

Although there are many components to ChristCare, the most significant for our group this past year was caring for each other. Our dear sister in Christ, Maureen McGrane, lost her battle with pancreatic cancer. Through her long struggle she never failed to inspire each of us to be a better Christian. Through her we learned the lesson of answered prayer as many of her prayers were answered. We learned the importance of joy and giving our troubles to the Lord. We learned we each could give more of ourselves than we ever thought possible. We learned to thank God for giving us each other to help us through the hard times. We learned we are not alone in this world and having a ChristCare sister to stand with us, pray with us and love us, makes us richer than any material thing ever could.

-The Friday Morning CC Group
(led by Lucia Eckhardt)

One of the special things about belonging to a Christ Care group is participating in the missional service component that is part of the small group model we follow at HRC. In our Thursday morning group we try to have some missional activity every week. Some of those projects are quite ambitious, while others may be smaller. Our group is comprised of people who enjoy using their hands to build things. In a recent outreach we were asked to help a young family for whom the upcoming winter months held a special dread. Living in a very old home that was in need of many repairs, the concern of maintaining heat in the largely uninsulated home was a major worry. With both parents unemployed and a tiny baby and a young girl to care for, the hope was to keep enough heat in the house by using their wood stove. Unfortunately, the wood stove was located in a room beyond the main living area. Our Christ Care team evaluated the structure and determined that the wall between the two rooms could be removed, thus allowing air to circulate from the stove area into the living space. The group also worked on insulation and brought wood to help the family get through the heating season. Another recent project took us up to the hills of Kent, where we built a long handicapped ramp into the new chapel building at the Community Bible Fellowship camp. We now look forward to a June trip to Harvey Cedars Bible Conference on Long Beach Island, N.J., where we will be doing many maintenance and support projects. For our group, each project brings with it new challenges and the special blessing of being able to serve the Lord with gladness while ministering in His love.

-Thursday morning ChristCare group
(led by David Bushey)

The majority of the Tuesday morning ChristCare group has had a blessed year together. It was difficult to decide what the highlight for the year was. The times of prayer and worship, biblical equipping, community building, and missional service were all significant times of growth in our relationship with each other and with God. Since most of the group attended the HRC Women's Retreat, it was decided that this was highlight of the year. The theme of the retreat was 'Transformation.' A potter shared a demonstration with us and talked about the relationship between the potter and the clay and how God uses all circumstances in our lives to transform us. A powerful and moving demonstration, it inspired us all. We spent additional time talking about the topic in our group.

-Tuesday morning ChristCare group
(led by Pam Hansen and Lisa Prentiss)

Event - We attended a talk by a holocaust survivor which was very enlightening.

Study - We each researched a different religion and reported back to the group about it.

Mission – One of our members had a relative in need when moving back into the neighborhood, so we helped clean and set up her home.

-Tuesday evening ChristCare group

(led by Susie Nieves)