

WAVERLY MISSION COMMITTEE REPORT

2018

The Waverly Mission committee members in 2018 were: Tawna Loutsenhizer and Tom Golightly, co-chairs; Eleanor Fisher; Virginia Linn; Marsha Morris; Pattie Relosky; Beth Simon; Joan Stone; Colleen Tatum; and Bill Vandivier.

We have guided our outreach efforts based on this Mission Statement, which was adopted in 2013:

“The Mission Committee affirms that Waverly is a church committed to making God’s unconditional love real in the lives of people inside and outside our community. We live out our mission through joyful and reverent worship, welcoming fellowship, open minded study, and working to bring out SHALOM – just and lasting peace – in our community, nation and world. The Mission Committee seeks out opportunities for Waverly’s members to become God’s hands, feet and face to our neighbors by ministering to people’s basic needs for food, shelter, education, healthcare, safety, and spiritual growth, through financial and hands-on assistance, as well as through study and participation in civil political discourse.”

ONGOING COMMUNITY SERVICE

- **Joan Stone** is coordinating Waverly’s Paper Bank which provides 60 bags a month of household items that are distributed monthly at the 2nd United Presbyterian Church’s Food Pantry in Wilkinsburg. This program began several years ago because paper towels, toilet paper, etc. are not included in SNAP benefits.
- On behalf of the mission committee, **Tawna Loutsenhizer** applied for a grant for the Paper Bank from our denomination, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), in May. The denomination did not fund the grant, but our Synod gave us a grant of \$1,000 in August. The Synod wrote us a letter saying they feel the Paper Bank is deserving of support from their Peacemaking Fund. Because one of the stipulations of the Peacemaking grant is that it may be used for poverty, we were able to apply the grant to the Paper Bank.
- **Marsha Morris** served as the Waverly coordinator for the Crop Walk hunger relief drive.

- **Marsha Morris** also continued to prepare and coordinate meals for the homeless shelter at the East End Cooperative Ministry in East Liberty on the fifth Sunday of every month.
- **Marsha Morris** also serves on the board of Wilkinsburg Community Ministry on behalf of Waverly.
- **Virginia Linn** scheduled and coordinated Waverly’s involvement with the Produce to People distribution for the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank
- **Tawna Loutsenhizer** coordinated serving meals at Miryam’s Place.
- **Colleen Tatum** produced 30 Attitude of Gratitude Wreaths that were sold as a fundraising project in support of the Paper Bank Ministry. The wreaths were sold during coffee hours in late October through November. They were very popular.
- **Tom Golightly** took the lead on planning, coordinating, and implementing the Waverly Hearts at Home Mission initiative in 2018. The focus of this initiative was hunger and food insecurity. Included in this were ‘minutes for mission’ related to food insecurity during church services, bulletin inserts, and a dinner to raise funds for Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank. On behalf of the Mission Committee, **Pattie Relosky** coordinated a May 23 dinner (estimated attendance 40) featuring Charla Irwin-Buncher, from the Greater Pittsburgh Community Foodbank. Guests from outside of the Waverly community were invited. **Beth Simon** invited the Pittsburgh East CROP Walk leadership team. Waverly presented Ms. Irwin-Buncher with a check for \$1,000 for the food bank. Dinner attendees also generously participated in a free will offering since there was no cost to attend the dinner and program.
- Mission committee held a “seats and feets” drive in the fall to collect children’s socks and underwear for students in the Wilkinsburg School District.

MONETARY CONTRIBUTIONS

Total Budgeted	\$15,000.00	
Total Distributed	\$15,000.00	

Special Projects	Amount	Description of Use
East Liberty Family Health Care	\$1,200.00	provides health care services for those who are uninsured, underinsured, and underserved.
Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank	\$1,000.00	serves our neighbors who are experiencing food insecurity.
Shepherd's Heart	\$500.00	provides housing for homeless veterans
Global Links	\$500.00	supports health improvement initiatives in resource-poor communities

Giant Eagle Gift Cards for Individuals in Need	\$90.00	Waverly's distribution of Giant Eagle gift cards is one way we respond to some personal requests for help.
Together Rising	\$1,000.00	Waverly's gift went toward the reunification of immigrant children and their families.
Church World Service - CROP Walk	\$2,000.00	Global, national, and local hunger relief
VEEEM Pittsburgh (Voter Empowerment Education and Enrichment Movement)	\$500.00	VEEEM Pittsburgh is a faith-based, nonpartisan community organization dedicated to increasing voter turnout in the Greater Pittsburgh area.
Fred Rogers Center	\$475.85	Helps children grow as confident, competent, and caring human beings.
Pittsburgh Interfaith Impact Network	\$481.86	An interfaith network of congregations and organizations in Southwestern Pennsylvania committed to drawing together people of faith to act powerfully on local and regional issues of justice and fairness.
Jewish Family Children's Services	\$476.86	Provides social service solutions to problems experienced by families and individuals of all ages and walks of life.
Metavivor	\$478.86	Serves women and men living with stage 4 metastatic breast cancer.
Waverly Presbyterian Paper Bank	\$372.47	Provides critical household items (e.g. paper towels, toilet paper, soap, garbage bags) which cannot be obtained using Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits.
Crestfield Camp & Conference Center	\$82.13	Christ-centered, Crestfield Camp and Conference Center provides a sacred space to facilitate exploration and encounter with God's hospitality, God's creation, and formative power of Jesus Christ through energy, imagination, intelligence and love. It is the church camp to which Waverly youth go each summer.
Pittsburgh Presbytery Validated Ministry		

Wilkinsburg Community Ministry	\$2,000.00	Provides services to approximately 3,000 residents of Wilkinsburg each year, including senior citizens, citizens with disabilities, at-risk youth, and families who are economically challenged, unemployed, under-employed or facing emergency situations.
Shared Mission		
Pittsburgh Presbytery	\$2,650.00	Supplemental financial support of Pittsburgh Presbytery's youth, justice, peacemaking, disciple making and anti-poverty ministries; and new church development.
Minister's Mission Discretionary Fund	\$1,000.00	Typically used to support requests for personal assistance for food, housing, and transportation.
Other Expenses		
Love Thy Neighbor Banner for Front of Church	\$144.00	
Supplies for GPC Food Bank Dinner	\$47.97	May 23 dinner featuring our guest speaker, Charla Irwin-Buncher, from the Greater Pittsburgh Community Foodbank.

OTHER

Waverly commits at least 10 percent of its overall pledges each year toward local, national, and international agencies. Individual members of Waverly generously contribute extra monetary donations, food items, gently used coats, other clothing and additional items for the needy throughout the year.

In addition to the mission and ministry supported through the congregation's budget, individual members made designated gifts that supported the following mission and ministry:

- **Waverly Paper Bank** provides critical household items (e.g. paper towels, toilet paper, soap, garbage bags) which cannot be obtained using Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits.

- **Waverly's Youth Ministry** through support of the Palm Sunday Brunch and Waverly Opera House.
- **Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank** – a free will offering was taken during the May 23 dinner that featured a guest speaker from the food bank.
- **Seats & Feets Program** that supports children in the Wilkinsburg School District
- **2018 Waverly Advent Offerings**
 - Fred Rogers Center - Helps children grow as confident, competent, and caring human beings.
 - Pittsburgh Interfaith Impact Network - An interfaith network of congregations and organizations in Southwestern Pennsylvania committed to drawing together people of faith to act powerfully on local and regional issues of justice and fairness.
 - Jewish Family Children's Services - provide social service solutions to problems experienced by families and individuals of all ages and walks of life.
 - Metavivor - Serves women and men living with stage 4 metastatic breast cancer.
- **Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Special Offerings**
 - **One Great Hour of Sharing** (on Palm Sunday) Gifts to the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering enable the church to share God's love with our neighbors-in-need around the world by providing relief to those affected by natural disasters, provide food to the hungry, and helping to empower the poor and oppressed.
 - **Pentecost Offering** (on Pentecost Sunday) Gifts to the Pentecost Offering help the church encourage, develop, and support its young people, and address the needs of at-risk children. 40% of the Pentecost offering is retained by individual congregations wanting to make an impact in the lives of young people within their own community. The remaining 60% is used by the denomination to support to support ministries of the Presbyterian Mission Agency that focus on young adult volunteers, ministries for youth, children-at-risk.
 - **Peace & Global Witness Offering** (on World Communion Sunday) Gifts to the Peace & Global Witness Offering enable the church to promote the Peace of Christ by addressing systems of injustice across the world. Individual congregations are encouraged to utilize up to 25% of this Offering to connect with the global witness of Christ's peace. Mid councils retain an additional 25% for ministries of peace and reconciliation. The remaining 50% is used by the Presbyterian Mission Agency to advocate for peace and justice in cultures of violence, including our own, through collaborative projects of education and Christian witness.
 - **Christmas Joy Offering** (during Advent) Gifts to the Christmas Joy Offering, help current and retired church workers in their time of need and develop our future leaders at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color.
- **Presbyterian Disaster Assistance** enables congregations and mission partners of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) to witness to the healing love of Christ through caring for communities adversely affected by crises and catastrophic events.

The Mission Committee worked with the Property Committee to have a banner installed on the front of the church that reads, "Love thy neighbor . . . no exceptions." Cost of the sign was \$144.

Respectfully submitted by,

Tawna Loutsenhizer and Tom Golightly, Mission Committee co-chairs.