**Ministry Reports for Council on Ministries 8/11/2015**

**Go in Service – Doris Moss & \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

The Food Bank – usually has a project they ask for help with in the fall.

The Ingathering – we’re making plans for the things we’ll be getting ready to take to the Ingathering in November.

Food 4 Kids – possible changes as the new school year starts with students attending a new school

*Doris*

**Grow in Discipleship – Yvette Boysen & Julie Luhr**

1. BIG Time continued to meet as one class over the summer. We will continue to use Cokesbury's curriculum. It looks fun & user-friendly. An added bonus is that the theme coincides with the Bible we present to third-graders.

I have been (and will continue to) recruit servants to assist with the nursery, BIG Time & the youth HOPE groups.

2. A number of exciting events are planned for the near future. Pastor Eric will offer a Backpack Blessing on August 30. ALL students & teachers are encouraged to bring their backpacks for this special blessing. Additionally, the BIG Time students will perform during the 9 a.m. service. You don't want to miss this!

We will kick off the new year on Sept. 13. This will include the presentation of Bibles to third-graders. Following the 9 a.m. service, everyone is invited to participate in our kick-off event. It will be a sock hop held in the fellowship hall with the Praise Band providing the music from the sanctuary. Please help us to spread the word.

I will soon be meeting with the individuals who have expressed interest in the youth HOPE groups to determine plans for the year. We will also be deciding if we will be able to again offer three BIG Time classes or if we will need to continue with two classes. Once this is determined, we will also consider if it is possible to add a BIG Time class for the middle & high school students.

*Yvette Boysen*

**HOPE Groups**

**HOPE Groups continuing through the summer**:

     MOPS Bible study led by Christine Cappetta meets Wednesday's at 9:30.

     Caregivers met once at Peachwave for sharing.

**Future HOPE Groups**:

Sharon Shook will begin a Bible study group Wednesday nights, mid-September through November. Workbook and DVD's from author/leader Beth Moore - “A Woman’s Heart: God’s Dwelling Place”.

The Yoga & Prayer Practice Group is pending depending on Julie Luhr’s recovery in rehab.

Still working on getting a team to review and talk about our HOPE groups fulfill St. James' mission and vision. Looking for new prospects now.

*submitted by J Luhr*

**Gather in Celebration –Merlyne Smith & \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Praise Band

We have had some amazing experiences. We did begin Prison Ministry on July 26th in Yankton. We have been invited into the prison in Springfield, August 25. This is a large facility, and we have the opportunity to lead worship with Pastor Dani of Christ the King Church in Yankton.

Great and exciting news, we have been joined by Pastor Eric, Christine Cappetta and Vicki Smith. Thank you to each for making this commitment to worship at St. James. We still are looking to expand our technical team.

Our drum set, given to us by Sunnybrook because it was old, not working properly had been replaced and was stored in a closet, after 3 years of continued use, it now is difficult to play. If it "sounds ok" it is a huge thanks to the genius of Jody Frye. We need a new drum, I have talked with single board chair, Matthew Cappetta, we have been given the go ahead to find a new or used drum to meet our needs. My question was about funding, 1. Will the board fund drums. 2. We have some dollars may we contribute those dollars or not. 3. Because of the difficulty with acceptance of the quality wiring we did 6 months ago, I have no intention repeating that scenario.

We pray for Richard’s daughter Jenna and her family as this very night she will probably give birth to their second child, Prays for Richard.

*Merlyne Smith*

**Member Care – Sharon Shook & Mary Ferrari**

No report given.

**Communication and Connection – John Carter & Miranda Galvin**

Transitioned to a new pastor.

We continue to work from the list of announcements that we (Council on Ministry) created, choosing two or three announcements to highlight each Sunday. In addition, the most recent Prayer Concerns are highlighted.

Miranda and I hope to continue to meet monthly with Pastor Eric to review the announcement topics and discuss any ideas or concerns that are relevant.

*John and Miranda*