



SPARKS

Grand Rapids Y Service Club
Y Service Clubs International
Mid East Region
December 7, 2012

OUR MISSION

As Y's Men International is a world-wide fellowship of persons of all faiths working constructively together based on the Christian teachings, in partnership with and supporting the YMCA, its mission is to strive through active service to develop, encourage and provide leadership to build a better world for all humankind.

CLUB OFFICERS

Pres: Peter Chadwick
Pres. Elect: Neil Topliffe
Secretary: Ethan Ray
Treasurer: Bob Smith
Asst. Treas: Tom Johnson

BOARD MEMBERS

Brad Howell
Mark Radtke
Harry Capogna
Bob Williams
Past Pres: John Duiven

ACTIVITY CHAIRS

Chaplin: Gary Davis
Run Thru the Rapids:
Syd Baxter & Kent Mudie
Santa Claus Girls:
Bob Smith
White Elephant Sale:
Gregory Winer, Chair
Sparks Editor:
Neil Topliffe
[Sparks Editor](#)

President Pete Chadwick called the club together. Gary Davis offered an invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Guests: Lois Feichtenbinder (Chuck Marks), Tim Hugge (Jon Rupert), Gary Steensug (Al George)

Grateful Dollars were received.

Club News:

- **Run Thru the Rapids:** Kent Mudie reported that the Run this year netted \$13,500, one of the highest amounts in several years.
- **Service Club Endowment:** Pete reported that the fund had some new contributions bringing it to \$6,800 toward start up goal of \$10,000. He reminded the group that this is a good opportunity to contribute before year end to support the camp in perpetuity. He also added a gift of \$101 to the fund from the family of Ed Lamberts, who passed away recently, in honor of his 101 years.
- **Santa Claus Girls:** Sorting continues at Amway location. Distribution is December 15.
- **Camp Manitou-Lin 100th Anniversary:** Syd Baxter reminded us to keep June 13 on our calendar for special festivities.
- **Board meeting:** It will be January 16, 5:30 pm at Pinnacle Insurance office board room, 1430 Monroe Ave., NW.

Upcoming Speakers

Jan. 4 Greg Dodd – Annual update on Camp Manitou-Lin
Jan. 18 Judge Hugh Brenneman – US Magistrate Court W MI
Feb. 1 Dave Grube – Cornerstone University Athletic Director
Feb. 15 Nadira Kharmai – Producer of Manitou-Lin video
Mar. 1 Mary Tuuk – CEO of Fifth Third Bank West Michigan
Mar. 15 Mike McCarthy – Pres. Ddm Marketing: “Social Media”

Father Fedewa Speaks to Our Waiting

Father Michael Fedewa, rector of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, using the title "Waiting for the End," provided a journey for club members of the tradition of Advent in the Christian church as a time of waiting; looking back at the coming of Jesus birth into the here and now of our lives. "When we feed the hungry now, Jesus comes," Father Mike said. "When we help the sick now, Jesus comes."

Fedewa drew upon the obsession of some looking for the end times, drawing upon special dates of the Mayan Calendar and other sources. "A Google search of 'end of the world' generates 3.5 million hits." He observed that doomsday predictions are usually hoaxes by scam artists, and too often based on a misunderstanding of the second coming of Christ for Christians.

For Christians, what's most important about Christmas is not a day when Christ comes but that he is coming here and now, over and over, Father Mike explained. "That's what we are waiting for, not 2,000 years ago, not coming in the end."

"The Y Service Club's work brings the world to Christ in the world today. You bring hope. Your work brings Jesus alive now in those kids you help go to camp. What you do is the reason for the season. You are bringing about a new world," the rector concluded.

December 14 Program

Santa Claus Girls Orientation & Assignments

Bob Smith

International Y Mosquito Netting Project

John Carruthers

"(Sierra Leone) successfully delivered a total of 3.2 million long-lasting insecticide-treated nets in the space of 7 days and the contribution of the Red Cross, Y's Men International and the YMCA, both in financial terms and through the mobilisation of community-based volunteers was key to this campaign's success and essential in reaching universal coverage targets in the districts of Kono and Kailahun."

- *Excerpt from Y's International Anti-Malaria Project Report*

Did you know?

Our Y Service Club Endowment Fund is 3/4ths the way to being fully funded. Contributions go to "Y Service Club," "Endowment Fund" Send checks to Bob Smith, treasurer.

SPARKS NEWS:

If you have anything to put in the Sparks, email Neil at: editor@gryserviceclub.org



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[-White Elephant Sale](#)

[-Run Thru the Rapids](#)

Grand Rapids Y Service Club

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www.gryserviceclub.org

www.runthrutherapids.com

is a member of

Y Service Clubs International.

www.ysmen.org

www.ysmenusa.com

