

VISION 2012

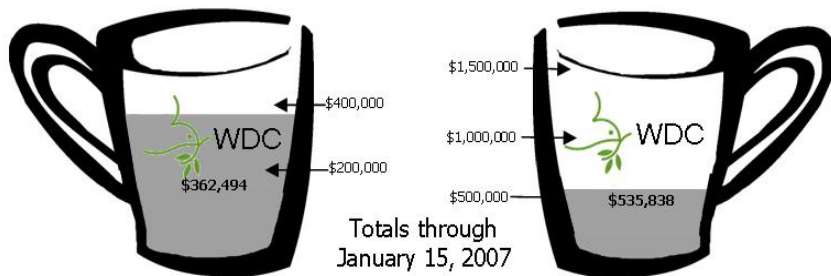
These are the days when the Vision 2012 letters of intent fill my mailbox. I sign each letter of thank you with a prayer of thanksgiving! There is "harvest" happening as we receive the blessings of people's faithful living and giving. Also, as I visit churches, I see evidence of Vision 2012.

The children's story at First Mennonite Church, Hillsboro, KS on November 19 was part of an entire worship emphasis on unity in the church and the gift of giving with a sermon by Keith Harder (congregational promoter for FMC) and some sharing by me about Vision 2012. Judy Harder invited the children to the front, arranging them for a picture! But adults gathered as well - one with a nurse's bag, another with a soup pot and ladle, another with binoculars, another writing a check, another with pillow, another with dirty river shoes! It seems that we were witnessing a "pretend" last day of camp with a photo to remember camper friends and all of the adults who had helped with leadership, food, activities during this week at Camp Mennoscah. Finally, I was invited to join the photo of this example of how WDC supports faith formation with camp. Fun!

-Dorothy Nickel Friesen, WDC Conference Minister

2006 Annual Budget
Congregational Goal: \$485,022

Vision 2012
3 year Goal: \$1,500,000



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February 2007

Youth ministry is...



teaching...



singing...



playing...



witnessing...



eating!

Meet some of the pastors of WDC youth:



Alan Stucky
Buhler Mennonite
Church, KS



Todd Lehman
First and Trinity
Mennonite Churches
Hillsboro, KS



Sara Dick
Shalom Mennonite
Church
Newton, KS



Each month, the Kansas-based youth ministers gather for conversation, discussion, planning, fellowship, support, resourcing, and then end with prayers of blessing for each other.



Amy Barker
Bethel College
Campus Pastor



Joel Schroeder
First Mennonite Church
Newton, KS



Brett Klingenberg
Grace Hill
Mennonite Church
Whitewater, KS



Hugo Saucedo (right), Texas-based Conference Youth Minister for Western District Conference and South Central Conference (1/2 time). Hugo was recently honored for his other 1/2 time as director of the DOOR program in San Antonio. Congratulations!

Excitement in Texas

"The most encouraging thing for me is the growth of leadership in the Dallas-area youth. Late last fall, two young people said they wanted to come together as one youth group instead of a bunch of little groups doing their own thing. They went to their pastors and asked for support to start a once-a-month youth worship service. The pastors were compelled--and very supportive.

In November, December and January, there have been two-hour worship services consisting of an opening prayer, an hour of worship and praise music by many talented musicians, a sermon by a youth, and a closing prayer. The adults (including me) have been supportive with helping with arrangements, prayer and just 'being there'. Youth are now asking for more training in evangelism, outreach, and leadership. It's growing and it's exciting. The worship service is very energetic and will be hosted on a rotating basis among the eight churches (including church plants) in Dallas.

The Texas Youth Ministry leadership committee consists of youth from about seven countries (Nicaragua, El Salvador, Colombia, Mexico, Argentina, Guatemala, USA) and it's dynamic. They want to learn the Jesus way--now!"

- Hugo Saucedo