

Mission & Ministry Strategy Team 2020 Three Rivers District Report

Two trips were taken by the Volunteers in Missions to CROSS ministries in West Virginia where teams repaired floors and built a wheelchair ramp. A small group went to Epworth Mission in Bethesda, OH in September. They replaced a roof and skirting on one of the cabins. There is still much work to be done at Epworth before groups can use the facilities for other outreach projects. There are no VIM trips currently scheduled for 2020.

We received only a few 312 Project applications in 2019, none of which resulted into district projects. One home received help following a mud slide to remove debris from their basement. On a larger scale many of the local churches responded to the needs of flood victims last July, particularly those in the West Lafayette area, with clean up and donations. Applications for 2020 projects have been put on hold per COVID-19 guidelines. It was suggested that when projects resume, working with the local church would be beneficial in promoting applications directly to the respective communities.

In 2019 the district received \$5,600 from Three Rivers' churches. With the matching funds challenge that was put before the district last spring, we have \$11,200 towards the estimated \$16,000 construction cost. The committee has decided that the best course of action is to seek rental space for one year for the two trailers until the remaining funds are collected.

Rev. Dairel Kaiser, Mission and Ministry Consultant, met with each of the Three Rivers' part-time local pastors. He is also working with small church congregations and their specific challenges to remain sustainable while maintaining a focus on the mission of the church. Rev. Kaiser indicated that would be stepping down as chair of the Mission and Ministry Strategy team, a position he has held for 12 years. We appreciate his caring and hands-on leadership in both committee and on the mission field. Beth Prince has been nominated as the new chair.

The Strategy Team reviewed the Mission and Ministry 2019 funding evaluations and was pleased with the good reports. The love of Christ is being shared throughout the district. While the ministries listed below will receive money in 2020, there will be no dollars awarded to Mission and Ministry in 2021 due to the action of the 2019 Annual Conference that called for overall reductions to the annual conference budget. The district committee recognizes that having start-up funds is paramount for local churches to launch new ministry ideas. Under the direction of the DS and in consultation with the MM Strategy Team, we want to remind the local churches that there are limited Emerging Ministry funds available. While programs that consider the needs of others through service and social justice issues are recognized as vital outreach ministry, these do not specifically address emerging ministry for church development. To qualify, applicants need to answer "How does this idea directly make disciples for Jesus Christ?"

Mission and Ministry 2020 Funding:

○ TR Leadership Development (Clergy/Laity training)	approved \$ 3,000
○ Interchurch Services (Knox Co. food/supplies)	approved \$ 3,500
○ Journey's End Ministries(Technical equip for outreach)	approved \$ 2,500
○ Winter Sanctuary (Mt Vernon homeless shelter)	approved \$ 2,000
○ TR Ministry with the Poor (Charity programs & training)	approved \$ 3,000
○ TR Emerging Ministries (new ministries)	approved <u>\$ 3,000</u>
TOTAL	\$ 17,000

Spring District Conference 2020 Outrageous Generosity

The Mission & Ministry Strategy Team announced at Spring District Conference 2019 the need to construct a pole building for our tool trailers. These two trailers were donated to the district several years ago and have been graciously housed at Keene UMC when not on a building location. Tools and materials have been purchased through the generous donations of churches and individuals over the years and are stored in the trailers. As a matter of good stewardship against theft, these units need to be secured.

The proposed structure will not have electricity. The design includes two bays and storage space. The Keene trustees have agreed for the unit to be built at the rear of the church property for no cost to the district. It was hoped that the construction could have been completed by the fall of 2019. The original estimate was \$16,400 for materials, labor and fees. We anticipate an increase given the delay in construction and the current economy.

Last year, the Mission & Ministry Committee asked for financial support from the district, noting that \$6,000 district funds had been designated for the project. Three Rivers answered. To date with matching funds we have a project balance of \$11,910.



Not wanting to move forward with the construction of the building without all the funds in place the Mission & Ministry Team asked the Finance committee to approve a commercial rental building to house the two trailers. The proposal allowed for up to \$100/month rental fee to come from the project fund. Additional cost would be taken into consideration. The Three Rivers District Finance approved the request. Locations are currently being secured.

The Mission & Ministry Strategy Team wanted to make churches aware of this ongoing need. The goal is to accumulate the remaining funds so that we can complete this project before the end of 2020. If you or your church would like to contribute to the project, please make checks payable to "Three Rivers District UMC" marked "Pole Building Project" and mail them to the District Office at 415 Walnut St, Coshocton, 43812.



The TR Finance Committee wants to remind churches they
**can continue to contribute to the
James H. Humphrey Campership Fund.**

In 2019 Three Rivers donated \$2,231!

While the EOC Camps will not be in full operation in 2020 due to COVID-19 your gifts will continue to grow the investment fund established by Rev. Jim through the Methodist Foundation of Ohio.

Send donations to the district office listed above and include the memo: Rev Jim Camps

2019 Professions of Faith in Three Rivers District

Recognizing 27 churches who received one or more members
for a total of 70 Professions of Faith in Three Rivers



CHURCHES

POF

Adamsville	2
Batemantown	3
Berlin	2
Calvary	2
Danville	2
Fresno	2
Gambier Epworth	1
Gay Street	1
Grace	3
Hopewell	8
Isleta	8
Keene	2
Kings	3
Millersburg	7
Mulberry	3
Nellie Chapel	3
New Guilford	8
Prospect	3
Tyndall	1
Utica	1
Waterford	5

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing." John 15: 1,2,5