

## **Our Saviour's Lutheran Church Malaria Campaign 2011**

Based on our membership and the goal of \$4 per Baptized member, OSLC had a goal of \$6,500. A lofty goal—as we know some will give more and some won't give at all. We embarked on this campaign by encouraging the upper elementary students (grades 3-6), along with the support of their families, to lead the effort. We had a group of six families who really took hold of this project and did an amazing job. Their dedication is commendable.

We began brainstorming last Spring and continued meeting through the summer. In June at VBS we distributed an empty photo film canister to each of the children asking them to return it with quarters. Many did and it was a precursor to the success we would see with that element of our campaign called "Quarters for the Cause". In fact, in the Fall when we handed the canisters out to the Sunday School children and to the Congregation, it ended up bringing in over 6,000 quarters! So more than \$1,500 dollars were raised through this activity. We had a little competition to see who would return the higher percentage—Sunday School or the Congregation. The Congregation finished ahead at the end by a small margin, but the great news is that we had about 50% return!! Amazing!

Our Narthex showcased a Malaria net, oversized mosquitos, and a wall of information about malaria. (Pictures attached.)

We held a spaghetti luncheon in October. Most of the food was donated and we served 63 people a delicious spaghetti luncheon on one of the best Fall days of the year! We profited more than \$250. Following the spaghetti luncheon there was a Knowledge-a-thon held (all about malaria). The upper elementary youth secured pledges and this brought in more than \$400.

Some of the Moms took the lead on a basket silent auction. Items for the auction were donated from members, friends, and businesses. The baskets were displayed in the Narthex and available to be bid on for three weeks. By the time the auction was over we had raised over \$1,600! Unbelievable!!

So at the end of our campaign, the entire Congregation was aware of the Malaria initiative, the kids were on board with helping to make a difference (if only for 1), and we were 60% to our goal for a total of over \$3,900. For now, we will let the campaign rest, but not the committee! ☺ We are already meeting to begin planning for next year . . . and we're cooking up some really good ideas!!

*Laura Purath*

*Ministries Coordinator*

*Fortifying People in Mission*

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