

Cathy Ingram, Chair; **Charlie Lee**, staff; **Linda Anderson**, Cathy Coons, **Evelyn Garrison**, **Pat Hall**, Mark Hammer, **Neil Huffman**, **Kevin Kattmann**, Katherine Poole, **Cilie Sutton**, **Hannah Vaughan** (those in bold in attendance)

Guests: Margaret Huffman, Jim Fisher, Edoh Folikouevi

1. Opening prayer by Charlie
2. On a motion from Kevin, a second from Pat, the minutes from the November meeting were approved.
3. Correspondence was passed around.
4. Jim Fisher and Edoh Folikouevi updated the committee on the project they have begun. After discussions with Mark Hammer, they are interested in starting an egg farm in Edoh's home village in Togo. The need is there. They will spend 3 weeks in Togo in March to explore the feasibility of this project.

Tutoring program: Margaret Huffman gave us an update on the tutoring program. They currently have 12-16 students on the roster and things are going well. **They need more volunteers especially for transportation and meals.** Steve Blackwood and Neil Huffman are team captains for transportation; Jinny Buchanan and Lisa Moore are team captains for dinners that are provided each week; Margaret, Susan Cochrane and Billie Toney are heading up the tutoring team. Tutors are also needed. Out of the Garden Project will be bringing their mobile food pantry one Wednesday/month. Cathy investigated the purchase of computers from HandyCapable Network for use with the tutoring program because the ones they were given are not really usable. Hannah made a motion that we use funds from the Emergency Assistance/Refugee funds to purchase these. Evelyn seconded and the motion passed. Cathy will submit a reimbursement request once they are purchased.

5. The preschool has requested the Mission Committee to help cover the scholarship needs for this school year--\$8695. They are requesting half of that. The discussion that followed brought up questions about how they determine how many scholarship to give, how much each one is, etc. The committee wants to support the preschool in this outreach, but we would just like to understand the process better. Cathy will ask Cindy Lee or Susan Preston to come to our next meeting to clarify the scholarship process. The vote was postponed.
6. Honor cards: Pat reported that the total for GUM, Congo, and Habitat was \$1390. The lower amount, compared to the last several years, could have been due in part to missing one Sunday because of the snow. A suggestion was made that we look into the possibility of the use of e-cards.
7. As we began our discussion about an impact project for 2019, Charlie let us know that the finance committee was requesting that we give back any endowment funds that we are not planning to use so that they can be put to use. We felt that since we are looking at a high impact project, we are planning to use those funds that were left over from last year in addition to this year's distribution. Cilie updated the committee on the status of New Jerusalem Church's Women's WE Shelter. They do not have the funds to provide the program at the Fairview St. location. We discussed whether we could house a WE shelter, but we don't have the rooms available. ShepNet is using some of the space we once used for Family Promise. In talking with another church who has a WE shelter, we would need a full-time staff person, 2 part-time people and 1-3 support churches. We decided that

is not feasible for us. Cilie will look into ways that we might help New Jerusalem Church. We stressed that whatever project we undertake, it needs to be sustainable.

Another idea presented is to build a tiny house. Tiny House Community Development builds tiny houses for homeless individuals in Greensboro. Kevin has called the organization and is waiting to hear back with more information.

Since our focus seems to be on homelessness and affordable housing, Cathy will contact Mike Cooke with Partnership Homes and the housing hub to see what things are already going on in our community in those areas.

We said that we were interested in short-term projects that are visible to the congregation and the community. We need to publicize whatever we choose to do. We need to break down the fear of getting involved by the congregation.

8. Bulletin board—not discussed
9. Cathy closed with prayer at 7:30pm.

Next meeting: Sunday, February 10, 5:30pm Room 319