

## Peace Lutheran Church Mission Team Meeting June 22, 2020

The meeting began at 9:30 a.m.

Present: Lynn Kickingbird (Chair), Cynthia Baim (Vice Chair), Lena Broker (Secretary), Pastor Baker, Jan Collins, Janie Drake, Sonya Easley, Cathy McVay, Ann and David Schley.

The meeting began with opening devotions, prayer, and a reminder of our guiding principle "You are the light of the world...let your light shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven." Matt 5: 14-16

As we try to discern to which, out of so many worthwhile missions we are being called to serve, we must wait before God in prayer for his blessing and guidance. Prayer revitalizes our hope and blesses those who receive our service.

### Review of Mission funding

Lynn reviewed our budget status. Nine thousand dollars are left from the one-time special gift of ten thousand dollars, six thousand dollars recently came to light that was left from the mission trip to Kenya in 2012 and designated for global mission, and approximately fifteen thousand dollars in the general mission fund.

She also asked the group to support City Rescue Mission with an additional \$500 which will be matched \$1 for \$1 by a matching gift. This would give us the opportunity to meet a critical community need to care for the homeless and leverage our resources. The measure passed unanimously.

### Update on youth efforts

Lynn gave an update on youth mission efforts. A date has been set for a carwash on Saturday July 11<sup>th</sup> to raise funds for a yet undesignated mission. The youth are researching a Group called "Preemptive Love" that supports Syrian refugees.

Pastor Baker suggested that for a first fundraiser they might designate a local Mission such as Project 66 Food Pantry and Resource Center since it has local name recognition. Sonya Easley will look into special T shirts for the youth to wear on that day. The mission Team will match all funds raised. A final decision will be made by the youth after their next meeting on June 24<sup>th</sup>. Pastor Baker praised the youth for their eagerness to serve and youth leader Jackson Watts for his leadership during this challenging time.

### Other reports

Jan Collins presented information on Anna's House, a local faith-based organization with the mission to provide stable and loving foster homes where siblings can be kept together and foster families have the training and support they need to be successful. Volunteers of various ages and backgrounds are welcome weekly, monthly or one time to partner in special events and projects, or have donation drives to prepare for these. Help is needed in a resource room where families can "shop" for free for the foster children in their care from donated goods that have been sorted, cleaned and organized. Volunteers can also prepare meals for busy foster families getting a new placement. Group volunteers can help with gardening, window washing, playing with the children on the playground or basketball courts or

splashpad. One of the most tangible ways to bless a family is to host a drive to meet special needs such as diapers/wipes or gift cards for needed items. Anna's House is located in Luther Ok.

Lynn Kickingbird reported that the Oaks Indian Center which is located in Oaks OK currently has a matching \$100,000 grant opportunity to raise funds for new cottages. Care is given there to neglected or abandoned Native American children so that they can grow and mature in God's love in a safe and stable environment building character and learning skills that will serve them in the future.

The Homeless Alliance was mentioned as a possibility for mission as well. When we are able to gather again as a church body we would like to invite Dan Straughn, executive director to come and give a presentation. Lynn Kickingbird will research this.

Janie Drake mentioned that older youth and adult volunteers were always needed at the Coffee Creek riding center to help special needs children enjoy their experience in therapeutic riding lessons that help them gain strength, balance, coordination and improved self image.

The Missions team would like to wisely discern to which missions our congregation is being called, to focus on at least one international mission, one national mission and one or several local missions as we are able. It is our intention to keep these before the congregation in prayers, in newsletter articles etc. in order to involve as many members as possible to fulfill our calling to "Go" and make disciples for Christ

#### Assignments

Sonya Easley, Cynthia Baim, and Lena broker will schedule a conference call with Jenny Brockman to learn more about overseas missions and which of these currently has the greatest need or opportunity for involvement. Jenny Brockman is the assistant to Dr. Gemiches Buba who heads the missions office of the NALC.

Cathy McVay and Janie Drake will research faith based non profits that might special items collected at this time where we cannot serve in person

Lynn Kickingbird will obtain more information from David Breidenreich regarding missions in Eastern Europe and the far east. A group formerly known as the EEMN (Eastern European Missions Network) has regrouped under the name SON and is expanding its outreach.

#### Decisions Made

Ann and David Schley volunteered to gather all the food products left in the church pantry from Cook's Night Out and deliver them to the City Rescue Mission.

#### Next Meeting

**Monday July 6<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am**

Respectfully submitted by Lena broker