This year I continue to Praise God for the amazing women that are part of the Windham Baptist Church Family. I praise God for the connections that are being created as some go on missions trips together, adopt kids together, study God’s word together and serve one another as a team.

A few highlights from this year. In October we had our annual “Autumn Night Out” and Meghan Wilsen shared her testimony with us. This was a great night for many to reconnect with each other and spend a relaxing evening together. November brought a road trip to Hartford, CT as 18 of us drove down to be part of the “Women of Faith Conference”. This was a precious time to step out of the “normal” and sit and learn from some talented men and women through song and study of God’s word. From there we have had a few baby showers, a bridal shower along with several great opportunities to serve one another with meals and just care for one another. Laurel Jerry and Betty Riegal held yet another wonderful sewing night where some of our ladies made beautiful quilted bags.

Special gifts God has given the WBC family this year are in the form of little bundles: like Benjamin Lloyd, born to Joel and Cassy; Ellie Plummer given to Alicia and Dan; and Alden Carrier given to Alora and Matt.

Just as the clothes swap is one great venue for connecting women here at WBC and beyond, there are so many other areas that go unseen which are carried out by WBC women and touch those well beyond these walls. Some of the ministry is done when needs arise like when Sarah Williams broke her leg and women and families teamed up and to come alongside Sarah and her family. Other areas are creative examples coming out from among the women here at WBC who love others and want to encourage them like Angie Elder. Angie started an Exercise “Facebook” page where girls “Shred” (exercise) stories could be shared and where ladies check in with each other on how they are doing and keep one another accountable. The connections being formed like this are missed by many but have such a bigger impact than one can measure. I am praying this love for serving and love for the women will continue as we progress through the rest of 2011 and into the next year of 2012. I am praying we will learn more about how to build each other up and help each other show Jesus to each other in and to this fallen world.

Two of many ways to accomplish this desire will be, first, to gather a fresh team or small core of women who love Jesus and have a heart for women’s ministry here at WBC and their greater community. We want to continue to have events and venues like the clothes swap, the exercise accountability, etc. and I truly hope to see other ministry moments like these spring up not always created by the Women’s ministry but by ones that are simply from the women of WBC that support the goals and desire of this church family. As always we love to come along side those who have ideas to help, support and encourage and advise them. Send me a card or email me.

The second area would be in the area of the “older teaching the younger” here at WBC and beyond. This may look like two girls going out for coffee, or four gals working on a cleaning project for a friend; it may be two or more women studying a book of God’s word together, but ideally it is women teaching women how to love their Lord and serve Him daily. So, it needs to be more than just coffee and chocolate. The goal would be that these relationships take on a more personal form as they grow to where two women are relating to one another in a way that they share their victories and their sorrows, they pray together and study together. To the younger I say be bold, ask, make a point to bring some alongside you. To the older, God has gifted you, He has called us all to be servants, share your ability to cook with another younger person, teach them how you study God’s Word….such great things will come when we do this! I need this, too.

One of His, Tracy Gedicks