

Unity Mission News

March 2018

One Great Hour of Sharing

Please join Presbyterians worldwide in sharing God's love with our neighbors-in-need by providing relief from natural and human-caused disasters, food for the hungry, and support for the poor and oppressed. On Easter Sunday, we will receive a special collection for **One Great Hour of Sharing**. If we each do a little, it adds up to a lot!



Emergency Support to A2S

Unity supports Access to Success (A2S), an education initiative for children in Nigeria, by helping raise funds to support its mission. Recently, a tragic fire in a village A2S serves resulted in the death of all family members except one, 8-year old Sarah. Sarah was severely burned and is undergoing intensive medical care. A2S has been paying for her medical treatment and will continue to do so. Chris Easterling is maintaining close contact with Andrew Lovedale (former Davidson College basketball star, A2S founder, and frequent visitor to Unity) to tailor Unity's financial support to help meet Sarah's most critical needs. Please keep Sarah in your prayers.

Building Bridges to Racial Unity

On March 11, Compassion, Peace & Justice (CPJ) committee members hosted 15 African-American community leaders for dinner and discussion on racism. Through this event, CPJ, on behalf of Unity, reached out to our neighbors and invited them to talk about their life experiences growing up and living in East Lincoln. CPJ members listened and learned a lot. One thing we learned is that despite enduring hurtful attitudes and behaviors through the years, African-American families here live a strong faith centered in God's love.



God's love filled Unity as together we spoke honestly about the past and present. With great trust and hope, we also looked forward and identified ways to become better friends and neighbors. Suggestions included designing a version of our Meals & Mingles program, hosting special choir recitals, forming inter-church Bible studies, and inviting each other to respective church functions. CP&J will study these ideas and report its recommendations to the Session. Kudos to Sam Sipes and Elaine Jenkins for planning and facilitating this significant and successful event. Thanks to Denita Sample and Fran Stewart for helping with the meal.

Flourish Kenya and The Kilgoris Project

Gail Shiflett's granddaughter, Krista, stepped down from her role with The Kilgoris Project and created Flourish Kenya, a nonprofit to address the epidemic of adolescent teen pregnancy in the Kilgoris area of Kenya through education, prevention, and support. Krista, on her many trips with The Kilgoris Project, saw a need she could not ignore, nor could she ignore the fact our Lord was calling to her to do something about it. Krista will speak at our Presbyterian Women's Luncheon on April 15. Please join us to learn more about her journey thus far and her vision for Flourish Kenya going forward.

On April 23 at 10:00am, join us in the Meeting Room to greet David and Shadrack Lemiso from The Kilgoris Project. They are coming to thank our Mission Team and all Unity supporters for continuing to sponsor their work. Please contact Gail Shiflett at 704-677-2743 or Jay Sloan at 704-483-8388 so we can plan coffee and pastries for those attending.

Senior Luncheon

Some of the best things in life are free, especially if you're 55 or older! Make plans to attend our senior luncheon on April 19 at noon in the Fellowship Hall – good food, great fellowship and the “Golden Oldies.” Sign up through the church or call 704-483-5266 by April 16.

East Lincoln Christian Ministry Opportunities

Individuals and groups can volunteer to assist in the Closet and there is always a need for drivers to support the Home Meal Program, which requires about two hours minimum per month. Training is provided and the satisfaction of helping folks in need is unmeasurable. For more information and to volunteer, contact our church office or Bruce Rohr at 704-489-0574/bar8350@charter.net.