

## **OSLC Mini-Grant Renewal Awards**

### **April 1, 2009**

#### **The Worship and Music Renewal mini-grant includes three proposals:**

- Music that Makes our Hearts Sing: finding new music for the OSLC Choir

*Liese Shewmaker and Joanna Nelson*

- OSLC Ensemble *Chip Baldwin*

- Worshipping into the Future

*April Boyle, Meredith Boyle, Kristin Fredrickson, Steve Boyle*

Each proposal desires to enrich the worship life of our church through music. One will focus on choir music, one on music for brass, and one on contemporary liturgical music.

*Liese Shewmaker, Joanna Nelson, Chip Baldwin, April Boyle*

#### **Mini Grant for Lay Ministry to the Congregation of OSLC**

The goal of my Lay Ministry Mini Grant is to assist with the pastoral care by ministering to members of OSLC. Ministry is an act performed in Christ's name. It is not something that we do solely on our own, but something Christ does in us, through us, and with us. I will hopefully extend a ministry of caring in conjunction with our pastors, and at this time of their sabbatical, I will be working with Pastor Greg Marshall. I envision my lay ministry taking the form of visitations to the ill or to those with other needs. I will be using the Mini Grant funds to further my education by building on my EFM education, possibly through the NE Synod School of Lay Ministry or the DHMC Chaplaincy Program in Clinical Pastoral Education.

*Wendy Manganiello*

#### **Salvation Builders Project Trailer**

The Salvation Builders plan to construct a project trailer on the frame of the church's existing, unused utility trailer. The trailer will be used for hauling materials and tools to various construction projects such as COVER, Habitat for Humanity, church projects and work that we do for members and friends. Our design will enable full sheets of plywood, sheetrock and other material to be put on and off the bed while tools, ladders and other materials are held secure. The trailer can also be used to haul gardening materials and lawn equipment, and will be light enough to be towed by a small SUV (Honda SRV, Subaru Forester, Toyota RAV4).

*John Erickson et al*

#### **Preparing the Soil for the Seeds of God's Call**

How do our friendships and community sustain us in soulful living? How do we shape relationships that help us to be accountable to God's call in our life? How might we develop small groups that support our call?

Doug Wysockey-Johnson of "Lumunos", based in Burlington, will visit us for a Saturday. The morning portion will be a talk on relationships that sustain a meaningful life. After lunch, a silent reflective afternoon session will be held for those who would like to stay.

*Linda and Doug Davies*

## **Green Team Feedback Screen**

Our basic project is to install, within OSLC, a feedback mechanism for controllable congregational energy use in the OSLC space that wall can view, enjoy, and from which was all can learn. Over the past year, Dartmouth has begun to use a similar project. When energy use is good, the polar bear pictured is happy. When energy use is poor, the bear's habitat suffers. This is appealing for all ages and an opportunity for further related education. For the chart and graph-minded there is real-time hard data as well. The hope is that with simple behavioral change, people can reduce energy consumption and cost by 15% on average. It will help us renew our ethics, our environment, and our community, and will involve the Dartmouth community in our project (campus ministry).

*The OSLC Green Team (esp. Kurt Nelson, Hans Mueller, vEnessa Acham, Bernie du Breuil); NH Interfaith Power and Light; Lorie Loeb (Dartmouth Computer Science); Matt Christie (Dartmouth College Grad Student)*

## **Mrs. Regina Stanhope: An Oral History**

Reggie possesses a unique historical perspective on Our Savior Lutheran Church. She is the most-rooted member of OSLC. She was among the founders of our church and has known every pastor who has ever served our congregation. We cannot fully know where we are and where we may be tending without an understanding of where we came from. Reggie certainly can educate us about our evangelical roots. Thus, I plan to conduct a series of oral interview with Reggie and to record her historical memories of the congregation's founding and other important events. I will then compile a written account of the most important of her memories and make the account available to members of OSLC. That possibly could be followed with a Cana Hall conversation with Reggie or some other appropriate event. If anyone could loan me a good quality voice recorder, I will put it to good use.

*Kenneth Shewmaker*

## **Blue Kid Group Tubulum**

Blue Kid Group Tubulum project is to engage adults and kids in the construction and enjoyment of a fun, easy-to-play, and ultimately useful musical instrument called a "tubulum." Once constructed, the tubulum will be integrated into the Sunday School children's music program, including the kids' monthly presentation during worship, and for general enjoyment and playful use by the kids. Construction of the instrument will involve our men's group in an activity that benefits the kids, and the kids in a project that they can be proud of and use to develop basic musical skills.

*John Erickson*

## **Church Sharing Garden**

We will prepare, plant and harvest a garden. The theme of these mini-grants is "What makes your heart sing?" What makes my heart sing is the formation of strong relationships and community. As Christians we should be asking what we can do for others. These two things are key to making my heart sing. Through growing this garden we can form stronger bonds within our church community and we can help provide something (nourishment in the form of food or friendship) for people in and out of our congregation who might need it. Plans include involvement of children, harvest and storage evenings, a pizza party using the outdoor oven with toppings from the garden (maybe for the Students Fighting Hunger meal), and an outdoor tea hour (instead of coffee hour) outside by the garden.

*Jill Erickson*

## **Church Library Outreach: Book Cart**

Sharing materials appropriate for festivals and celebrations during the church year, as well as devotional, biblical and educational materials is the purpose of this project. A Book Cart will enable this, containing some of the many materials available, including current books for adults and children, as well as classics. These materials would then be accessible in Cana Hall and/or the Narthex and religious education rooms.

*Inger McEwen*

## **OSLC 2015 – Developing a Strategic Plan for OSLC**

Given its current demographic, the declining church attendance seen in New England especially among the faithful who identify with one faith, and other demands of an economically and time-challenged community, OSLC's future viability requires forethought. In short, we're living in the present without planning for the future. This project uses a small sum as seed money to gather the background information from which a strategic plan can be developed. We will review other church projects in the area, develop a sample "Survey Monkey" to find out what our congregation, community, prospective members and college students are looking for, and to consider better ways to market our message. Working with the pastors when they return and the church council, we hope to provide the tools that will lead to a strategic vision for OSLC to present to the congregation in January 2010.

*Jim Geiling, Deb Beaupre, Paul Batalden, Jim and Ann Heimarck, Krista Lampe, Dale Penny*

## **Youth/Family "Reconnect" Weekend (Rev. Brooks Patti visit)**

The Rev. J. Brooks Patti, Minister of Youth and Education at First Baptist Church in Washington, NC, will facilitate a weekend of activities for the community (centered around but not limited to OSLC) focused on engaging youth in the church. The activities are designed to develop trust, understanding and fellowship amongst the youth, their families and the church community, and to help them find their way in fulfilling the purposes of the church: Worship, Fellowship, Ministry, Evangelism, and Discipleship. The weekend ends with Rev. Patti (aka "Brooks") joining OSLC in Sunday worship, delivering a message from Mark 9:2-9. "Seeing Jesus in a Whole New Light."

*John Erickson*

## **Joining Places with Pen and Paper – Singing Hearts for Reading Eyes**

This is a workshop for the congregation that offers the opportunity to explore the land on which the church is built with all of our senses and to transform what we learn into writing. Writing prose, poetry, lyrics, or other kinds of texts is a great way to connect intensively to place as well as to each other as we work to express our experiences in words. Letting others hear our hearts sing in the words that we write (and publish in a little brochure) will surely be a beautiful contribution to our great Sabbatical Summer of celebration. There will be three group meetings, a publication, and perhaps a reading event on site.

*Anja Stuckenberger*

## **Family History Workshop**

This is a two-part workshop in which participants will first meet to learn general strategies and resources for genealogical research. They will see examples of family trees and other projects (scrapbook pages, memory boxes, gifts) for inspiration. We'll learn the basics of using ancestry.com, Genweb.com, and other online genealogy sites. A few computers and printers will be provided. Participants will receive a written guide, family tree templates and a one-month online pass to do their own independent research. About one month later, the group will re-convene to share what we've gathered. We'll get and give feedback about each other's projects, and work on the details. Craft supplies and gift-quality family tree posters will be available, as well as photo printers/scanners to incorporate heirloom photos. Most importantly, we'll share family stories among each other, and decide how we'd like to display our projects for the entire congregation to enjoy. The first session will take place mid-July and the second mid-August. Sign-up and more information will be announced in June.

*Anne M. Johnson, MD*