL ANNUAL REPORT 2008

The full-day preschool program has had a successful year. We have had full classes all year, including our summer program, and have a wait list for the coming school year. We continue to have a strong reputation in the community as a quality program for young children. In this changing economic climate Bethlehem is providing quality care for families who find themselves in need of a longer day for their children.

This we have some new staff this year due to the birth of 3 new babies to staff members. We have been able to replace them with wonderful enthusiastic people who are continuing to make Bethlehem such a great place for children. Pastor Laura Ziehl has been wonderful for our program she has become a familiar person for our children they know her by name and look forward to seeing her. We are enjoying chapel time with her and our families are very please by this. More families are participating in church events as well as choosing Bethlehem as their church home. This is to the credit of Pastor Laura and our support staff. We continue with our volunteer program with Mary Hartzell and Peggy Hassler coming once a week to be with the children. Ray Hartzell has traded in the property management position for that of official story reader for the children. They love all this extra attention.

We are grateful to Bethlehem Lutheran for its support of this program and families that we can serve.

Sincerely,
Debi Carr
Center Director

Half Day Preschool Annual Report 2008

Bethlehem Preschool celebrates its 35th year as a community outreach ministry of Bethlehem Lutheran Church.

We continue our goal to minister to children and families enrolled in our programs. Our teachers show by example and word Christ's way of loving acceptance and forgiveness. Families are regularly informed of church activities and events. They are invited and encouraged to get involved. Many preschool families participated in Vacation Bible School this past summer.

Pastor Laura Ziehl and her family have become an integral part of our program. We have enjoyed her support and participation. The children attend chapel monthly led by Pastor Laura.

We also appreciate the continued involvement of the church council and the church staff and volunteers, Rose Muldenhaver, Judy Foland, Karen Wise, Jonathan Garman, Kim Oswald, Carol Sanders, Dennis Astroth and Jim Murphy.

The difficult economic times have had an affect on our program. Some families have experienced job loss and we

are receiving more requests for scholarships. We have tried to meet the needs of parents by providing longer hours and more flexible schedules.

Thank you to the congregation for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Gail Winterbourne, Center Director

Property Committee 2008 Annual Report

With a campus as large as Bethlehem's there is always something in need of repair or replacement. This past year was no different.

- A large section of the Family Center roof was repaired to stop roof leaks.
- Roof flashing on the Childcare building and the Multi-use building was replaced to stop roof leaks.
- The exterior of the Sanctuary was painted.
- The Encinitas Fire Marshal inspected our buildings for compliance with fire codes. With some minor changes we are now in full compliance.
- A generous donation from Norm and Marla Keith enabled us to add more clean sand to the children's play yard.
- One of four landscape irrigation zones was upgraded and repaired.
- A new dishwasher was installed in the Sanctuary conference room.
- A new water heater was installed above the Sanctuary conference room.

As always we have dedicated volunteers who support our campus work parties and help to spruce up the campus by painting, cleaning, and making repairs. My thanks to everyone who has given their time to help beautify our campus and buildings. I would especially like to recognize:

- Tom Wolf – spent many hours digging and troubleshooting to restore our outdoor Sanctuary accent lights.
- Bruce Stenstrom – checks and replaces burned-out light bulbs regularly.
- Gary Kloehn – cleans and maintains both the baptismal font and the Narthex fountain.

There are several major projects that will need to be addressed in the coming years.

- An additional storage shed will be erected for the Youth Ministry.
- Tenting and fumigation of the Childcare building for termites.
- Roof repairs on the Sanctuary and Family Center.
- Continued irrigation repairs and upgrades, especially with our drought conditions and new mandates for saving water.

- Painting of the Sanctuary interior.
- Repair / re-paving / sealing of the parking lot.

In the past two years we have installed energy efficient lighting ballasts and motion-detection light switches in all our campus buildings. You can help to control our utility costs and help to preserve resources by turning off lights and turning off heating / air conditioning systems when leaving a room or building.

Finally, thanks to Retired Pastor Ray for his continued support and counsel. I appreciate it very much.

Dennis J Astroth

Youth Ministry Annual Report- 2008

“Where are we going from here?!” That is the thought that crosses my mind as I reflect on this past year’s worth of ministry. I can honestly say that my wildest visions for this ministry continue to be surpassed as the students persist in grasping at every opportunity to live out their life for God while growing in their love for Him.

The Junior High Ministry (7th and 8th grade students), continues to be the driving force in blcym by the energy of the students and their desire to learn about and from an intimate relationship with Christ. It was in this mold that the ministry is now dubbed **Evolve** to point to our desire to grow into disciples for Christ. Our weekly Tuesday night gatherings bring together thoughtful devotionals and real life in a way that challenges the class and, most of all, myself and Pastor! Our fantastic high school students continue to set the bar high for mentoring the younger students throughout the year and particularly at **Confirmation Camp** this past June. **Brian Peck, Andrew Rappolt, Sarah Simm, and Marisa Smith** were instrumental in making that experience such an enormous success for the 13 incoming 8th grade students. We enjoyed 5 days together, growing in our understanding of prayer and who God is to us and for us while laughing A LOT! - what remarkable examples of the love of God you are to us!

The current **J-Unit** (Marisa Smith- vocals, Brian Peck- guitar, & Andrew Rappolt- guitar) have taken the wisdom of their predecessors (Sarah Behymer & John Rappolt) and continue to grow the ministry of music in blcym. These incredibly God-blessed students have chosen to use their spiritual gifts to lead us in worship every Sunday morning and on every retreat and trip that we take. This year’s high school **Summer Trip** to Visalia, CA, was defined by their ability to draw the 38 students and 9 adult leaders into close communion with God as we discovered the truly revolutionary love of Christ. What a true joy to come back from our morning work projects (building homes for low-income families of the Central Valley through Self Help Enterprises) and raise our voices in praising our Loving Lord. The 9 adult leaders that made this retreat possible were another example of what it means to join in the **Revolution** (now the name for our Sunday morning worship) that is Christ in the world today. Thank you to them for their gift of time, wisdom, and desire to grow in God around these wonderful students. We

continue to see their contribution in the lives of the students every Wednesday night at **Revolve** as the students continue to discern how to create a life that revolves around God.

We continue to grow and update our own youth ministry website, www.blcym.org as we discover new methods to spread the Gospel and to connect back with our BLC family. Please check it out to find out more about us and spend some time in devotion.

I can confidently tell you that God has undoubtedly blessed our ministry. I can only say thank you to **Chuck, Janet, Dennis, Mary, Jillian, Skye, Mea, Bart, ChaCha, and John** for your investment in these students- it is because of you that they are seeking out God in their lives. As the students continue to reach out to and financially support those in need, I encourage you to seek out these students and get to know them. You will be changed by their enthusiasm, their smiles, and most of all, their heart for our living Lord. Thank you for being so supportive over this past year- it has been fruitful and it excites me to contemplate where we are heading from here!

Faithfully in His Revolution,

Jonathan Garman, Director of Youth Ministries



Stephen Ministry is a lay caring ministry; the motto is *Christ Caring for People through People*. While it is Stephen Ministers who reach out in care, we believe that only God will bring healing.

Caring Relationships:

5 Stephen Ministers

- ◆ involved in 5 caring relationships
- ◆ made 210 contacts
- ◆ gave 145 hours in caring visits

Care of the congregation:

- ◆ altar flowers: delivered to persons who are ill or homebound
- ◆ altar rose: delivered to parents of newborn children
- ◆ announcements, encouragements, inspiration provided in Sunday bulletin
- ◆ available for conversation/prayer following Sunday morning services
- ◆ Blue Christmas Service provided in December
- ◆ cards of encouragement, inspiration, sympathy sent: 286
- ◆ communion taken to 2 persons
- ◆ communion assistance at Sunday morning service
- ◆ distributed 5 books, *Living When a Loved One Dies*
- ◆ distributed 6 books, *His Princess, Love Letters from Your King*
- ◆ distributed 11 prayer booklets, *Pray for the Nations*
- ◆ distributed 2 *Table Prayer* booklets

- ◆ hosted missionaries Rev. David & Carla Schick on visit to BLC
- ◆ grief letters (66) sent to 33 persons
- ◆ messages of encouragement, announcements provided on display board
- ◆ welcome basket for Pastor Laura and family

Working Relationships:

- ◆ BLC Preschool: In-service training for teaching staff
- ◆ Calvary Lutheran: Planning meeting for Stephen Ministry training
- ◆ Health Ministry: Blue Christmas Service
- ◆ Scraps & Prayers: S.M. delivers swaddling blankets to newborns

Thank You:

We thank and praise God for His Blessings on this ministry in 2008.

We are grateful to Rich Vettel, Robert Trebes, Irietys Burrows for donations used for programs.

We thank our congregation for providing support through the budget.

We thank our Bethlehem family for allowing us to serve within our church and community.

Respectfully submitted,
Irietys Burrows and Molly Hall, Stephen Leaders