

MEMBERSHIP CARE REPORT

BEVAN SYLVESTER

New member's orientation

There were three DNA mornings held in 2019 (February, May and August). These were attended by 21 people 19 of whom joined as UNITED members.

Shape

There were 2 SHAPE mornings held in 2019. Attendances were low, but results were seen when 4 new folk joined ministry groups in the church and/or a Life Group.

Development

During Lent we held teaching sessions based on the four Gospels focussing on each account of the death and resurrection of Jesus. These were well attended with people learning new insights about the Gospels and fresh understandings of the Easter story.

Over 6 weeks in June and July, George and I facilitated informed discussions regarding the nature of a Missional Church. These were attended by 60+ people every week with some lively dialogue between participants. One session was facilitated by a guest speaker (Dr. Siegfried Ngubane) who brought a different and helpful perspective.

Prayer groups

There are two prayer groups that meet on a weekly basis (Monday mornings and Thursday afternoons). The Monday one is small and focuses on the life of the congregation and its members whereas the Thursday group is bigger, covers more diverse needs including praying for those who attend and their families.

Another prayer group meets before the services on Sundays and there is also the prayer ministry group available after all the services to minister and pray with those who have a need.

A prayer vigil was held in July and members came into the Church in half hour slots to pray for our church and community. A "boiler room" prayer experience was put on in October before being cut short by the fire.

VIP teas

The VIP Team serves a group of elderly folk (75 and up) of up to 30 on a Monday morning once a month. The team works very hard to make these mornings special with themed décor and entertainment. At times the liturgical year is followed (Easter and Christmas) and periodically themes are followed e.g. Spring and Valentine's Day.

Hospital visitation team

The Hospital Visitation Team consists of 12 committed members who make sure that those in hospital are visited once a day during their stay in hospital. Meetings are held twice a year to deal with some admin and other business, but also for fellowship and prayer.

Thank you to Cheryl De Beer (Facilitator) and the team members for their dedication and willingness.

Pastoral care team

The Pastoral Care Team consists of 11 members and care for folk who are home-bound, frail, lonely, sad and in need of comfort and friendship. This group meet every six weeks to discuss the work and report.

Thank you to Graeme Bamford (Facilitator) and the team for all their hard work.

Music ministry

The Music Ministry continues every Thursday and Sunday. We were blessed with a new addition in Sascha Marchinkowski who sings and play the piano. Rosemary Gray has also stepped in at times leading and singing.

At our 8:00 services, a new part-time organist started – Felicity Weber. She play for us 4 times a month (Two Sundays and two Thursdays). The other 8:00 services are covered by our long-standing organist, Anneke Neethling and Rosemary Gray.

Fundraising

2019 was a good year as far as fundraising is concerned. There were several events which proved to be huge successes. These were the events for 2019:

- Burger Evening: 28 February
- Easter in Music and Song: 31 March, 7 April and 14 April
- Soup, song and sherry: 12 June
- Stellenbosch Libertas Choir: 15 September
- Food, fun and family Festival: 5 October
- Christmas in Music and Song: 8 and 9 December

These fundraising events raised R165 000 over the 12 month period.

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