

### **Missions Report** by Barb Matya

Missions continues to do the HOC soup kitchen every month, collect for the Supply Closet and Change for Change. In March, we are collecting canned goods for the Food Box hoping that everyone would think of giving up a food item for Lent to help others.

We donated \$200 to CAPS to purchase smoke detectors for their clients. They don't have funding available to use for them. Earlier this year we gave \$500 to Iowa Valley Leadership and \$2,000 to each of our 4 missionary families. The hat and mitten donations to our schools is always appreciated.

The last few months, I have been blessed to have most of the volunteers for soup kitchen come from my Temple Builders exercise class that meets here at church.

We continue to look for new ways to help people locally.

### **UMW Report** by Edie Hodges

- A report was in the March FUMC Newsletter as to the donations given in 2017 from UMW.
- **Spiritual Growth Day** – March 10, 2018 – Covenant of Self, Community, Church, & God – Day of uplifting, laughing, loving and praying @ Iowa UMC Conference Center, 2301 Rittenhouse St. , Des Moines, IA. Ruth Jackson attended this meeting.
- **4<sup>th</sup> Annual United Methodist Women Day of Giving was on March 23, 2018.** This honored the day in 1860 when a small group of women braved a legendary torrential rain to gather at Tremont Methodist Episcopal Church in Boston, Massachusetts and organized for mission. A Day of Giving gifts go to **The Legacy Fund**, a permanent endowment that will support the mission outreach of future generations of United Methodist Women as they address the needs of women, children and youth through FAITH-HOPE-LOVE in action. A Day of Giving was a 24-hour giving festival. **In 2019 it will be 150 year celebration of UMW. More information will be coming about how and when we will celebrate this mile stone @ FUMC.**

**The 45th Annual Spring Salad Luncheon will be held Thursday, April 26, 2018 in Fellowship Hall from 11:00 am - 1:00 pm.** We have a great team this year of Bev Sloppy and Edie Hodges as Co-Chairs, Betty Gray and Jana Latham as Callers, Barb Mayta, Jo Ruff, and Edie Hodges as Publicity, Marleta Scritchfield and Donna Cerka as Dining Rooms Chairs, Karen Berger and Connie Etter as Kitchen Chairs, and Janet Wenk and Roberta Gaudry as Sweet treat Chairs. Much information will be coming out starting this Sunday about how members and friends can help donate food items and sign up to work that day. The Tickets will be \$8.00. Reservations can be made for groups of 6 or more. **Come, invite family, friends, colleagues, and neighbors to this event.**

**SPRC Report** by Dick Cope

1. Completed and distributed the revised FUMC Employee Handbook in December Meetings were held in January with all employees to answer any questions.
2. Meredith Bell and Brett Umthun completed their three years of service on SPRC in December. We thank them both for their excellent contribution and insight. They will be missed.
3. Replacing Meredith and Brett effective January 1st will be Kendall Meyeraan and Brent Nuese.

Our seven member committee will then be as follows:

Julie Bousum  
Mary Cowdrey  
Jim Moore  
Tim Duden  
Kendall Meyeraan  
Brent Nuese  
Dick Cope

4. Dick Cope was re-elected to serve as SPRC Chairman in 2018.

**Finance Committee** by Chair-Kevin Miller

Our finances are in very good shape. We closed out 2017 by paying our apportionments in full and had a nice carry over to start out 2018. So far in 2018 we have kept all of our bills paid in full including our first quarter apportionments. I feel like we may have turned the corner with our finances and not struggling to meet all of our financial obligations.

After everything that happened last year the Finance Committee has been writing a new Finance Policy and we are close to finalizing that document. Many of the changes we have put in the policy have already been implemented and now we are just trying to finalize the verbiage in the document.

**Christian Education** by Director-Jenn Pedersen

Weekly Sunday School programming, utilizing the Orange curriculum continues for our children and youth. We have a committed team of teachers and helpers who are ministering to our children and youth each week. The Orange curriculum has been well received by our leaders and students. It is an engaging and biblically sound curriculum which we plan to continue using for the 2018/2019 school year.

## AD COUNCIL REPORTS –MARCH 20, 2018

This spring we have three family experience events planned. Our first event was held on February 25th following morning worship and included a time of games, teaching, food, fellowship, and an outreach project of creating random acts of kindness bags for families to share with others which tied into our February Sunday School theme of kindness. Our next family experience event will be March 25th following morning worship. The program for this event will be the walk through Holy Week program which has been done in previous years with 5 different locations throughout the church detailing the events of Holy Week, with an Easter egg hunt at the end of the walk. Brunch will be shared at the beginning of the event. Our final spring family experience event will be on May 6th from 4-6 pm.

This spring we have hosted two Sunday evening youth events on February 11th and March 4th. We have three more youth events planned on March 25th, April 15th, and May 6th. These youth events include a time of fellowship, food, worship and teaching. Students have been engaged and enjoying these times so far with 8-12 students in attendance. We hope these events will continue to grow and are encouraging students to invite friends.

Gina Ruddock, Shirley Mann, and Anna Kodis and I (Jenn) will be attending the Orange conference at the end of April to gain more education about this curriculum and help to plan toward our continuing use of this curriculum. We pray this time will be an opportunity to learn how to more fully utilize the resources provided by Orange to reach the children, youth and families in our church and community.

I am enjoying my new role as Christian education director and pray that the involvement of students and families will grow both in depth and numbers.