

Annual Report 2013 CUMC Youth and Family

Our youth and family ministries in 2013 had an excellent year. We were able to set a successful pattern of team-oriented leadership with our adult leadership. This plan does a couple of things; we have both our JHYF (Jr. High) and SHYFt (Sr. high) at the same time which cuts down on family travel time, we have different voices teaching and leading discussion which cuts down on boredom, and we train other adults with leadership skills to use those gifts in the youth ministry. Overall, the students enjoy the team approach and get excited about one of our leaders taking a new leadership role at times.

Faith4Life groups have grown and have even been a venue by which new families can join Community UMC. Our Faith4Life groups meet in the homes of churchgoers with an open invitation to anyone wanting to investigate their faith. We still have work to do here but we are on a good path.

We worked this year to join Youth ministries to Mission team in order to create more awareness and unity in the arena of Youth Missions Trips. This collaboration should allow more financial help on future trips and raise church awareness of all the great things that go on with the youth ministries. With that in mind, our youth worked with Roseland Christian Ministries on the South Side of Chicago with their homes renewal program. We worked on the homes of low income families to help them stay in their homes. We also worked on a homeless shelter owned by RCM that will be used to train and equip homeless women to free them of poverty and dependence.

For 2013-2014, we are working on ways to better communicate with parents and students, building student leadership, and giving opportunities for students to witness.

Prepared by the Director of Youth and Family Ministries

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