

Puppet Ministry Report 2017: H.I.S. (Hands In Spirit) Puppeteers

"The Spirit is in you. You have received Him from God. You don't belong to yourselves. Christ has paid the price for you. So use your bodies in a way that honors God." 1Corinthians 6:19-20

The puppet ministry began in 2011 with a memorial donation from the Jay Augustine family. The focus of the puppet ministry is to guide the young in an intergenerational ministry, sharing the Word of God in a fun, caring, supportive group. The volunteer directors, Julie Graham, Cindy Hoadley, and Katie Claus, believe that the vision, time and talent are gifts given by God, which are lead and developed through prayer and work.

The puppeteers for the year 2017 included Ensya Arps, Jayda Arps, Anjel Garcia, Beatrice Garcia, Mark Garcia, Alex Garcia, Lucas Miller, Elizabeth Miller, Riley Gausman, Meera Lange, Ethan Yang, Elliot Yang, Hunter Yang.

2017 was a very busy year for the puppeteers.

February: The Beach Brunch fund raiser for the Alumni Mission Trip to Cuba performing "Get On Board with the Lord" and "Glory to His Name"

April: Schuyler Presbyterian Church Awana Awards program performing "I Will Follow Him" and "Get On Board with the Lord".

Omaha Puppet Festival by Creative Ministries competing in the song competition performing, "I Will Follow Him" earning a Silver Award. This was an overnight stay and included learning workshops.

Sunday Church service performing "I Will Follow Him"

May: Women's Fellowship program performing "Doxology" along with a brief overview of the history of the Doxology and the puppet ministry at Federated Church. The audience then participated in a performing workshop given by the puppeteers.

June: VBS at Methodist Church performing "My God is So Big"

August: Columbus Days Parade. The puppeteers and puppets walked and sang with the Federated Church float.

October: Children's Sabbath Sunday church service performing "My God is So Big"

December: Sunday church service performing a rap version of "We Three Kings" and "Go Tell It on the Mountain"

Special Mission: Alumni Mission Trip to Cuba: Some of the puppets stole away with the alumni to Cuba to visit with the children living in a Cuba orphanage. It was during this visit that 3 of the beloved puppets decided to stay in Cuba and start a ministry there with those children. It was a great day sharing in the glory of God's Love.

We graciously thank the members and friends of Federated Church for your prayers and financial contributions that support this puppet ministry.

It has been a Blessed year. Katie, Cindy and I have watched these puppeteers grow in skill and grow with maturity. They are focused and have a deep love for Jesus. They have a desire to use their talents, skills, and personality to share the Word of God's love. It is truly a gift and we feel Blessed. These young puppeteers love having adults join and puppeteer with them. Please consider being part of this ministry. Come practice with us on Wednesday evenings at 6:30. We will welcome you with our hands in the air!

Peace, Love, & God's Blessings,

Julie Canaday Graham, Director H.I.S. Puppeteers of Federated Church