

Communications Committee

2010 Major Report

General Duties:

The Communications Committee exists to facilitate and enhance the flow of information within the church family and into the larger community.

Members

Members during the year included Mary Ellena Ward, chair, Emily Reel, co-chair, Mary Atthowe, Courtney Baker, Snookie Caldwell and Jo Ann Wilson.

2010 Accomplishments

ACS Programs

- JoAnn Wilson maintains information on church members and associates in the ACS database.
- The committee proposed migration to the ACS On-Demand service. This would enable automatic backups and enhanced data accessibility, but this migration was not pursued for a number of reasons.
- The software on the ACS Server computer has been upgraded to the latest version. This will make future upgrades to the Windows 7 operating system possible as aging equipment is replaced.
- There are many capabilities offered by the existing ACS system that have not been used by us. This will be an area of investigation in 2011.

Bulletin Boards

Some bulletin boards have received new life and there are additional plans for others.

Church Computers And Computer Network

- Two of the church computers needed to be replaced in 2010. Due to the incompatibility of Windows 7 with the then installed version of ACS People Suite software and the potential for other conflicts, we decided to continue with Windows XP. The new computers are, however, licensed for Windows 7 as well.
- Previously Snookie Caldwell was printing color brochures for distribution. She is no longer able to do that so the committee reconsidered the purchase of a color laser printer. The upfront price would be offset by reduced printing costs in less than two years, but due to budget restraints in 2011, this has been put on hold.
- The 2011 budget request included funds for wireless penetration into (we hope) all areas of Murray Hall.

Membership Directory

Lila Rogers continues to produce updates to the membership list. There have been no updates for the member picture pages.

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Newsletter

- Mary Atthowe continues to do a wonderful job assembling and formatting the newsletter and we are blessed with a dedicated team that assembles and sorts the physical copies for mailing.
- In 2010 roughly 60 members elected to access the newsletter online thereby saving postage and printing. This is up from 40 in 2009.

Posters And Flyers

Increased printing costs have delayed the production of brochures.

Press Releases

There was one request to the committee for a press release in 2010. This remains an area where we feel additional activity would be beneficial – particularly as we enter into a construction phase.

Website

Mary Ellena Ward continues as web manager.

There have been many events that have gone unrecorded by pictures on the web site. Please consider if you know people who are interested in attending events to take pictures. Many thanks to Frank Harrelson who has served in this area.