

**FUMC Missions Team/Social Justice Team  
Joint Meeting  
Minutes  
October 4, 2009**

1. Opening prayer, minutes from August 30, 2009 approved  
Attending:  
Missions Team – Bergan Casey (guest), Margot Edwards (guest-UMC Imagine No Malaria Campaign), Howard Hartman, Cathy Stone, Clifton Stringer, Ann Teich, Shannon Trilli (guest-UMCOR; connected with INM campaign)  
Social Justice Team – Dusty Harshman, Howard Hartman, Ken Owens, Brooks Schuelke, Cathy Stone, Clifton Stringer, Ann Teich, Carol Walker

2. New Business

- a. Pickle Elementary needs – Bergan Casey

FUMC strives to provide support for the students and staff at Pickle Elementary in Northeast Austin, a predominantly Spanish-speaking, Title I school, which despite challenges, boosts a great sense of community pride. The church's primary program is our series of book sales, manned by members of the Genesis Sunday school class, whereby we distribute new and gently used books to the students, teachers and parents for a quarter per book. In the three years we have done overseen the program at Pickle, we have distributed between 7,500 and 10,000 books. Students love them and teachers appreciate them. FUMC also provides mentors to several students at the school through a program administered by the Seedling Foundation. The students chosen for the program are K-5<sup>th</sup> grade with parents who were once incarcerated or are completing prison terms.

**Genesis Class welcomes book donations, especially Spanish language children's books; October 2, 2009 was latest book sale at Pickle**

- b. Imagine No Malaria Campaign – Clifton Stringer

- (1) Overview of Campaign – presented by Shannon Trilli from UMCOR's New York Office and Margot Edwards from UMC's Nashville office (Margot is in charge of fundraising). The UMC, along with the Lutheran Church, was approached by the UN Foundation and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to participate in this campaign. The UMC will also be working with the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.

The goal of the campaign is to end malaria-related deaths in Africa by 2015. It is reportedly one of the first organized initiatives where the

global UMC is working on a specific project together.

Malaria is the focus of the project because of its nature. It is a huge problem, killing a child every 30 second, and it is a huge cause of the cycle of poverty --- fighting this ever present disease prevents many villages from making economic strides. It is also preventable and treatable. The current drug to treat the disease and save a life costs \$4.

A little background on the program. The Gates Foundation and the UN Initiative were looking for an opportunity to run a pilot program to determine whether faith-based organizations could be used as effective mechanisms to help their initiatives. In 2008, they announced that they had chosen the United Methodist Church and the Lutheran Church to be the pilot programs to see if the partnerships can work. The UN granted the UMC \$5 million to help set up fundraising for a UMC global goal of raising \$75 million.

The \$75 million is being spent for the purchase of nets, education about the proper use of nets, mosquito spraying, and other items. But the most ambitious part of the plan is setting up health systems under the auspices of the local churches, including teaching the locals how to run and operate hospitals and clinics. The speakers said that in most parts of Africa the villages may not have running water or electricity, but they have a church. In these places, the church is the fabric of the community and if the church doesn't get it done, it doesn't get done. One of the interesting challenges of the program is that the money has to be managed even in as small as \$50 increments. In many instances, a local health care worker can buy all the supplies he or she needs for a year with \$50.

The Austin District is the pilot of the pilot so to speak. The UMC is using our district as a test to determine what are some of the best ways to get local churches involved in the process.

- (2) **Fundraising Goal – needs to be set and approved by Missions Team**  
**Goal: \$70,000 (based on \$100/person for average Sunday worship attendance – about 700 attend FUMC worship each Sunday)**  
**Proposed fundraising strategies:**
  - a. Impact 100 Group  
Small group of FUMC members will be approached to give \$1,000 at \$28/month over 3 years
  - b. Congregation-wide appeal for small donations, ideally \$10/person (\$10 buys a mosquito net and the services of a trained local health worker who will help people install net and use it)**Note: Nothing But Nets campaign (older campaign in which UMC has participated has been subsumed into INM campaign**
- (3) **Fundraising goal needs to be given to Finance Team for approval – Ann will do so ASAP**
- (4) **Fundraising goal needs to be presented to Coordinating Team on Nov. 5 and to Admin Board on 15 for final approval**
- (5) **Time Line: Begin fundraising campaign in mid-January 2010 – fundraising may be ongoing for several years**  
**Steering Committee: Ann Teich, Brooks Schuelke, Cathy Stone, Clifton Stringer**
- (6) **Ongoing activities/events related to INM campaign (Nothing But Nets basketball Tournament with Parker Lane UMC – April 2010**

3. Next Missions Team meeting – November 22 (need to decide mission emphases for 2010)