

## Wood County Area Ministries Minutes

Date: November 4, 2010

Location: St. Mark's Lutheran Church

Attendance: Norm Almanson, Dayspring Assembly of God  
Judy Long, First Presbyterian  
Erin Hachtel, First United Methodist Church  
Denise Foos, St. Aloysius  
Don Neifer, St. Mark's Lutheran Church  
Jaci Tiell, St. Mark's Lutheran Church  
Wib Miller, St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Christian Food Pantry  
Mary Jane Fulcher, St. Thomas University Parish  
Bob Barr, Salvation Army

### Reports on Ministries:

Wib reported that the Christian Food Pantry expects to receive many donations of food in November and December. The Gleaners gleaned and delivered a large of cabbages and it is being stored in the shed at the Christian Food Pantry.

Bob Barr reported that Salvation Army is in need of bell ringers and also coats. They have received 120 coats and they need 200 new or reasonably clean coats. Also Bob reported that applications are currently being accepted for Christmas assistance. Please encourage people to apply early. Thanksgiving assistance is given to very needy families, if possible.

Judy, reported that the Deaconess Shop at 1<sup>st</sup> Presbyterian Church is doing well and brochures are available. Judy also announced about an opportunity to join the Gleaners on Saturday.

Norm reported that Dayspring is planning to ask for food donations for anyone attending the Christmas Performance at the church the first two weekends of December. The church members are also participating in Operation Christmas Child.

Mary Jane reported on the St. Thomas More food Pantry which is struggling to meet the increased food needs of the people in the community.

Don reported that the St. Mark's Furniture Ministry is currently in need of furniture. They are currently out of furniture. They offer free pickup and delivery of furniture on Tuesdays. Don also reported that the Wednesday night drop in dinner is attracting between 90 and 100 people.

Denise Foos presented the WAM Financial Report. . The current balance is \$33.52. In the first 20 days of October \$1,798.31 was distributed to 7 families. The assistance was provided for rent (4 families), utilities (2 families) and auto parts (1 family).

Erin Hachtel will again contact Bill Ryan at the Sentinel Tribune about having an article about WAM published on the Religion page in order to get the word out about the work of WAM and also to encourage other congregations to join in the joint out reach effort to better meet the needs of the poor in our community.

Erin has a new E mail address [erin.hachtel@funbc.org](mailto:erin.hachtel@funbc.org)

Erin reminded everyone of the upcoming Just Neighbors Program that will be held on November 12<sup>th</sup> at the First United Methodist Church.

A discussion was held about WAM sponsoring a “Feed the 5000”, “Divine Food” food drive during Lent. The idea would be to collect one type of food at all of the member churches and distribute the food to the Wood County area food pantries. It was suggested that we talk to Pastor Gary Sanders at First Presbyterian about this program possibility. The Christian Food Pantry in Perrysburg collects tuna during lent.

Another possibility for a new WAM program would be to work with Wood County Hospital on a Prescription Assistance Program. Erin Hachtel will follow up with the Wood County hospital. Fisher Titus Hospital in Norwalk has such a program and it is very helpful to people in the community.

Bob Barr talked about a 6 hour program, “Light in the Darkness” that is a good overview of the needs of the poor, including children and seniors. Bob would like to offer this program and is seeking a church to host the event.

It was decided by the group to not have a December meeting. The next meeting will be on January 6, 2011 at 4:00 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church.

**Food Pantry Reports Submitted**

<b>Households</b>	<b>Children</b>	<b>Adults</b>	<b>Seniors</b>	<b>Total</b>	
68	69	111	9	189	<b>November</b>
72	106	121	13	240	<b>St. Al's food Pantry</b>
					<b>STM Food Pantry</b>
					<b>December</b>
90	103	137	14	254	<b>St, Al's Food Pantry</b>
69	68	124	13	205	<b>STM Food Pantry</b>

Respectfully submitted, Mary Jane Fulcher