

Annual Church Report 2009-2010

*Wayne Hicks
Senior Pastor*

*James Robertson
Pastor Emeritus*

*Randy Marquis
Children's Pastor*

*Marci Marquis
Worship Pastor*

*Marcia Nikl
Youth Pastor*

*Ryan Hicks
College Pastor*



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Vision for Arlington First

Vision Verse - John 13:35 "By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

Vision Mission - The Disciples of Christ at Arlington First are to be unified in the cause of Christ and the building of God's kingdom - "Connecting people with the life-changing power of Jesus Christ." (Acts 1:8)

Vision Statement - God's house is a "house of prayer". We start with prayer and we conclude with a prayer of Thanksgiving.

In God's house everyone is welcome.

In God's house family members encourage one another.

God's family has a passion for all of God's children, even those who are dead in their sins.

God's family offers acceptance, healing and forgiveness.

God's family is more interested in where individuals will spend eternity than where they have been.

God's house is a place where people are loved and sin is despised.

God's family seeks solutions rather than finding fault or placing blame.

God's family recognizes criticizing and complaining for what it is, sin!

God's family is not bound by their past, but embraces their past in hope of a better tomorrow.

God's family matures healthy relationships.

God's family is more concerned about people than facilities, traditions, rules or regulations.

God's family recognizes God as the head of the family, not as their servant.

In God's family, every family member seeks to find and be in the center of God's will.

God's family realizes faith and obedience are not optional.

If you share our vision for Arlington First, we encourage you to join us in making it become a reality.

Our Mission Statement Theme

“Connecting People with the Life-Changing Power of Jesus Christ”

Our Mission Statement

“Empowered by God, we will go and make a difference by winning souls to Christ, making disciples through the teaching of God’s Word.”

“Who We Are”

We are a church that is -

Inviting

Including

Involving

“The Priorities of our Mission Statement”

Matthew 22:36-40; 28:19-20; Acts 2:42-47

Worship

Connecting people with worship that exalts God and is full of joy, hope, and Biblical truth.

Psalm 34:3; 1 Chronicle 16:27-29; Mark 12:30-31

Instruction

Connecting people with a Christian Education Program that will equip them for a meaningful, effective ministry in their church and today’s world.

Matthew 9:35-38; Ephesians 4:11-13; Acts 2:42

Fellowship

Connecting people with a church family who will encourage, develop, and admonish them toward Christian maturity.

Romans 12:1-2; Ephesians 2:19; Hebrews 5:11; 6:2

Expression

Connecting people with a church who has an evangelistic heart toward their community and world.

Acts 1:8; Matthew 28:19-20

Unity

Connecting people with a church family whose sole desire is to and glorify God in all they do.

Matthew 5:16; 1 Corinthians 10:31; Romans 15:5-6; 2

Thessalonians 1:11-12

“They will know we are Christians by our love for one another.”

Pastor's Annual Report for 2009-2010

This year has been a mixed bag of blessings and problems. There have been many exciting and wonderful things happening at our church. There have also been some sad and unfortunate happenings too. The good news is God is still on the throne. AFC is still fulfilling the vision and mission God has called us too. We are still seeing people saved and sanctified. We are still seeing people being healed.

We see our ministries touching a variety of lives-from feeding the homeless, those in the Life Shelter, Mission Arlington, Crisis Pregnancy Center and Mission 820. We helped Wanda White renovate her home. We helped Tabitha McCracken get and furnish her apartment. We helped 11 families at Christmas time with food and gifts. We helped several of our congregants during personal and family crises. We paid all of our General and District budgets in full.

We experienced almost a 10% reduction in attendance this year. Most of the loss (more than 60 individuals), was due to people moving and distances people were traveling to come to church. That is almost 3 times our normal numbers. We had approximately 25 individuals change churches or have stopped attending here. We lost 4 people due to death. The good news is we picked up approximately 50 new individuals this year. Our giving was down approximately 5%. We are truly thankful it was not down more with so many of our people moving, losing their jobs, taking cuts in pay, etc. God has truly blessed us financially.

While we were unable to give our staff raises, our pastoral staff are some of the highest paid on the district and we give more funds to our youth and children per capita than any other church on our district. We did raise our youth budget by approximately 20% to help defray the cost of renting vans for out of town trips.

Our College group has really grown this last year. Pastor Ryan and Lauren, and Mike and Cathy Sabin have really ministered to this group. We are seeing and expecting great things from the college group this next year.

While I can honestly say I wished our stats were better I am deeply satisfied with the year as a whole. There was and is definitely room for improvement, but God has truly blessed our church this year. With all the adversity we have had to deal with God is still on the throne.

I am super excited about our LIFE Groups. I am seeing a lot of spiritual growth in this area of our church. So there will be no misunderstanding of my vision for this next year - discipleship will be our focus and the driving force of our church as long as I am the pastor here. Real church growth comes from discipleship. Lives are being touched, and lives are being changed. As we grow spiritually, I believe we will grow in every other area as well.

Here are the stats for 2009-2010:

- 734 Members
- 12 Conversions
- 17 Baptisms
 - 4 -children, 6-teens, 7-adults
- 6 Baby Dedications
- 17 New members received
 - 15 by Profession of Faith
 - 2 by Transfer from another Nazarene Church
- 12 Members lost this year
 - 4 by Transfer to another denomination
 - 4 by Transfer to another Nazarene Church
 - 4 by Death
- 4 Times Communion was served
- 312 average weekly corporate worship attendance including youth and children
- 238 average weekly attendance for Cross Training
- 96 average weekly attendance for Discipleship Groups
- 55 enrolled in our pre-school Kid's Konnection

We have had a tough year numerically, but I believe we are on the road to a full recovery. I believe we are going to see some real substantial growth in 2010-2011. While we are in a rebuilding process I believe we are beginning to see the fruits of our labors. In Galatians 6:9 God's Word tells us, "Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up."

May God continue to bless you, so you can be a blessing to others.

Respectfully submitted,

Pastor Wayne

TREASURER'S ANNUAL REPORT

Dear Church Family,

This year, as in all the years past, God has continued to provide all of the financial resources needed to accomplish His work here at AFCN. Even in the midst of the economic downturn, with many of our church family experiencing job losses and pay cuts, God has continued to be abundantly faithful in meeting all of our financial needs. Praise Him from whom all blessings flow!

EXPLANATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Balance Sheet: The *Balance Sheet* reflects the current assets on deposit in the main church accounts at the end of the church year, and the current assessed value of all fixed assets. It also reflects the current payroll liabilities, and the mortgage balance with Frost Bank. Additionally, the *Balance Sheet* reflects the total funds being held in equity accounts for designated projects/purposes.

Consolidated Income & Expense Report: This report reflects the annual funds raised and expended in each individual account class and the total annual funds raised and expended in the equity accounts. It also reflects the Net Income for the year (with and without the equity accounts included), which represents an overall negative cash flow for the year, due almost entirely to building-related expenses.

General Income Bar Graph: The bar graph entitled **General Income – Tithes**, illustrates in bar graph format the monthly tithes income over the last three (3) year period, ending February 28, 2010. It also shows the total annual tithes for each year, which reflects a 5.1% decrease in giving from last year.

Consolidated Expense to Budget Performance Report: This report compares the actual annual expenses to the projected annual budget in each of the class accounts.

Income & Expense Budget Performance Reports: Separate Income & Expense reports are provided for each of the auxiliary ministries (except NYI) and Kid's Konnection @ AFC Day Care. These reports reflect the total annual income and expenses for each ministry compared to their respective projected annual budgets (except Kid's Konnection).

In closing, I want to thank you again for allowing me the privilege of serving God as church treasurer. Your prayers, love, patience, and support are greatly appreciated.

This written report and all associated Financial Statements respectfully submitted,

Dan Davisson
Church Treasurer

**Pastor Emeritus
Annual Report
2009-2010**

Greetings,

My first report to a district assembly was made in October 1940 when I was only nineteen. I was Pastor of two rural churches in Franklin County, south of Mt. Vernon, Texas and north of Winnsboro, Texas. (We had a lot of small rural churches and not enough pastors to serve them in those days.) One of those churches had only eight (8) members. These eight (8) people have influenced my ministry all these years. You never heard their names, but they loved me, prayed for me and encouraged me in spite of my inexperience and stupidity. I actually lived with all of them. I had a small metal suitcase in which my Bible, concordance and notebook, whatever book I was studying for my ordination along with all the clothes I owned except what was on my back. I literally walked from house to house and they were kind enough to feed me and bed me wherever night caught me. I often spent two or three nights at each place. I always did whatever they were doing, cut wood, cut pulp wood, milked cows, worked in the field, etc. No money changed hands, because they knew I had no money, and I knew they had no money. Talk about an intenerate ministry – I lived it. But I firmly believe, Uncle Charley and Aunt Nannie, Uncle Frank and Aunt Dora, Uncle Bert and Aunt Annie, and Oscar and Grace (they were the only young family in the church) have already been rewarded in heaven. Here I am seventy (70) years later, still feeling the warmth of their, friendship, love and prayers. It seemed to be their mission in life was just to help me make it. What a gift they were to me! At the time, I had nothing to give them as a pastor but my confidence and love.

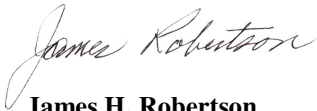
They taught me that often lay-people carry much heavier loads than the pastor, and long to see the church grow and be a servant of the community with a deeper commitment than the pastor.

I want to thank you for your love, prayers, and acceptance of me for such a long time. My debt to this local church is greater than I can ever pay. For more than twenty-five (25) years you have allowed me to be a part of the ministerial staff. No man could ever be given a greater privilege. You are my people, my special friends, and my true “yoke-fellows”.

Even though I am old enough to be the parent or grandparent of the staff, they continually put up with my limitations. Though my stories are often repeated (they are real in my fantasy) no one makes fun of me or says “I have heard that at least a dozen times.” (Aren’t they nice?)

With a heart full of gratitude let me leave you with: “Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.” (Hebrews 13:20-21, KJV)

Respectfully submitted,



James H. Robertson

Annual Report of the Music Minister/Worship Leader 2009-2010

*"Praise the Lord. Praise the Lord, O my soul.
I will praise the Lord all my life;
I will sing praise to my God as long as I live."*

I am blessed to minister with such a wonderful church family, and it is an honor and privilege to bring you my 14th annual report.

In April of 2009, we had a wonderful resurrection celebration, "I Know Who I Am", on Easter Sunday and the following week AFC hosted the NMI Convention and 101st District Assembly where I led the music and worship and was ordained a deacon in the Church of the Nazarene. What a blessing to share this blessed event with my own church family.

We had another opportunity to get into the community on May 29. The choir sang the National Anthem at the Fort Worth Cats Baseball game and I sang "God Bless America" during the seventh inning stretch. What a fun time we had as several came out to enjoy the game and support the choir.

In June, I was involved in the Family Ministry Training week where I led and taught a small choir and they sang as part of the showcase on the following Saturday evening.

Also in June, Randy and I had the opportunity to attend the General Assembly in Orlando, FL. Randy was a district Sunday School delegate, and we were able to attend some helpful seminars and inspiring worship services and gather with thousands from all over the world.

In July, I helped at both children's camps where I led the praise teams, crafts and helped with ministry training and technology.

I was thrilled to help with the Summer Ministry Opportunity as we went to the apartments on Sunday evenings in July and August. I was able to lead music and help with puppets.

In addition to our weekly services, I had the opportunity to plan and lead the worship services for the District Pastor's Conference in September, and in October I led the music for a revival in Mineral Wells.

October 10, we had a choir and praise band workshop with the Bostocks. They worked that Saturday morning with the band and choir teaching about them being true worshippers and worship leaders.

On November 29, our choir joined with the Fort Worth First and Northside choirs and sang with long-time musical artist Steve Green in a wonderful concert. This was a beautiful time to join with our other brothers and sisters in Christ as we began the advent season.

December was again filled with preparations and presentations for the Christmas season. It began with the Kid's Konnection program in the morning service on December 6. On December 13, the adults presented "The Gift" with music and a challenging drama. The children presented their musical program in the morning service on December 20.

The Life Groups are working to fulfill the mission to worship, grow, connect, share and serve. In the fall, we had seven (7) Life Groups meeting, and after the New Year the number of groups changed to five (5) meeting on various evenings throughout the week. There have been several involved in Life Groups that have never participated in one previously.

We started a Girlz Club this year for mothers and daughters ages 8-12. We have averaged 20-25 in attendance at our monthly gatherings including 4 who do not attend our church. We share a meal and craft and have a girl-talk lesson. Some of the topics we've covered are choosing friends wisely, handling peer pressure, radiating true beauty, seeing ourselves through God's eyes, making wise entertainment choices, and guarding our purity – spiritually, emotionally and physically. We have a library of resources for the moms and daughters to check out and read. These gatherings have been wonderful times for the moms and daughters to bond with each other and other moms and girls. You have been wonderful supporters of the Girlz Club through the bake sales and the casserole sales. We have recently expanded the ages and split into two (2) groups. The "Princess Club" is now for moms and we have one another to lean on and pray for as we help guide daughters on their journey toward becoming godly women.

I am so blessed to serve the Lord with you.

To God be the glory!

Pastor Marci Marquis

Children's Ministry Report

2009-2010

This is my fourteenth annual report to bring to you. This has been a year where we have seen spiritual growth in our kids and parents have been more involved in the activities. Arlington First is blessed with a great group of kids that I love, pray for, and enjoy very much.

Every year our children's ministry raises monies to support the District Project. The 2009 project was the **D-Code Challenge**. We raise \$1311.77 dollars for this project.

On March 5th and 6th, 2009 we had 11 kids participate in the **West Texas District Children's Talent** competition and 6 participated in the **District Quiz** at Lubbock First Church. We brought home a lot of gold and silver medals and trophies. Thanks to John and Becky Weston for their work with the Quiz Team and to Marci for her work with the solos and duets. It was great to have 9 adults go with us to support their kids.

Sunday, March 22, 2009 we had a **Parent Luncheon/Meeting**. Kristi Briggs did a great job leading the meeting, and Ruben Lopez made his famous fajitas.

In the months of March, May and January we had our **Sunday Night Family Services**. It was great to see the families participate in the service and in the after service activities.

We had our **Easter Egg Hunt** Saturday, April 11, 2009 and it was nice being able to take our time with each age group and not hurry through the hunt. We had several guests and lots of fun.

In June we had the **Family Ministry Training**. We offered 14 different training classes. Wednesday night we had 111 in class, Thursday night 87 and 81 on Friday. The Showcase service went well and gave opportunity for the participants to show what they learned.

In July, I directed the district **Kid's Summer Camp** for the tenth year. Our church had thirty-two campers and thirty-one workers. The camp theme for 2009 was *Yes God*.

In August, the children's department hosted the **Fam Jam** with Pastors Phillip and Stacey Allred as our evangelists. This was a great weekend revival for our families.

The **Kids Fun Fest** was another great success this year. We had between seven and eight hundred people in our church building and out in the yard that night having a great time. Thanks for all the volunteers that made this festival a great evening.

Our **Family Christmas Party** was a great success. Twenty (20) families attend this activity. We began with the Christmas program practice, next had dinner together and then loaded on a Trolley and two other buses and viewed the Christmas lights in Grand Prairie.

Joanne Harris is our **Kinder-Church** Director and is doing a great job working with the teacher rotations and making sure that they have curriculum each Sunday. The teachers are Christa Nguyen, Janet Smith, Becky Pruneda, and Rachel Smith.

Shela Holsopple is our **Nursery** Director and is doing a great job. She has a great group of workers and volunteers. Shela not only provides workers for Sunday and Wednesday services but also runs the monthly **Parent's Night Out** program.

In **Children's Church** each week our average attendance has been around 30 to 35 kids. We've had three themes for the year - BIG, Driving Force and Extreme Sayings. These curriculums provide daily devotions

that parents can use in their family time throughout the week. I appreciate my workers, Keith Boepple, Debbie Mitzman and Justin Grant.

During the year I had five opportunities to teach the **Bible Study at Martin High School** for Pastor Marcia. I appreciate Pastor Marcia giving me the opportunity to help her with this ministry.

In 2009 I had the opportunity to Baptize or be a part of a Baptismal service for Cami and Alli Langley, and Aisleen and Stephanie Harris and Alaneece Lopez.

This has been a year of many challenges but I want to close with this verse *“Then you will call, and the Lord will answer; you cry for help, and He will say; **Here am I.**” - Isaiah 58:9.* We are blessed by your support and involvement with us in ministry and your love for our family.

Respectfully Submitted,

Randy Marquis

Youth Pastor's Report for 2009-2010

Looking back over the year 2009, I am blessed to be able to serve on staff at Arlington First Church of the Nazarene and minister to your youth and mentor them to be servants in our church. Luke 4:18-19 says, "The spirit of the Lord is upon me, He has appointed me to preach the Good news to the poor, He has sent me to heal the broken hearted, and to announce that captives will be set free, the blind shall see, the down trodden will be set free from their oppressors, and that God is ready to give blessings to all who come to Him."

Simply put - "when we love God we will serve people"

The youth at Arlington First strive to make these truths come true:

- 1) We sponsored a child for \$300.00 this last year through Nazarene Sponsorship.
- 2) Fifteen (15) teens fasted food for 30 hours and helped fix up a ladies yard during the 30-Hour Famine. We also raised \$895.00 to help feed starving families in Malawi, Africa.
- 3) Our youth group raised \$200.00 through World Vision and purchased two (2) goats and two (2) chickens for families in Africa. Could we have saved a person's life?
- 4) We fed pizza and water to the homeless in Ft. Worth for 10 months this last year at a cost of \$700.00. This is a lifetime of learning that to give to others is better than to receive. We have prayed for and ministered to 100's of souls. At Christmas we, with the Marquis Life Group, gave out donated blankets and coats, and 100 pairs of socks purchased by the youth group.
- 5) Fifteen (15) teens participated in a mission Trip to Port Arthur, TX to help a family that had been hit by Hurricane Ike. Our mission's council sent \$1,000.00 to help with a Port Arthur project. We met the family and were able to repair the roof, sheet rock, texture and paint two rooms. Our last special project of \$250.00 helped us redo the mom's room with new carpet and the addition of special touches. We saw a family reborn to the faith through a few acts of kindness done in Jesus' name.
- 6) Project Serve to Arlington saw sixteen (16) teens go to a neighboring apartment complex and set-up VBS for three days and preach the Word of God. Twelve (12) children accepted the Lord that week. Praise God! Our Work Projects were at Christ City Church of the Nazarene in Fort Worth. Over one-hundred-fifty (150) teens from Arlington took on 5 projects and helped our inner city church make a statement to the community that we really do care about them.
- 7) We spent Sunday nights with the church to the Willows II apartments to do VBS for this complex's families. We built relationships, taught lessons and touched lives for the Kingdom.
- 8) The teens and I worked on the Prayer Walk, with Cathy Sabin, to help clear paths and weed the beds. People come, pray and learn God's Word, and lives are again changed.
- 9) I have had the privilege of ministering to the mission field of Martin High School this last year where fifteen (15) teens who have learned there is a safe place to hang out, eat pizza together, share the word of God and pray at Martin High School. Only six (6) of these teens are from Arlington First Church of the Nazarene. Praise God.

A big thank-you goes out to all my sponsors and leaders who step up each week and are Jesus' hands and feet to our teens. You are awesome in my eyes and so appreciated by all the teens and me. To the church, I say thank-you for believing in and supporting our youth. Repeating paragraph one- When I love God and I love teens – I will serve them and teach them to lead and grow for the future. My second love is being apart of each of your lives in your times of need and when you need prayer.

Serving Christ in Arlington,

Marcia Nikl
Youth Pastor

College Pastor's Report

This is my second Annual Report as an associate and an assistant to the Pastor at Arlington First. On Sunday mornings I teach the College class; we are studying holiness. I also teach the College group at my house on Sunday nights. We have an activity (eating out, movies, bowling etc) each week. Once a month we go over to the Sabin's house for food and games. In the College class on Sunday nights we are studying how to study the Bible in a devotional manner. The college class is growing numerically and spiritually, along with developing a sense of community. They have been active in their study on Sunday nights, and they have been bringing insights of their scripture reading to the rest of the group. The Steps of studying the Bible in a devotional manner are as follows:

Step One- Pray for insight on How to Apply the Passage

Step Two- Meditate on the Verses You Have Chosen to Study

Step Three- Write out an Application (how you will apply the scripture to your life)

Step Four- Memorize a Key verse from Your Study

Along with College I have also been placed in doing the video production at AFC along side with John Weston, Matt Harris, and Becky Weston. We have done the Teen Pie Auction video along with the District video and Tabitha's Testimony video. We are planning on doing a lot more soon.

As an assistant to Pastor Wayne I preach in his absence. I have been preaching for the past couple of months on and off due to him being out of town and then getting terribly ill. I have also filled in on Sunday nights for the Traditional Service along with preaching at Town Village on several occasions.

We are looking forward to a great year. We have laid some strong foundational work in preparation for the future of our ministry here at AFC. I appreciate the love and support of wonderful wife, Lauren. She has been my partner in ministry.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Ryan

March 2010

Dear Arlington First Church Family

It has been my privilege to serve as the board secretary for the 2009-2010 Ministry Team Leaders (MTLs). Under the leadership of Pastor Wayne Hicks, your Ministry Team Leaders were Dianna Branigan, Bruce Dodds, Dana Forrester, Nathan Guilford, Rick Kosdrosky, Ted Legatski, Chris Thorpe, Pat Turvan, Becky Weston and T. Williams.

The new Board (MTLs) structure encourages more overlapping of responsibility. Through that cooperative interaction, each Ministry Team Leader dedicated themselves to reaching and serving our church family and community through their various ministries. As you review each of their reports, you will learn of the efforts and successes in each area of service.

This past year has not been without its challenges. Our Church Family has been impacted by death, illness, job loss, building issues, families moving away, and a changing economy, just to mention a few. These concerns have been lifted in prayer by your Ministry Team Leaders. Every Board meeting is opened in prayer and praise, and you are a congregation covered by prayer. We also understand that God has a purpose for us at this location and we prayed for His continued direction at every meeting. Please keep your ministry leaders in prayer!

It has been a privilege to serve as a Ministry Team Leader and the church board secretary. God's faithfulness has been so evident this past year. May we be steadfast in our commitment and service to Him.

Respectfully submitted

Dana Forrester
Ministry Team Leaders
Board Secretary

March 28, 2010

Dear Church Family:

Thank you for your support and prayer during my first year to be in Cross Training leadership.

First of all, I want to thank those of you who are dedicated to your calling as teachers. You faithfully prepare and teach the lesson each week and stay in close contact with your class members. I thank the Lord for you and pray that you will continue to give your faithful service to the church.

The Cross Training Board has seen a great need this year for a pool of substitute teachers and we pray many of you will volunteer to Ted Legatski, who is our new Cross Training Ministry Leader for 2010-2011. Don't wait to be asked! We need you!

We continue to have four LIFE groups that meet each week, financial classes, various Bible studies, and parenting classes available to assist our congregation in Biblical learning and relationships. Please take advantage of these opportunities so that you may learn and grow in your knowledge of Christ and in relationships with fellow believers.

As Ted Legatski takes the responsibility for this important area of ministry in our church, it is my prayer that you will not only support him, but that each of you will reflect on the impact that the Sunday morning teaching hour prior to worship (Sunday School) had on your life as you were growing up and commit to faithful attendance for you and your children. Also, don't forget to invite friends and neighbors. You're missing out on a blessing when you miss your CT class.

**God Bless you,
Dianna Branigan
Cross Training Superintendent
Arlington First Church of the Nazarene**



March 30, 2010

Greetings:

I have just finished my second year as NMI President, and I am still learning more and more things about NMI. I know that we had a good year, and will share the good news later.

First, I would like to thank the following people: Naomi Bell, Gerry Causa, Dan & Karen Davidson, Christa Nguyen, Frankie & Jennifer Orozco, Amy Spieglemyer, Ian Weston, Kay Wheatley. Without the help of these people, we would not have been able to have as good of a year as we did.

What happened in Missions last year you ask. Well let me tell you. As a Church, we sent 162 Crisis Care Kits, 50 School Pal-paks, gave David & Sylvia Potter a deputation offering of \$1,500, hosted an NMI Rally and gave a food pounding and \$650 to our 9 Hispanic Ministries on the West Texas District. Our teens regularly minister to the Homeless in Fort Worth, raised over \$800 in the 30-hour Famine for Nazarene Compassionate Ministries, and went to South Texas to work and witness to victims of Hurricane Ike.

During the year, you gave the following to Missions:

- ❖ World Evangelism Fund.....\$47,022.00
- ❖ Alabaster \$1,689.32
- ❖ World Missions Broadcast..... \$2,350.00
- ❖ Compassionate Ministries..... \$6,569.00
- ❖ Children's Ministry Project..... ..\$1,392.71

Thank you for all your hard work and prayers

As we go through the new church year, I am sure God has a great plan for us and I ask for your prayers for the NMI Council and all the Missions around the world.

In His Service
Bruce Dodds
NMI President

FOLLOW-UP AND HOSPITALITY MINISTRY

2009-2010 ANNUAL REPORT

Ministry Team Leader: Ted Legatski
Ministry Team: Diane Branigan
Gary Branigan
Marlene Legatski

The goal of the Follow-up and Hospitality ministry is to develop strong ties among the Arlington First Church family so that people don't "slip through the cracks." Our inspiration comes from Ecclesiastes 4:9-12.

Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their work: If one falls down, his friend can help him up. But pity the man who falls and has no one to help him up! Also, if two lie down together, they will keep warm. But how can one keep warm alone? Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken.

All of us need the prayers, encouragement, and love of our brothers and sisters in Christ. Jesus, Himself, told us that others would know us by the love we have for one another. Therefore, our ministry is simple and is best expressed in the words of the old hymn:

*Blessed be the tie that binds
Our hearts in Christian love;
The fellowship of kindred minds
Is like that to that above.
We share each other's woes,
Our mutual burdens bear;*

Arlington First Church is blessed with many members who faithfully and effectively minister in the areas of follow-up and hospitality. Among these ministries are follow-up visitation with visitors, the cookie ministry, Sunday Welcome Luncheon, Sunday morning greeters, visiting shut-ins, sending birthday and anniversary cards, and many others. Each of these ministries was in place before this ministry team was formed. By comparison with most other churches of similar size, Arlington First Church has more programs and more effective programs in follow-up and hospitality.

There, of course, is always room for improvements or adjustments that may increase the effectiveness of our ministry efforts. This past year has been, to be brutally honest in love, frustrating.

Many of the innovations from last year have proven successful and are still in place. These include:

- Revised registration cards for major events such as Family Festival in the summer and the Fall Festival in order to obtain more information on visitors, and to register visitors by family.
- Continuing minor revisions to the Sunday Welcome Luncheon (Visitor's Luncheon) on the first Sunday of each month in order to streamline the process.

The primary new initiative for 2009-2010 was the development of a church directory that listed all members and regular attendees by neighborhood. This effort had several objectives, including:

- Establishing neighborhood-based follow-up and hospitality procedures that would identify one or more follow-up leaders in each neighborhood. Visitors could then be assigned to and visited by church members who were, in fact, neighbors.
- Facilitating the formation of new Life Groups based on residential clusters, which should make it easier to invite newcomers to join in.
- Facilitating the formation of neighborhood groups, similar to the Tribes of past years, which could host special events, such as block parties or quarterly gatherings, which would help introduce

members to each other who might otherwise just be “another face on Sunday morning,” thereby making friends of “familiar strangers.”

The frustrations for this past year include:

- While we praise God for the continuing faithfulness of so many folks in their various individual ministries, such as those listed earlier, it was extremely difficult to find individuals willing to serve on a ministry team to help coordinate the various follow-up ministries or develop new ideas.
- After a very successful first year for the Sunday Lunch Bunch, which grew to the point that we needed to split into two groups, participation dwindled until we really had no choice but to discontinue the initiative.
- While the neighborhood directory was successfully developed, we were unable to recruit neighborhood follow-up leaders in more than just a few neighborhoods.

Recommendations for the coming year include:

- Our most important recommendation is to enlist new team members who can bring fresh ideas, enthusiasm, energy, and commitment to the follow-up and hospitality ministries.
- Continue to pursue the neighborhood initiative.
- Provide church-wide recognition for those who continue to faithfully minister through the various elements of the follow-up and hospitality ministries.

Respectfully submitted,

Ted Legatski

Evangelism Committee Report
Arlington First Church of the Nazarene
2009 --- 2010

Many people seek to establish a relationship with the Lord for the first time when they are faced with difficulties that they are unable to handle by themselves. There is a song that says, "If I never had a problem, I wouldn't know that God could solve them," and this is still true today. We are looking for opportunities to reach out to those who are open to hearing the Truth and are pursuing many avenues to find them. The Bible says "By all means save some." Our church continues to reach out to our family, friends, and neighbors to tell them about the love of Jesus and how He can change their lives.

One of our activities was that about 35 adults and teens handed out free bottles of cold water that were labeled with our church's name and address on them to people in parks, businesses, and on the street. This was on a day last summer when the temperature was well over 100 degrees. We also had several free car washes and were able to tell people it was our way of passing on God's love for them as we declined their donations.

We are grateful to Frankie Orozco and for his able leadership and dedication to seeing people won to Christ. Gary Branigan, Marlene Legatski, John Bryan, Sam Turvan, and Marcia Nikl rounded out our committee. Many others, including several teens, contributed lots of hard work and many good ideas for our activities.

There are as many ways of building bridges of friendship with those around us as there are people. Please join us in becoming bridge builders for the kingdom of God. He is still on the throne.

In Him,

Pat Turvan

MTL END OF YEAR REPORT OUTREACH & COMPASSIONATE MINISTRIES

The Outreach and Compassionate Ministries Team consisted of me, Randy Marquis, Ian McVea and Carrie Smith along with countless other people who made each event possible and a success. We met as a committee 3 times and several other times with other committees to assist in all church activities.

This year we successfully participated in the Arlington Fourth of July Parade, Family ministries camp, Summer Ministries Opportunity, sponsored a school supply drive, helped with Family Fun Fest, Served at the Arlington Life Shelter every other month, helped with the Fall Family Festival, and had a float in the Arlington Christmas Parade.

Carrie Smith and I attended the LeadNow seminar in Irving, Texas which provided several workshops that introduced us to new and innovative ways to touch our church and community.

Martha Tarrant is now the coordinator of our "Kids Konnection" adoption program. She is doing a terrific job.

Respectfully submitted,

Becky Weston

Local Compassionate Ministries Report
2009-2010

Last year as I took the position on the Board as a chairperson for Local Compassionate Ministries, I was new at this. I have always enjoyed helping people. I receive a blessing just to be there when needed.

I did not have a regular committee, but Gerry Causa and Dean Walker usually worked close with me. However, the ladies in the church are always there when needed to help in any way.

This new church year, I plan to improve on reaching the people more, not just in crisis, but let them know when they come across my mind by sending a card or just a phone call.

Dianna Branigan was my mentor this past year since I was new to the board. My goal is to work closely with Dianna in reaching out to the people and in helping set up new programs to help others.

Not only did I go through hurt and grief in the last 18 months, I pray that I was able to help the ones that have gone through this in the 2009-2010 church year.

I have learned a lot this past year and pray that I will improve, as there were times I did not feel worth. I thank God for His love and mercy.

Yours in Christ,

T. Williams

Annual Report for the Kid's Konnection
2009-2010

We are four years and growing! Our numbers are the largest they have been since we opened. We have found that our families are referring to their friends and that's the best advertising ever. We also are receiving families that have been referred by other Preschool Directors from other churches.

Martha Tarrant is our new assistant director and we couldn't be more pleased. She has a high energy level and new ideas for us to try out. Martha and I attend the Arlington Preschool Directors meetings and have made friends and learned a lot from other directors. This year I have been asked to sit on the advisory board for the Arlington Alliance of Early Childhood Professionals. I am honored to represent the faith-based preschools.

These are the numbers as of this date:

Infant - 9 and 2 pre registered

Transition - 5

Ones - 5

Twos - 13

Threes - 12

Fours (PreK) - 8

Total - 54

Staff - Director, Assistant Director and 13 Preschool teachers

This year we were blessed to receive grant money for our Infant and Toddler rooms. The grant was received from Child Care Management Systems after we sent a letter telling them how our children would benefit from the money and how we would spend it. We now have \$4500.00 worth of new equipment and toys.

This year we added Stretch-n-Grow for our children each Tuesday. We still offer vision and hearing screening for our 4 and 5 year olds. D'Sjoir Brown will be our screener this year, and she will be licensed by the state of Texas.

At this time we are taking a survey to see if we have enough interest in a summer program for children K thru 3rd grade. That class would meet in room 17 or in the Children's Church depending on the numbers. Those rooms already are approved by the state for our use. This group would have weekly field trips that would require the church van being scheduled between summer camps.

We are still looking forward to having a computer room set up in #17. This would add a lot to our program. We hope to soon have a weekly reader that will come in to read to our children. Naomi Bell had asked if she could do this. Our Spanish teacher is no longer here but we think that we might have a volunteer from the church that would do this.

Fundraisers have not done well this year. We will be trying 2 this spring and summer. One will be the Kid's Konnection T-shirt, and the other CiCi's Pizza kits.

We grow prouder every year of our program, and every year we can offer more to the children. We have loyal teachers that have been with us since the beginning and have added great teachers along the way. We hope to remain an important ministry of this church.

Respectfully submitted,
Sandra Sanders, Preschool Director



Properties Committee - Annual Report Church Year 2009 – 2010

To Pastor Wayne Hicks, MTL Board, Church Staff, and Church Family,

Have you ever stopped to think what it takes to manage church property?

A guest's first impression starts from the street and ends when leaving the drive. Upon arrival, a guest should see availability of guest parking, parking lot and door greeters, a friendly welcome center, and signs showing the way to different areas outside and inside the church. Facilities should be accommodating to all ages – from babies to the elderly. The last impression should be a clean and well-kept church facility.

The Properties Committee oversees major issues such as custodial service, lawn care service, sprinkler systems, air conditioning and heating, electrical and plumbing needs, carpentry, carpet cleaning, building usage accommodations, safety and security, insurance coverage, repairs to the building and equipment, vehicles, ordering building supplies (paper goods and cleaners), parking lot care, interior and exterior lighting, furniture, and the list goes on. The cost to operate and maintain all this “stuff” can be overwhelming. That is why the church relies on volunteers or persons who are expertise in these areas.

Church members should be cost-conscious. Caring for the church should be no different. Individuals who have attended the Crown Financial Ministries and Financial Peace University financial classes should know that money that the church can save means more money going to church ministries and programs. So, if you are called upon to offer your services, consider the call a financial ministry and step forward to support the church.

Another big item in the church is waste. I would guess that the church buys more and more of the same non-consumable items because something could not be located, and something was “borrowed” and not returned, so the church must buy another one or more. I would promote a centralized purchasing, disbursement and accountability system. We all must be good stewards in the care and use of the church building, equipment and supplies.

And finally, another endearing topic is how to find more storage space. Overcoming “storage room gluttony” is the first step. Storage gluttony begins innocently. For almost four years, the church second floor has become the “dumping place” for items no longer needed or broken. Church and ministry leaders should evaluate items they consider to be of no further use in their specific ministry. Either donate these items to another organization or mark for the future Properties sales. Items that are broken should be taken to the trash dumpster. The ultimate question: Will this item really be used again?

In closing, how would Jesus want you to handle what has been entrusted to the church?

Respectfully submitted,

Naomi E. Dodds



Annual Report 2009 - 2010

Everything that is done and said as a part of Arlington First Church of the Nazarene Circle of Sisters is to bring honor and glory to God. God is so wonderful to our ladies, and we praise Him for His goodness and mercy.

How exciting it was to have our twenty-ninth annual Ladies' Retreat in February at Camp Hoblitzelle in Midlothian, Texas. Marli Brown was our guest speaker. A huge thank you to Marli for letting God use her to minister to us. Marli and Randy Brown led us with their ministry in music. This was a beautiful weekend of fun, friendship, sharing and worship of our Lord and Savior. Our retreat committee worked many hours to help with the success of this retreat. I want to express my thanks to each of these ladies for sharing their leadership skills with the women in our church.

"Becoming a Reflection" was the theme for the retreat. What a wonderful time we had in God's presence. At the end of the Sunday morning service the ladies chose a mirror on which to write a concern or sin. They took their mirror to the altar where Marli Brown, Marci Marquis, and Marcia Nikl prayed with each lady a prayer of surrender of this concern or sin. The mirrors were wiped clean as the ladies were reminded that God erases our sins and concerns, and that the concern or sin are removed from us by God - unless we pick it/them up again.

Each year at the retreat the ladies are given their "word" for the year. We pray before the retreat that each lady will receive the word meant for them. It is always exciting to see how God places the right word in each lady's hand for the "word" is chosen at random. This year it was attached to the back of their mirror. Thank you to Mary Loewen for prayerfully preparing the words for us again this year.

Now for my advertisement for the 2010-2011 fiscal year of the Circle of Sisters: "Our 30th Annual Ladies' Retreat is scheduled for February 18-20, 2010. Don't miss this opportunity to retreat into God's presence with your "Circle of Sisters".

Respectfully submitted,

J. Sue Smith
Circle of Sisters (Women's Ministry) Director

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