

MISSIONS COMMITTEE MINUTES

February 12, 2008

1. **Welcome and thank you for coming.**

Members present: George Cook, Kathy Giannini, Russ Snyder, Jean Stricklin, Jeff Clinger.

CORRECTION TO MINUTES:

Kathy noted the January minutes indicated that Ridge Church gave funds to the director of Hammond Community Services for the purchase of gift cards. In fact, Ridge Church purchased gift cards for Hammond Community Services and gave them to the director for distribution.

2. **Old Business: Financial Update**

Kathy Giannini reported that the Lenten mail was out and some returns have been received. 2008 donations to date are combined Lenten and regular donations. The \$1800 donation during Advent was authentic.

3. **Team Reports**

Local – Kathy will continue to purchase gift cards for the Hammond Center. The committee will conduct a product collection drive in March, including trash bags, buckets, rages, toilet paper, paper towels, etc. These will be donated to people who are moving from the Center into an apartment but have little or no funds to purchase these items after paying rent, utilities deposits, etc.

The group discussed how we might facilitate donations of cell phones to various organizations. Because of various security concerns, donating phones to the Verizon HopeLine seemed to be the best solution. Kathy will send information for the newsletter regarding this activity. The committee is also planning a drive to stock women's personal care items in May, in connection with Mother's Day, and a drive in June/July concentrating on veteran's needs. More details about these activities will be forthcoming.

National-

International – George reported that some people have expressed an interest in the mission trip to Haiti in May. There are some undesignated monies which could be made available for scholarships for this trip. He will send information about this to Charlotte to be included in the newsletter.

Environmental –

- a. Russ Snyder reported that there will be an item regarding a bike rack in the next newsletter.
- b. A schedule for cleaning the outdoor cupboard is planned.

- c. They have added keys to the recycling bins; funds from this will be donated to the Lions Club.
- d. Containers for recycling plastic grocery bags will be placed in the kitchen.
- e. Recycling used toner cartridges will continue.
- f. There are environmental resources available in the library, both books and articles. They would appreciate any recent publications. There will be a newsletter article regarding these potential donations .
- g. In spring/summer, funds will be donated to the prayer garden.
- h. The committee has requested an energy audit but have not received a report from the Trustees.
- i. Future events include Earth Day April 22, shoe recycling in August, a “Clean the Beach” activity in September, and the St. Francis service in October.

New Business

Deadlines for the newsletter have changed. Items for Jean to submit to the March newsletter should be submitted by March 10th. This date may need to be adjusted as time passes.