

“WF A Year in Review”

By Lisa Larson

Here's a brief look at some of the many things that have happened during the past year at the Wesley Foundation at ISU.

January

- A table tennis tournament was planned and hosted by the Wesley Foundation to raise money for “Nothing but Nets” to combat malaria. Over \$150 was raised.
- Food was collected for MICA (the local food pantry).
- Two studies “Praying in Color” (which was led by a student) and “The Music that Makes” where we looked at the spirituality in music, began.

February

- The Wesley Foundation at Iowa State University won the Battery Recycling Competition. We collected over 6,000 lbs of batteries. We won \$500. We gave a third of that money to Good Neighbor Emergency Assistance, we will use a third for a green initiative, and the final third went toward programming.
- We participated in a church hop with our friends at Saint Thomas Aquinas. They came to *faithspring* (our alternative worship service) and we went to their evening mass with them right after *faithspring*. After the worship services, we discussed the similarities and differences and had an opportunity to ask questions.
- Over 40 students participated in Students in Worship Leadership Month by serving as greeters, ushers, communion servers, liturgists, and sharing during the time with children.

March

- Our first ever intramural broomball team, The Wesley Foundation Badgers, won their first two games.
- A group went to Des Moines to worship at Burns UMC.

April

- There were over 20 participants at our progressive dinner. We started off with appetizers in the Student Lounge, split up and went to houses for the main course, and came back together for desserts and games in the Annex.
- Collegiate Bells played in a Spring Bell Choir Concert.
- The *faithspring* band took a trip to Alta, IA to lead a worship service.

May

- A 50 year Wesley Foundation Reunion took place. The class of 1961 shared some of their many memories of their time at the Wesley Foundation and how it was a “Home away from home.”
- Barbeque Bible Studies started up for the summer.
- United Methodist Student Movement was attended.

June

- Barbeque Bible Studies continued.
- Wesley Foundation students and staff met incoming freshman at the Summer Orientation Resource Fair.

July

- Students and staff gathered to assemble the summer mailing while sharing pizza and stories.

August

- Wesley Foundation staff served Pancakes on the Patio for the second year during new student move-in days.
- A group took the children from the Emergency Residence Project (the local homeless shelter) to the park.
- 22 students attended the first Lunch on the Landing of the semester. Lunch on the Landing is a free lunch at noon on Sundays in the Student Lounge.
- The Wesley Foundation served watermelon to the 300+ member Iowa State University Cyclone Football ‘Varsity’ Marching Band.
- “Living Faith,” an opportunity to hear about the faith journeys of others began. Three panelists shared their faith journey each week with questions at the end.
- *faithspring* (our alternative worship service) started the semester with a sermon series entitled “Reality Check” where we looked for faith messages in popular reality TV shows.

September

- Food and Faith was our first short term study of the semester. We baked bread together, had rice and beans, and had a spiritual potluck. We talked about scripture, poverty in the US and world, and what spiritual significance food has in our lives.
- We watched *Wesley* (the movie) and discussed the life of John Wesley.
- Guest preacher, Rev. Eric Guy preached at *faithspring*.
- Supermarket Stakeout 1,237 items were collected for MICA (the local food pantry).

October

- WF students and friends cleaned the section of highway we adopted and one of the sections next to us for CyServe (the homecoming day of service at ISU).
- A Midnight Breakfast in the afternoon was served to raise money for our 2012 Spring Break Mission Trip to the Heifer Ranch.

November

- We served a meal at Food at First (a free meal program at First UMC).
- Hope blankets and scarves were made for families at ERP (the Emergency Residence Project).
- We had a Puppet Flashmob (a group of 6 students plus friends) that performed “Sanctuarian Rhapsody” in worship.

December

- Over 20 ISU students helped at the Advent Workshop by being big buddies to kids from ERP and helping them with crafts, serving as greeters, staffing craft tables, or staffing the refreshment table.
- Dead week stress relievers included crafts and movies, ice cream making and cookie baking, and a game night.
- Finals Week Breakfasts happened once again.

Thanks for the Memories!