

# Bowman Hills Binder

October 2012



“And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.” Col 3:14 (NIV)

## Mentoring the Church of Tomorrow

“How can we keep our young people in the church?” It’s a question often asked. Fortunately, it’s a question for which there are research-based answers. One of those answers is “involve them,” and Bowman Hills is doing just that.



According to Thom Rainer, author of *Four Principles to Membership Retention*, “If a church member does not become meaningfully

involved in some type of ministry in the church, his or her drop-out chances increase dramatically.”

With a new mentorship coordinator and leaders who are looking for ways to involve young people in their ministries, Bowman Hills is being intentional about keeping our young people and preparing them to serve a new generation of worshipers.

“My job is to find adults and departments who are willing to mentor kids,” says LaRayne Hall, mentoring coordinator, “and keep a post on how things are going and what may need to be changed.”

Already, young people are becoming more visible in their church service. Students are giving the scripture reading, junior deacons are taking up the offering,

and junior deaconesses are making communion bread. In addition, our church’s youth are beginning to carry a heavier burden in our church’s ministries and events. This summer, both VBS and the rummage sale were heavily staffed by youth.

“It’s neat,” says Becky Burgess, VBS coordinator, “to see kids finding out where their niches are.”

## Junior Storytellers

Members of the Junior Sabbath School class are teaming up to share what they’ve learned with those



who are younger by serving as guest storytellers in the Kindergarten Sabbath School class.

Though surprised at how much younger children wiggle,

Kristen Burgess says she was glad for the experience. “I think it was good because the kids learned something, I hope. I learned that I definitely don’t want to teach in a little kids class!”

# Serving the Community

Whether you enjoy cooking or sewing—or simply need to clean out your closet—Bowman Hills has an outreach ministry where you can help make life a little sweeter for someone who's hit hard times.

## Bags of Love



“And Lord, you know I like quilting,” Terrie Breetzke added a postscript to her daily prayer. Terrie had just come to Bowman Hills and was praying for a ministry to bond her to the church. That’s when the Women’s Ministries director called and asked if she would be trained in how to operate Bags of Love. Ever since then, Terrie and a faithful crew of volunteers have been quilting, sewing, and putting together bags of items to help foster children in the transition. Over the past six years, they have put together 592 bags. “God gave me a ministry that fits my talents,” says Terrie. If you’d like to help with Bags of Love, come to the activity room on the first and third Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m.

## Meals for the Homeless



“All we can do is try to nourish them. God does the rest.” That’s how Ron DeChant views the church’s ministry of providing meals for the homeless shelter. About twice a week, church members prepare meals and take them to the shelter near where the Maytag plant used to be. While avoiding pork, the volunteers prepare wholesome meals with beef or chicken to feed about 30-35 homeless individuals. If you’d like to contribute to the menu, call Ron DeChant (476-4026) or Joan Smith (244-1285) to let them know what you’ll be bringing. Ron’s group serves on the first and third Wednesday of each month, and Joan’s group serves every Sunday (except for the first of each month).

## Community Service Center



When a 100-year-old church member passed away in the early 1970s, the land he donated to the church became his namesake—the Manous Memorial Community Service Center. Still operated by our church and staffed by volunteers, the community service center provides clothing free of charge to families in need. “We’ve always had enough,” says Kathy Gooch, community service leader. “It’s kind of like the oil in the Bible story. There’s always enough.” If you would like to help continue to stock the Manous Center with gently worn clothes, you may drop them off at the community service building just off the church parking lot (near the dumpster).

## Young People SHOUT!

Watching his friends move on to other churches, Blake Kitterman

wanted to do something to keep young people happy and involved here at Bowman Hills, so he founded the

SHOUT! (Serving,

Honoring, Obeying, Understanding, and Telling) Ministries Youth Program.

The purpose of SHOUT! is to unite the youth in a fashion following the principles Jesus established and guide our community to aspire Christianity in a modern but biblically conservative manner. Their goal is to have a diverse group of Christian advocates prepared to spread the gospel. Their motto is love, live, laugh.

So far, they have enjoyed a rafting trip and put-put golf outing and have reached out to the community by feeding the homeless and passing out water bottles on the Greenway.

## Social Committee Plans Casual, Comfortable Events

Was it because we wanted to prove Pastor Dwight Herod wrong and show him that Adventists really do know how to fellowship? Or did we all just really want to find Nemo? Whatever the reason, church members brought their lawn chairs and gathered on the school's front lawn in late September for a "Movie in the Park."

"The social committee wants to hold events that are in a casual setting in hopes that people will feel comfortable inviting friends and neighbors or just coming to meet new people," says Barry Hall, who along with his wife leads the social committee. "We took inspiration for this idea from similar events that have been held at Coolidge Park."

Movie in the Park was only the first of several fun events the new social committee has planned to add a spark to church fellowship throughout the year. Here's a quick look at how you can be prepared for what's to come:

**In February:** Start quizzing your spouse now, so you can be ready for a Bowman Hills version of the Newlywed Game.

**Next Spring:** Get your softball glove out and practice that home-run swing to gear up for a field day/church picnic planned for the enjoyment of old and young alike.

**Next Summer:** Pump up that old inner tube and prepare to get wet for a tubing trip down the Hiawassee.

Watch the church bulletin and this newsletter for details as these events draw nearer.

## Health Outreach

This year's Health and Temperance Committee got off to a running start by participating in a "Celebrate Health" booth at the Bradley County Fair.

The booth, operated by four local Adventist Churches, offered free blood pressure readings, lung

strength tests, and health age evaluation and counseling. Fair participants were also offered a selection of literature, and many individuals submitted forms indicating they were interested in specific health (including spiritual health) opportunities.

Around the start of the new year, the Bowman Hills Church will reach out to those who expressed interest by offering a cooking class.

Lora Lucas, Health and Temperance leader, says, "The event near New Year's will be our own attempt to help the community at a time that health becomes a priority in everyone's thoughts with New Year's resolutions."

## Rummage Sale Reaches Quarter-Million Milestone

After 15 years of turning church members' "trash" into someone else's "treasure," rummage sale volunteers can now boast that they've helped raise more than a quarter million dollars for the Bowman Hills School.

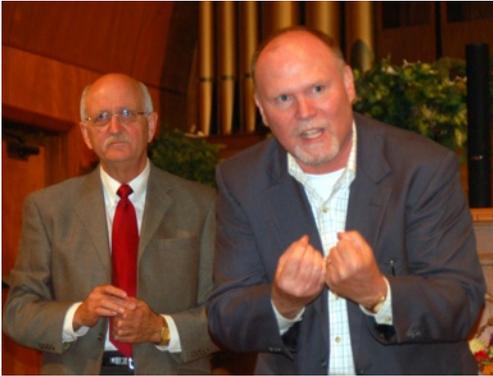
What started as a band fundraiser, has grown to impact the school in many ways. Over the years, money raised has been used to install a new playground, update the computer lab, install new carpet and flooring, remodel the kitchen, install smartboards in all the classrooms, and provide funds for various miscellaneous expenses.

"It's something," says Lee Uhelski, rummage sale coordinator, "the community looks forward to."



## Trust or Dysfunction? An Inventory of My Intentions

by Pastor Ted Dubs



The book *The Five Dysfunctions of a Team* talks about is the dysfunctional absence of trust in a team, defining trust as “the confidence among team members that their peers’ intentions are good, and there is no reason to be protective or careful around the group.” I recently asked myself, “What are my intentions for the church?” Here is what I came up with:

1. To work for and uplift church unity, working together for Christ’s cause.
2. To reach out for friendship. That means I have to be vulnerable with you.
3. To get to know the needs of our community and share them with you.
4. To be faithful about the remnant church message that God has given to us for this time and culture in which we live.
5. To work for our church to be a place of hope and healing. I want it to be a place that inspires people into holy lives.
6. To be intentional about reaching out to people in our community, living our lives like the Lord is coming soon.
7. To help us become a church where people can belong and are able to achieve their goals.
8. To help us become a church where people will reach their potential.
9. To become a church that I can trust my future to.
10. To be a leader in the church that has invested in my leadership training.
11. To help us become a church where there is mutual trust so we can be ruthlessly honest.
12. To help us become a church that has confidence in each other and will trust others to let them do their jobs.
13. To help us become a church that will learn to love each other.

I would like to invite all of you to also explore your intentions about the church. If we could explore that and share these with each other, we could strengthen the foundation of trust that any church needs to build upon.

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### God in Shoes at Bowman Hills

#### How One Ministry Has Made Connections With 300 Women

For two years now, Bowman Hills has sponsored a spa day for women with a ministry called God in Shoes. Last year, the spa day was for tornado victims. This year, we focused on women who would not otherwise have the opportunity to experience a spa day.

“I was able to see the women as they came out from getting their haircut,” says Linda Elliot, who volunteered with God in Shoes. “You could see the difference it made in the way the women carried themselves.”

Mary Jo Dubs, who organized the event, suggests that the church should remember these women and invite them for follow-up outreach events.

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