

ESL MINISTRY

The ESL Ministry finished its 15th year! Three volunteers and three interns offered 30 weeks of classes/60 classes/90 hours of instruction. Approximately 45-50 students were served in two classes (Beginner and Intermediate.) We are always looking for more volunteers to engage in conversation with our students! Contact : QueensESL@gmail.com



Safe Families for Children

Early in 2016, after learning about a new ministry in NYC, ACC decided to partner with Safe Families for Children (SFFC). SFFC is a volunteer-driven ministry with the goal of keeping kids safe and families intact. The parents that we aim to serve are often overwhelmed by their circumstances and socially isolated. ACC hopes to become their community as we form extended family-like relationships. Volunteers seek to empower, encourage, and strengthen families through mutually beneficial relationships.

Twelve adults and two children have received the CORE training, 1 as a Family Coach, 6 as Host Families and 7 as Family Friends.

On Nov 20, 2016 we offered an informational session with 24 adults and 4 children in attendance. We hope more will be trained in 2017 and that God will send our first family to befriend and support.

BIBLE CLUB

Inspired and challenged by Randy Nabors and New City Fellowship Church, in October the Outreach Team launched a weekly Bible Club at the Variety Boys and Girls Club on Tuesdays from 7-7:30PM. 38 children have attended at least once and 11 volunteers have worked as a team to present the Gospel, lead songs and games and provide snacks. We plan to continue through the academic year. We consider it an honor to be able to share the Good News of Jesus to children who are in need of a Savior.



Our very own Pastor David and Laura Kaufmann leading a song at Bible Club!

TUTORING

Since November 2015, we have been tutoring students at the Boys and Girls Club on Tuesdays from 5-7PM. We have helped 11 students (both past and current) and currently have 5 active tutors. We help with homework and test prep and are building relationships with the children and their parents. One family has begun attending worship at ACC on Sundays.

Astoria Community Church

OUTREACH AND MERCY MINISTRY 2016 YEAR IN REVIEW



ACC tutors, students, and parents at the Boys and Girls Club

OUTREACH AND MERCY MINISTRY TEAM

Co-chairs: Andrea Mungo and Laura Kaufmann

Committee: Heidi Kaufmann and Linnea Kickasola

Outreach Contact:

volunteer@astoriachurch.org

Mercy Ministry Contact:

mercyministry@astoriachurch.org

OUTREACH MINISTRIES AND MERCY MINISTRY TEAM—2016 YEAR IN REVIEW

In January 2016 the Session asked the Outreach Team (formerly Neighborhood Justice and Mercy Ministry) to oversee the Mercy Team Ministry on an interim basis in partnership with an Elder. We holistically assisted five individuals and families with a variety of needs.

Following a season of prayer as a church community, the Session approved the formation of an integrated Diaconate - Outreach, Mercy Carework, and Helps.

Nominations for Deacons and Deaconesses were taken in October and a group of 11 nominees began training in December 2016. We hope to vote in our first team of Deacons and Deaconesses in mid 2017.



Our beloved Nancy went to be with our Savior on November 8, 2016

HOURLY CHILDREN FOOD PANTRY

We finished our third full year of serving at the food pantry. Nine adults and 6 children regularly volunteer on a monthly basis and Church members regularly donate food. We also help transport CSA leftovers for 26 Tuesdays from May - early Dec. The economic disparity among New Yorkers is very apparent when serving at the pantry. So many rely on pantries to make ends meet. We hope to continue to deepen friendships with the staff, volunteers and recipients and invite some into our church community.

HOURLY CHILDREN MENTORING PROGRAM

After three years of volunteering at the Hour Children Food Pantry, we decided to expand our involvement with Hour Children. In August, two ACC members toured the facilities. While we were learning about the Working Women's Program, a resident overheard us talking about ACC and asked if she could attend with her son. She and her son have been attending ever since.

She also invited a friend and her son to come and they too have become apart of our family.

We are excited to begin mentoring other women and their children. Please pray about whether you could mentor a resident. The commitment is 4 hours per month plus a weekly phone call.

HOURLY CHILDREN ADVENT SUPPLY DRIVE

For all four Sundays of Advent, we collected toiletries, personal clothing items, kitchen supplies and professional clothing for the Hour Children Residential Program for women recently released from prison. Twenty-four ACC members attended and mingled with 12 residents and their young children and two staff over hot apple cider and yummy Christmas treats. Approximately 20 bags of much needed donations were collected. Thank you ACC!!



FINANCIALS 2016

Mercy Clients: \$4,409

Outreach Expenses: \$2,104 *

Total: \$6,513

*Rent, Supplies, Books, Food, Promotional Materials, Finger-printing