

IDW Mission Grant Evaluation Report Form

Grant recipients are to complete and submit the report form within one month of the completion of the effort. If this is a continuing ministry, please submit a report by January 31st of the following year, in which the grant is received. Include pictures/videos that help share the story with other congregations to encourage them in their own ministry. Final grant funds will be sent upon receipt of this evaluation.

Contact Person, Congregation, and email address: Randy Cormeny, St.John's, Battle Creek

Please provide a brief overview of the effort:

With funding from Iowa District West we received a mission grant of \$500.00 to have a Community Feed on Labor Day. We served hot dogs, hamburgers, fish, sweet corn, and desserts. The corn was handpicked by volunteers and donated by Ed Campbell. The fish were also donated by Pastor Cormeny, Ron Riessen, Doug Dausel, and Byron Dausel. St. John's volunteers set up the community shelter house, did the cooking, the serving and the clean up. We had over 20 volunteers. Over 275 people were served. There was no cost to the community. When people wanted to know where they could make a donation the volunteers were trained to reply, "There is no charge. We're doing this because Jesus loves you."

What goals were established for this effort and what did you hope to accomplish? There were several goals:

1. That Jesus loves everyone in Battle Creek.
2. To change the view of the community that all churches want is money.
3. To show that we are servants.
4. For church members to experience the fellowship and joy of working together for the Lord and showing His love.

Did you achieve your goals? If not, what do you think were some of the contributing factors?

Yes and no. Out of 600 people in the community only 275 showed up. But those who did show up were blessed. We advertised in the local paper and handed out flyers to every home in town. We received many thanks and people experienced St. John's interest in the people of our community.

Is there anything you would do differently if you were to undertake this effort again?

Advertise more with street signs. Put up a sign in the shelter house thanking the community for making our town a wonderful place to live.

What lessons were learned through this effort?

This project was worth the effort. Communication of who was in charge of the event and what their duties were needed to be clearer. However more organization often leads to less volunteers.

Will this outreach effort continue and be sustaining? Did a new outreach opportunity present itself?

Yes! Outreach was seen in relationship development. People talked to one another. Some had problems they shared. Others just wanted to say thanks. One of the great things is that the volunteers were identified as members of St. John's. They are now seen as Christians in a positive light. People remember them and talk to them even if it's a brief greeting. The seed of love has been planted and a favorable identity has been established. One blessing was that since we had left-overs we had another fish fry at the local nursing home.

What suggestions would you give to a congregation considering a similar effort?

First make sure you have the resources. Without the ladies donating desserts, fishermen donating their catch (150 pounds of fillets), Ed donating corn (300 ears) and the helpers donating their time it couldn't be done. This type of event has to be a unified effort. Pick a date when people will be able to attend. The cost without donations would be over a thousand dollars for 300 people. Advertise with more street signs. Finally have faith that God will bless your efforts to serve Him.