

MISSIONS WIN TEAM MEETING MINUTES
Sunday, October 20, 2019
12:15 pm, MUMC Rm 221

Attendees: Moe Parisien, Autumn Dennis, John Himpel and Liz Shuburte,
Absent Members: Cindy Steiner & Cindy Wolk

The following is a summary of key points of discussion from our 10/20/19 meeting along with actions coming out of the meeting.

PROJECT UPDATES:

VIMstl - Islamic Foundation of St. Louis - Moe reported that a grant request to the Merck Community Foundation to support the work of the Islamic Foundation of St. Louis and their Volunteers in Medicine Free Clinic is 90% completed and now in the hands of VIMstl staff for review and content development. For those keeping track of the number of lives impacted by this mission ministry, on an annualized basis, there are 343 patients being treated at the VIMstl clinic for hypertension.

Action Step: Moe to continue to work with VIMstl staff to complete the grant proposal to Merck before the end of the year.

Parkway School District - Sneakers with Soul – Work has begun with Sneakers with Soul® to provide new adidas sneakers to approximately 125 at-risk kids from across the District. Sneakers with Soul will be coordinating this program with the social workers and counselors within each of the schools through the Parkway School District's headquarters offices. These kids will just be the beginning of the "sneakers for kids in need" program for the District with still many more kids to be served. Sneakers with Soul will be making use of the funding generated by MUMC during the Jul-Aug SwS campaign to support this effort.

Action Step: A Memo of Understanding has been presented and signed by Parkway School District administrative staff and Moe Parisien with Sneakers with Soul with initial orders for new sneakers now in the works.

Personal Essentials

The Personal Essential ministry is continuing its work with Circle of Concern. The essentials provided by this MUMC ministry is presently impacting 625 families representing approximately 2,100 individuals that are seeking assistance from Circle of Concern.

Helping Neighborhood Homeowners – Autumn reported on her efforts to gather information from the Missouri Conference regarding how other Conference churches have addressed the matter of “liability” for work performed and potential personal injury of the volunteer workers. Discussion within the WIN team also centered on how MUMC might partner with other area churches in an inter-faith manner, as well as possible secular non-profit organizations that are presently engaged in similar activities.

Action Step: Once all the information has been gathered, a separate meeting of the interested parties will need to take place to decide how best to proceed.

Literacy Project

Liz Shuburte reported on the work of the Literacy Project. The program is now underway at Peabody Elementary School and going well. Thus far the coordination with the volunteer literacy efforts with kindergarteners and first graders at Peabody Elementary are underway with The Gathering are also working well.

- The Literacy Project for MUMC began by working with twelve 4th-grade students with the goal of increasing to 24 students.
- Liz has met with Robin Bell, District Superintendent for the Gateway Central District to determine the interest in a broader volunteer effort to coordinate the efforts of smaller churches within the Gateway Central District to participate in a broader Literacy effort. The idea was positively received by Rev. Bell

Action Item: Liz Shuburte to follow-up with D.S. Robin Bell to see how Manchester UMC with Liz’s leadership (coordinated with Nicki Reinhardt-Swierk) can take the lead in working with the smaller GC churches to expand this Literacy Project.

Fighting Hunger

John Himpel has volunteered to take the lead in putting together a “Feed the Hungry” program in coordination with the Midwest Mission Distribution Center (MMDC) and volunteers from Manchester UMC. This project would present a wonderful opportunity to engage more people in mission work at MUMC. The WIN team thought that there may well be opportunity to engage young families and potentially the Circle of Friends Pre-School for volunteer engagement. The program offered by MMDC delivers a nutritious rice meal at a cost of just \$1 per package. A single package feeds six people. The meal kit is assembled on-site at the sponsoring church with a 600-pack minimum. MMDC requests that the sponsoring church make a contribution for mileage at the rate of \$0.58 a mile and lodging, if necessary, at a rate of \$100/night. All meals are distributed internationally or domestically for disaster relief.

Action Step: Need to determine volunteer interest and funding to support the program.

Meeting was called to a close at 1:00 pm.

NEXT MEETING: Sun., Nov. 24, 2019 at 12:15 pm, Rm 221

Respectfully submitted:

Maurice “Moe” Parisien