



### **What is the area of your Special Ministry?**

Our special ministry is a weekly outreach ministry that we call: **180 Go!** For one hour a week, we go out into our community and perform acts of service wherever we are needed. With many hands and willing spirits, we are able to accomplish a lot in a short amount of time. Our projects over the past year have been:

- Stocking shelves at Operation Bootstrap. Operation Bootstrap is a warehouse that provides food and other types of assistance to Portage County residents. There are volunteers who help out during the day, but we arrive in the evening when the warehouse is closed and stock shelves so that Bootstrap can serve the public efficiently.
- Stocking the food pantry shelves at the Salvation Army Hope Center and we providing meals for the people living at the Hope Center.
- Special projects at the Family Crisis Center. The projects have included cleaning and preparing apartments for families of domestic abuse and painting a bedroom at the Family Crisis Center.
- Assisting with a grant project at the Central Wisconsin Children's Museum. The grant provided money to improve some of their activity centers and we were able to help laminate the items for the display.
- Helping the Boys & Girls Club with a special art project at their after school club. With thirty or more kids painting at once, our extra hands were definitely needed.
- Boxing quilts, preparing health kits, and working on other projects for Lutheran Disaster Response.

### **How did you get started on this special ministry?**

In September of 2006 Redeemer launched a mid-week education and fellowship service on Wednesday nights using 1 Kings 8:58a as our guide. Our Wednesday night ministry is called 180. In keeping with our church mission: "Gather, Grow and Go", **180 Go!** became the "Go" part of our mid-week ministry. We *Gather* for dinner and a brief service, *Grow* through education and fellowship and *Go* into the community and serve.

### **What makes this ministry so Successful?**

**180 Go!** fills many needs within our community and in our own faith walk. Helping others on a weekly basis fills a need within each one of us to serve Christ through serving others. Helping the nonprofit organizations gives us the opportunity to lighten the load of

the volunteers and staff that serve so many people in our community. In order for this ministry to be successful we must have volunteers who are flexible and willing to go wherever we are called. We are fortunate to have members in our faith community who have willing spirits. Our group ranges in age from 6 to 60+ and we have had as few as three people and as many as fifteen participating in an evening. We rarely have the opportunity to evangelize but we hope that our actions speak louder than words.