

Annual Ministry Reports 2021

Table of Contents

Reports Included in Order of Appearance...

Lay Eucharistic Ministers

Altar Guild

Prayer Ministry

Sunday School

Vacation Bible School

StoryChurch

Churchlands

Compline

Ladies Night Out

Coffee Hour

Wednesday Book Group

Saturday Book Club

Music Ministries

Youth Group

Outreach Ministries

Lay Eucharistic Ministry

When regular services were held in person, Lay Eucharistic Ministers (LEMs) at St Dunstan's supported the Celebrant and MC at all Sunday 10:00 AM services, and at Holy Week and Christmas Eve services.

Lynn Bybee, John Ertl, Evy Gildrie-Voyles, Sharon Henes, Peter Hewson, Judi Janowski, Mark Rooney, Jess Viste, Tracy Wentz, and Gail Wickman form the current LEM roster. Peter Hewson (pwhewson@gmail.com; 608-284-8433) serves as the LEM coordinator. Please speak to him or any LEM if you'd like to know more about the ministry, and/or are interested in serving, once we are again able to worship in person.

Submitted by Peter Hewson

Altar Guild

The members of the Altar Guild are responsible for preparing the altar for worship services, cleaning up after worship and caring for the vessels, linens, candles, frontals and banners used to make worship beautiful and appropriate for the season. Not much of that happened this year, unfortunately. There were a couple of changes of note this year. We no longer use pitas for Eucharist. This is due to the pandemic, but also because the local bakery that provided our pitas has gone out of business. Miranda consecrates wafers at occasional Eucharists and makes them available to the congregation for pick up at church at times when we have them. Look for announcements about that in the newsletter.

Hopefully in-person worship will resume at some point this year. When that happens, the Altar Guild will be ready to again assist with making it happen.

Submitted by Shirley Laedlein, Altar Guild chair

Prayer Ministry at St. Dunstan's

The prayer ministry at St. Dunstan's has been very active in 2020. We have of course been especially concerned about all things related to the COVID-19 crisis—our own health and that of those we love, health care workers who every day put themselves and the safety of their families on the line for the good of the community, and all who have lost their lives or their employment or their financial stability as a result of the pandemic. Our mental, physical, and emotional health have been greatly challenged during these times, and we have realized more than ever how important it is to have a caring and loving community we can count on.

We have prayed for ourselves, for our families and friends, and for our country in these difficult times. This past year we added a section in which we pray for health care workers we know, in addition to specific problems and concerns affecting ourselves and the people we love, and our prayers for family members and friends who serve our country.

Prayer requests may be sent to: prayers@stdunstans.com, and the names will appear in our parish prayers for a reasonable length of time. If you wish a brief description of the need to be shared with others, this may be also be included. Updates are welcome, and it would be very helpful to send a note once a need or concern has been resolved.

If you do not currently receive prayer list names and updates but would like to do so, please send a request to the email address above.

Submitted by Celia Fine

Sunday School

In the spring we found that it was difficult to transition our existing Sunday school model to online - and we were close to the end of the year anyway. We started doing some drama together online as a way to keep kids connected and engaged. Over the summer we learned some more about what works well online, and in September we started a new online Sunday school model. Sunday school meets online at 10:15 after Zoom church at 9. Generally speaking, on the first Sunday of every month, we have an all-ages Sunday school session with some hands-on aspect. On the second and third Sundays of the month, younger kids receive a Godly Play story, taught by Evy or Cecilie. On second Sundays, elementary and middle school students work with Rev. Miranda and Sharon Henes to study a story that's coming up in the lectionary, think about how to present it as a drama and talk about what we think is important to say about the story. On the third Sunday, the same group works with our Director of Music Ministry Deanna Clement to compose some music based on upcoming Psalms or liturgical texts. On the fourth (or sometimes fifth) Sunday, that Scripture drama and music are used in worship. This means that our kids are now actively involved in planning and leading worship on our All-Ages Worship Sundays!

Submitted by Rev. Miranda

Vacation Bible School

We held our Vacation Bible School online this summer, on August 9 through 13, from 6 to 7pm. All ages were invited. Kids and youth of the parish prepared a five-part video drama of the whole Joseph story from the book of Genesis. We started each session by watching recordings of one chapter of the Joseph story, then moved into discussion (broken out by age group), learning, and simple activities. We also made all materials available for those who'd like to participate at their own pace instead of joining on Zoom. We had over 25 participants over the five days and it was a lot of fun!

Submitted by Rev. Miranda

StoryChurch

StoryChurch is a simple Sunday evening online offering for young children and their grownups. It developed because Rev. Miranda understands that an hour-long Zoom service is hard for many younger kids. Rev. Miranda, her helper Iona, and those attending gather at 7pm with a song and check-in. Rev. Miranda shares a couple of storybooks, then we end with nighttime prayers, another song and a blessing. Note that grandparents are welcome to "bring" their grandchildren - or meet them there!

Submitted by Rev. Miranda

ChurchLands

ChurchLands is a program to help Episcopal churches that own property (woods, fields, gardens) think about how to use their property to further the goals of creation care, evangelism, and justice and reconciliation. Rev. Miranda and Carrie Tolejano attended the ChurchLands retreat at the end of January 2020, and participated in monthly online cohort meetings from February through November. The pandemic put a lot of ideas on hold; especially in the summer of 2020, we knew less than we do now about Covid transmission and what was more or less risky, and people were still pretty overwhelmed and paralyzed by the pandemic at that point. Still, we learned that our grounds could be a real resource for us in many ways, from parking lot Eucharists to a “Muddy Church” walk in the woods with God. We have some plans in the works for getting to know our grounds and using them for learning, worship and fellowship more in 2021!

Submitted by Rev. Miranda

Compline

Our virtual Compline services are Zoom-based gatherings for before-bedtime prayer. We close the day by reading prayers and Scripture; by sharing celebrations, thanksgivings, requests, and concerns; and by simply being present with God and each other. This virtual ministry came into being as a response to the need for community during the early stages of the COVID-19 pandemic. The first virtual Compline service was led by Rev. Miranda on March 19, 2020. Nichole Fromm and Eric Brown soon began working with Rev. Miranda, and together the three developed a framework that enables a Zoom host to conduct the meeting and up to six participants to read the speaking roles. Services are based on the Order for Compline from the Book of Common Prayer and the St. Helena Breviary and on the Night Prayer from Aotearoa A New Zealand Prayer Book. Regular services began on March 30, 2020. From then until the end of July, we met two to four times per week. We took a break in August, and then we continued with two services per week from mid-September to mid-December. 2021 services will begin in early January with two services per week. Zoom hosts have included Nichole, Rev. Miranda, Eric, Mindy Shah, Iona Hassett, and Heidi Anderson. We average about eight participants per service.

Submitted by Eric Brown

Ladies' Night Out

Ladies Night Out is a social gathering held on the last Friday of every month. We gather at a local restaurant to enjoy a meal and to talk. It is usually about five people. We met in January and February of 2020. We have disbanded until such time that a group of unrelated people can go out to eat.

Submitted by Marian Barnes

Coffee Hour

The first months of 2020 saw us enjoying our newly remodeled kitchen for Coffee Hour preparations and set-up. In March,

the Covid-19 Pandemic stressed the need for stringent restrictions on in-person gatherings. The use of our building for worship services and for coffee hours has been “on hold” since then. Although we are able to briefly greet one another during our virtual services, we are looking forward to once again being able to meet with one another in person, to give hugs, handshakes, and to share stories, news, and greetings of joy. We pray that 2021 will give us the opportunity to be together safely, in-person, returning the air of hospitality that **St. Dunstan’s Coffee Hours** always represent!
Submitted by Janet Bybee

Wednesday Book Group

In early 2000 a group of St. Dunstanites started meeting as a book group, beginning with the book *Eyes Remade for Wonder*, by Lawrence Kushner. The author had presented at Trinity Institute’s annual conference. Several members attended the download at the Pyle Center, as it was known then. Wednesday morning seemed a natural because there had been a Bible study at that time with a previous rector.

In spite of the pandemic, the Wednesday book group meets each week via Zoom. We continue to check in and discuss the various subjects evoked by the books we read. It also offers the opportunity to share a community that has existed for many years. The membership has evolved over the years, so please feel free to join it.

This year we have read together: ***Take Good Care of the Garden and the Dogs, A True Story of Bad Breaks and Small Miracles***, by Heather Lende; ***The Night Watchman***, by Louise Erdrich; ***Hidden Figures, The American Dream and the Untold Story of the Black Women Mathematicians Who Helped Win the Space Race***, by Margot Lee Shetterly; ***On Democracy***, by E.B. White; and ***His Truth is Marching On: John Lewis and the Power of Hope***, by Jon Meachem. We are currently reading ***Eleanor***, by David Michaelis. The books are suggested by various members and chosen by consensus. Do you have something you would like to read with a group?

When we meet in person, we have a piggy bank if anyone cares to add some change to. We have continued to feed the pig@ remotely. The money is sent to various groups, the recipients chosen by consensus. This year we sent donations to Episcopal Relief and Development for mosquito nets to protect against malaria, to Domestic Abuse Intervention Service, to Team Rubicon and to the River Food Pantry.

For the season of Lent we have chosen to read ***Love is the Way***, by the Presiding Bishop Michael Curry. Know that you are most welcome to join us for a week, for a season or for a book. For more information please contact Valerie McAuliffe at (608)963-7630 or vmcaul@gmail.com. We will send a link for the Zoom meeting. Actually reading the book is not a prerequisite; join us for the conversation. Peace.

Saturday Book Club

The Saturday Book Group meets on Saturday mornings every 6-8 weeks, though less frequently during the summer. We generally alternate between fiction and non-fiction

books. The first two meetings of the year were held at St Dunstan's, but after that we went online, and found that Zoom worked well for us.

Books we read in 2020 were:

Talking to Strangers, by Malcolm Gladwell, *Confident Pluralism* by John D. Inazu, *Where the Crawdads Sing* by Delia Owens, *American Nations* by Colin Woodard, *The Night Watchman* by Louise Erdrich, *The mountains sing* by Nguyen Phan Que Mai, *Democracy in Chains* by Nancy MacLean, *Deacon King Kong* by James McBride, and *His Truth is Marching on: John Lewis and the Power of Hope* by Jon Meacham. The Saturday Book Club was previously known as the Men's Book Club, and most attendees are men. We are, however, happy that this year women have regularly attended meetings.

Speak to Peter Hewson (pwhewson@gmail.com; 608-284-8433) if you'd like to know more. Please do join us.

MUSIC MINISTRIES

St. Dunstan's music ministries includes the choirs (both the children's and adult's), and the musician's collective, a loose conglomeration of musicians (both vocalists and instrumentalists) who do help us sing and play music for service; write special hymn lyrics; compose, transcribe, and engrave psalms, hymns, choral arrangements, and original music; provide special music on- and off-site in collaboration with wider church events; handle music library, technological, and licensing logistics; provide second-adult presences for children's choir rehearsals; organize fellowship events; publicize off-site music events; and provide financial and material support.

2020 required adaptation of our musical activities to meet the challenges of covid-tide.

Some highlights of what we accomplished to do so:

- *getting the Loft set up for broadcasting and recording for both our parish services and Diocesan services

- *creating several virtual ensembles throughout the year, culminating in the "Silent Night" virtual ensemble (available at <https://youtu.be/IdVV3PeTS3U>)

- *facilitating psalm refrain composition projects in Sunday School that are used in Zoom services

- *adapting musical offerings Zoom worship

- *piloting Audentia Divina (AuDivina), using music not typically considered churchy to illuminate scripture.

A more detailed meditation on some ethics guiding music making during this season's available at <https://stdunstans.com/2021/01/sermon-december-13th/>, originally given as a sermon for Advent III.

To all ensemble participants; guest musicians of all stripes; folks who manage the library and technology behind-the-scenes; donors; and the congregation: thank you for your continued support!

Submitted by Deanna Clement

Youth Group

2020 began with both youth groups settling into our new space at the Parish Center. On Friday nights the middle school youth group (5th-8th graders) met from 5:00 to 7:30 p.m. and the high school youth group (9th-11th graders) met from 7:00 to 9:30 p.m. (during the half hour overlap the middle schoolers would be doing Compline in the prayer room while the high schoolers gathered watching a show). A typical middle school gathering included fellowship time, a game and ends with Compline. A typical high school gathering included a show, a game and ended with Compline. The middle school youth group was averaging 12-15 youth per week and the high school was averaging 6-7 youth per week. In mid-March, our middle school youth group retreat eliminated the overnight stay and that was the last day we physically met in person. Both youth groups rebounded quickly and Friday nights went virtual doing the same activities we did in person.

Both youth groups have a community to support one another during these difficult times. Birthdays and other accomplishments are celebrated, the frustrations of school and quarantine are shared and above all the love prevails.

The middle school youth group went to Zoom on Friday nights meeting from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. For our May event we did painted virtually. The 4th graders were invited to join the middle school youth group beginning with that event. Instead of our end of season sleep-over, we had a long game night. At this time, the middle schoolers realized that youth group is a lifeline during these uncharted times and a decision was made to continue all summer. During the summer this group met every Friday night from 5:30 – 8:00 p.m. The youth spent a few hours together virtually each day during the week we were supposed to go on our summer trip. All materials were provided to the youth in a box. During the week, we navigated escape rooms, worked on a racism history timeline, wrote and sent postcards, painted a picture, played games and spent time in fellowship together. We took Labor Day weekend off (so it would seem like we were starting a new season!). When we resumed, our Friday night time slots returned to the 5:00 - 7:30 p.m. The youth enjoyed their “trip” boxes so the monthly youth boxes began. The box contains one or more spiritual discipline or activity supplies, anything needed for upcoming youth group gatherings and treats. It quickly became apparent that the squirrels liked the treats so the youth now have a squirrel proof toolbox to contain the boxes until they are picked up. Other fall activities included additional game nights and a movie & postcard afternoon. The middle school youth group has a core group of 8 youth who participate virtually on a regular basis and have about 3-4 youth who come occasionally.

The high school youth group went to the Discord platform on Friday nights meeting from 7:00 to 9:30 p.m. The high school youth group ended their season the first Friday in June with a long game night. The high schoolers took the summer off. During the summer it became apparent that the out of state mission trip was not going to take place to great disappointment. The high school youth group resumed gathering on Friday nights in September. The high school youth began receiving monthly boxes which are very similar in content to the middle school youth boxes. The high school youth

group has a core group of 7 youth who participate virtually on a regular basis and have another one who comes occasionally.

Both youth groups are looking forward to the day when we can gather in person again.

A special thank you to the adults who joined our middle schoolers during 2020: Nichole Fromm, Heidi Anderson, Marian Barnes, David Segura, Dan Muxfeld (a/k/a Virtual Dan), John Rasmus (a/k/a Virtual John), Amanda Henes and Miranda Hassett.

A special thank you to JonMichael for co-leading the high schoolers with me.

Submitted by Sharon Henes

Outreach Report

2020 was a year of both challenge and overwhelming need across Dane County, the state of Wisconsin, the nation, and the world. Gifted by the generosity of the St. Dunstan's parish, the Outreach Committee was able to share resources with many non-profit organizations, all of whom were struggling to address heightened need:

- The Allied Drive Food Pantry**, for food and personal items,
- Blackhawk African American Ministry**, for emergency COVID needs,
- Bread for the World**, for worldwide hunger program advocacy,
- Briarpatch**, for homeless and at-risk youth,
- Christ the Solid Rock Church**, for emergency COVID needs,
- Falk School Fund**, for family rental and utility assistance,
- Goodman Center Food Pantry**, for food delivery
- GSAFE**, for LGBTQ+ youth programs,
- KIVA**, for short term loans
- Middleton Outreach Ministry**, for food, housing, school supplies, and winter wishes
- MOSES**, for criminal justice reform in Wisconsin
- MUM/JustDane**, for Healing House, re-entry programs, and WIFI,
- RISE Wisconsin**, for emergency childcare
- River Food Pantry**, for food bank support,
- Second Harvest**, for food bank support,
- Sherman Avenue United Methodist Church**, for emergency COVID needs,
- St. D Rector's Discretionary Fund**, for emergency needs,
- The Beacon**, for homeless day center programs,
- The Gathering**, for feeding program support,
- The Road Home**, for rapid rehousing of the homeless,
- Willma's Fund**, for homeless LGBTQ+,
- World Vision**, for emergency relief work in Beirut, Lebanon, and
- YWCA**, for emergency food pantry.

In addition, Outreach Committee members provided substantial gifts of personal volunteer time and service across a variety of organizations. During 2021 the Outreach Committee plans to meet monthly via Zoom. We welcome new voices and new concerns; please consider joining us! Contact Elvise McAlpine (e.mcalpine@yahoo.com) if you would like to be added to the Outreach email distribution list.

OUTREACH GRANTS

Each year the Outreach Committee has a sub-committee that distributes the proceeds from the Grant Fund we have at the Diocese of Milwaukee Trustees of Funds and Endowments. We received grant applications from 4 organizations and were able to respond to all of them. They were Hospitality Center at St. Lukes in Racine for a new printer, Allied Food Pantry for personal products for their food pantry, Goodman Community Center for their preparation and delivery of their feeding program and Just Dane (Madison Urban Ministry) for Bridging the Digital Divide for children without internet access for virtual learning. All 4 programs have been largely affected in their programs due to the pandemic. We distributed \$6,129.00.

Core Ministries

There are several core ministries that St. Dunstan's invests volunteer time and resources in on a continual basis. These are just a few of them.

MIDDLETON OUTREACH MINISTRY

The Covid-19 Pandemic has had a profound effect on the entire world. Facial masks and social distancing – even among family members– are the new norm. Service organizations, like **Middleton Outreach Ministry**, needed to devise new plans to continue to serve the increasing needs of their clients. Over the past year, MOM has completely changed its food pantry operations to provide safe, no-contact, choice-enhanced distribution, serving approximately 250-300 households each week. They have also doubled the amount of financial assistance provided pre-Covid-19 to help stabilize housing and to provide opportunities for community members to talk virtually with a Case Manager when in crisis. All of this work will continue into 2021.

During the year, Middleton Outreach continued to provide the usual seasonal services for clients by the no-contact distribution of **School Supply Backpacks**, approximately 250 **Thanksgiving Baskets**, as well as providing over 1000 \$50 gift cards and wrapping paper during the **Winter Wishes** program.

During 2020, St. Dunstan's Outreach Committee continued its support by donating funds to Middleton Outreach Ministry for its General Operating Expenses, as well as financially supporting School Supplies, Thanksgiving Baskets, and the Winter Wishes Program. And, many St. Dunstan's members provided financial donations, goods, and services in support of MOM.

We are grateful that we as a congregation continue to support the efforts of Middleton Outreach Ministry to assist our neighbors and our community. May our fervent prayers bring the hope for increased health and security for one and all in the year ahead.

Submitted by Janet Bybee

ST. DUNSTAN'S DIAPER DRIVE

Pantries are almost always looking for large-sized diapers. We held a diaper drive again this year, and were able to donate over 8800 diapers to pantries. A child needs approximately 6500 diapers between birth and potty training. Many families in our area are struggling financially, and they have to make tough decisions about whether to buy much-needed diapers or groceries or pay their rent. The Wisconsin FoodShare program (food stamps) does not cover diapers, other personal care items, or household cleaners. Decisions must be made all the time about how to spend the small amount of money coming in. Imagine wanting and needing to change your baby's diaper because you know it's dirty, but you only have a couple diapers left and no money with which to buy more diapers. Furthermore, families often don't have the money to buy economy-sized boxes or the time to watch for sales.

This year, we donated diapers and wipes to the following organizations: Middleton Outreach Ministry, Allied Drive Food Pantry, Karen's Essential Center (a pantry in the Elver Park area), Healing House, and Dane County Community Defense.

Thank you very much for your incredible generosity!

Submitted by Mary Rowe

BREAD FOR THE WORLD

In a world racked by Covid-19, there is even greater need for us to promote our government's programs in hunger relief. In past years, parish members at St. Dunstan's have had letter-writing opportunities, along with concerned people all over our country, to urge our senators and representatives to support such assistance programs. In 2020, hunger-relief dollars were created in Congressional legislation that occurred at the very end of 2020. BFW writers provided solid support for programs such as SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program--the old food-stamp program). In 2021, parish members at St. D's will have opportunities to provide letters, e-mails and other supports for such legislation. It is still the case that almost all hunger-relief funding comes through government action; the rest comes through private donations. Bread for the World works with local congregations to get us to think about the implications of hunger and to respond.

Submitted by Peg and Dan Geisler

PORCHLIGHT MEN'S HOMELESS SHELTER AT GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Covid 19 Pandemic has brought many changes to how people who are homeless are fed and sheltered in Madison. In mid March St. Dunstan's dropped off food at Grace Shelter for what would be the last time. The Men's shelter at Grace was shut down at the end of March and Porchlight (the non profit company that oversaw the shelter at Grace) began operating an emergency Men's Shelter out of Warner Park. Out of concern for safety of guests and volunteers, Porchlight no longer uses community

volunteers for cooking or serving shelter guests. They do have a mailing list and are finalizing plans for a new permanent Men's shelter. If you would like to stay informed about the Men's Shelter and volunteer opportunities when they are available, please contact Linda Maier at лмаier7215@gmail.com or Evy Gildrie-Voyles at gildrievoyles@gmail.com

Thank you to all who have helped with cooking and serving meals for the Men's Shelter at Grace Church in 2020 and the many years before.

Submitted by Evy Gildrie-Voyles

HEALING HOUSE (Medical Homeless shelter run in Collaboration with Just Dane and The Road Home)

Healing House, located at 303 Lathrop Street in Madison, is an 8 bed facility, providing 24/7 recuperative care for homeless families who have been released from the hospital or who need care to prepare for a surgery or medical procedure. Families are cared for by medically trained staff and volunteers and can stay for up to 28 days. The Healing House provides clients with three meals a day, child care assistance, and case management to end the cycle of homelessness. St. Dunstan's is a part of group of organizations brought together by The Road Home to provide meals to families staying at the Healing House. Because the shelter is small it is able to continue to operate through out the pandemic. Thank you to all who cooked and dropped off food in 2020. Thank you especially for flexibility when families moved out of the shelter and into permanent housing halfway through our week and meals were no longer needed. In 2021 St. Dunstan's will be providing meals for the weeks of April 25th through May 1st and June 27th 0 July 3rd. If you would like to join this ministry please contact Evy Gildrie-Voyles at gildrievoyles@gmail.com or 6087729729

Submitted by Evy Gildrie-Voyles

MOSES (Madison Organizing in Strength, Equality, and Solidarity)

MOSES is a Madison-area, faith-based nonprofit whose mission is to build collective power to dismantle the systems of mass incarceration and mass supervision and to eradicate the racial disparities in our community that contribute to them.

During 2020, MOSES expanded its focus from its original Task Force on Justice System Reform, to also include a Racial Justice for All Children Task Force and a Public Safety Task Force. Within these 3 Task Forces there are 7 focus working groups: Crisis Restoration, Diversions, Jail Issues, Data, Communication, Education Improvement, and Family Support. Task Force and Focus Group members engage in grassroots organizing campaigns and advocacy.

MOSES is one of 11 affiliates of a statewide community organizing nonprofit, WIDSOM, and WIDSOM in turn is a member of a national community organizing nonprofit, GAMALIEL.

St. Dunstan's has been a member congregation in MOSES for three years, and Elvice McAlpine (e.mcalpine@yahoo.com) and Bonnie Magnuson (bonniemagnuson@gmail.com) regularly represent St. Dunstan's within MOSES. Please contact us if you would like to learn more.

Submitted by Elvice McAlpine

UNITED THANK OFFERING

This year was quiet with no opportunity to talk about United Thank Offering and no face to face to share "blue boxes" with people interested in contributing. However we were able to send \$150 to UTO for granting in 2021. The focus of the grants this year will be projects that have been started due to the Covid-19 pandemic. United Thank Offering has been working for over 125 years for needs across the world. It is an opportunity to give thanks for the little things - (sunshine on a wedding day, a special anniversary, a grandchild's first day at kindergarten) and the big things (a good lab report, a new baby, election of a new Bishop). The money - coins or paper - are placed in the blue box on your kitchen shelf, desktop or night stand. The money is collected once or twice a year at an "ingathering" at the church. Want a box?, want more info? - Connie Ott at cott@chorus.net with UTO in the memo.

WINTER WISHES

Thanks to all who were able to contribute to this program this year. We normally get names and wishes from families who are clients of Middleton Outreach Ministry to make their holidays more joyous. We then purchase and wrap the gifts. This year was different - we contributed to Middleton Outreach Ministry with designation to Winter Wishes and they were able to purchase gift cards to locations that clients were requesting. The Ministry met it's goal and hope to return to their usual pattern of the program next year. :) Connie Ott co-chair of Winter Wishes program with Janet Bybee