

Minutes from Mission Team meeting of March 13, 2018

Present: Sally Johnson (visitor), Pastor Bill, Shirley Neff, Louise Shaw, Ann Scott

Opened with prayer for guidance for decision to be made.

Update on School Bags and Health Kits projects. We have the minimum needed for the school bags. Much appreciation to those who have sewed them. We only need about \$50 to have enough money to ship the health kits and cover the cost of the toothpaste that will be added to them.

Question: What position should this Team take regarding asking for giving specifically for Ministry Shares? We recognize that this is really the first line of giving for missions and feel it is important for the congregation to know how and why these funds are so necessary. We recognize that these funds are more abstract to present than some of the more easily visualized mission askings. Pastor passed out a booklet--Let's Go Fishing--which explains these funds. Hopefully the Team will understand them better and will be able to communicate this information more broadly throughout the congregation. These funds are one of the strengths of the UMC. We will continue to work toward better understanding the importance of these.

Question: Do we want to participate in the denomination-wide Special Sundays? It was agreed that we will. There are six of them each year. Again, this an important part of being a part of the UMC. The videos provided by the UMC will be shown to the congregation to further their understanding of how the monies are used.

A graph was presented showing the Mission giving from mid-January through early March. Pastor Bill is going to work with Jennifer to have this prepared for the congregation to see. It was suggested that the congregation would welcome clearly stated information regarding income, expenses and balances for the entire budget.

Mission askings for the coming weeks were chosen. We will give most of the askings two weeks. Also, we will give a preview a week ahead of the date either in the bulletin, from the Pulpit with various presenters or by video. We want to build understanding and give people a better chance to respond. These will be explained in the Chimes as well.

The mission for Bible School will be the UMCOR clean water program known as WASH.

Support for the Food Pantry was discussed. Ann is to keep in close touch with Judy and Bob as to the state of finances there. We will resume asking for funds as a Mission when a need arises. We will promote Simply Give when the next time comes also.

The next Missions Team meeting will be May 15 at 11:30 in the Parlor.

