

Calendar Dates

November 22 & 23—Office Closed
November 26—serving refreshments at Downtown Christmas Parade
November 27—Finance and Council Meeting
November 28—Agape Lunch at Trinity
December 1—Holly Jolly Market
December 2—Christmas Cantata, Luncheon
December 3—Drama Club performance at Blackfriars
December 5—UMM sponsoring Advent Luncheon
December 8—Bishop will be using our sanctuary
December 12—UMW sponsoring Advent Luncheon
December 19—Connie Davis and Millie Brown sponsoring Advent Luncheon
December 24—Christmas Eve Service
December 25 & 26—Office Closed
December 31 & January 1—Office Closed



November 3: Joe Hill
Barbara Snyder
Virginia True

November 7: David Reed

November 8: Elinor Hutchison

November 9: Henry Gutshall
Shawn Melton

November 18: Susan Black

November 26: Sally Draper

December 1: Leila Granfield

December 3: Bill Bushman

December 4: Eleanor Andrews

Beverly Coltrane

December 6: Deborah Reed

December 10: Frederick Gutshall

December 13: Kekoa Peters

December 14: Randy Lindamood

2018 Central Advent Luncheon



You are cordially invited to Central UMC for Advent devotion, soup lunch, and fellowship.

We will gather at Noon until about 1:00 PM to hear a brief message from different speakers and share deliciously-prepared soup.

This year's theme is "What Gift Shall I Bring to Baby Jesus?"

◇ Dec 5th Rev. Don Hawk

◇ Dec 12th Lee Reid

◇ Dec 19th Rev. Won Un

Join us as we prepare to receive the King.



Christmas Eve Service

All three choirs will perform plus a guest string quartet appearance. Here are the pieces if you want to include this info:

Bell Choir will perform In the Bleak Mid-Winter

Adult Choir will perform with strings on Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring and Master in this Hall

Children's choir will perform Carol of the bells with bell accompaniment

We will end the service with sing along: What Child is This and Hark the Harold Angels Sing

The idea is we all collaborate with different groups of musicians so we can share the joyful music making experience anticipating Jesus' arrival. The more instruments and voices making noises, the better!

-Yi-Ping Chen

The Central Connection

2018 November/December Newsletter



Bob Marley

Connie Davis

Eleanor Andrews

Caroline Jones

Sandra Clemens

Jackie Beatz

Janet Duckles

Carolyn Smith &

Won Un

Sarah Russell

Cheryl Kent

Rachel Harris

Jim Clemens

Merry Christmas!



From Central staff & volunteers

North Carolina Mission Trip

What a week I, and seven other disciples of Christ, had! Team work-- Those of you that have been on mission trips know that this is a given and a must in order to get as much as possible done in a short period of time. Our team of eight were amazing. We all shared the passion of being the hands and feet of our Lord Jesus Christ. We each were able to share our gifts and talents that resulted in a very successful week.

One member of our team was a retired Methodist minister's wife. In an e-mail she told us that because of her health and her age this would be her last mission trip. Every morning she was up early and prepared breakfast for us. She was physically not able to go to the work site with us, but as she said, she kept the home fires burning for us. When we returned home from our week together, she told us on the next mission trip to make sure we had a step stool for her to get to the van. She loved being a part of our team. I have a feeling this was not her last trip!

Friendships-- This sweet lady was an unexpected treasure as was Larry from Main Street Methodist Church. He was a very kind, thoughtful man. New friendships were made and nurtured all week. Larry said that he would not have changed one thing and he hopes to travel with us again. What a lovely thing it is to meet and share our faith and our discipleship with new friends as we share God's love and grace with others. We shared fellowship, meals and e-mails with a mission team from Pennsylvania.

Frustrations-- Within a few minutes of arriving at the place we were staying for the week, we realized we had less than desirable conditions to live in. Our cabin was dirty, the kitchen was unkempt and disorganized. We were given tasks to complete without proper tools, but because of the spirit and determination of our team to make this a successful week, we got to work and cleaned our living conditions. Thanks to Jeff and Bill who made sure tools were purchased and delivered to us so we could complete our tasks for the day.

Forgiveness and mistakes-- Measure once, measure twice, and sometimes a third time. Just when I thought we would have to throw away a piece of wood because we cut it wrong, Jeff would say, no worries, wood is very forgiving and so don't be so hard on ourselves when we make mistakes, all will be okay. Bill and Jeff were always encouraging and never lost their cool. I thought about what a loving and forgiving Father we serve and how we all need to be constantly forgiving, encouraging and loving to each other.

Community-- If we limit our contact to our immediate community, we are missing out on what I believe Jesus meant by loving your neighbor. To me, one's community is wherever you are at the moment. Take time to be present, and share the grace and love of Jesus whenever possible. One kind word

or gesture on your part could mean the world to someone in need of kindness, encouragement or love. Our community in N.C, provided us with many opportunities to share God's love to others.

Hope-- This brings me to Billy Creech! Billy's home was flooded two years ago when Hurricane Matthew hit N.C. Because his home was in his mother's name, he did not qualify for FEMA. Billy had no insurance and was not financially able to repair his home. He has not been able to live in his house for two years. When we met him, he said he had given up hope until the mission teams showed up. He was overcome with tears when he walked into his home on Friday for as he said, he could finally see a light at the end of a very long tunnel. Such a sweet man with a grateful heart, gave us the energy we needed to push through for a few more hours of hard work to complete the flooring he so loved in a couple of rooms.

To add a personal touch to our week, and I truly believe this was a God Thing, Betsy Daugherty who was on our trip grew up in the area where we were working. After talking to Billy's sister, she realized she graduated one year before Billy; in fact Billy knew Betsy's first boyfriend. It was so endearing listening to them share high school stories.

Sitting by the water with a beautiful bonfire to keep us warm and watching the sunset with our new friends from Pennsylvania was the perfect ending to our mission trip.

Sharing our discipleship, love and grace with others just might provide the hope that someone needs to see them through the tough spots we often face in life. Do not miss the chance to be the light for someone.

-Connie Davis



Holly Jolly Holiday Market

Holly Jolly Holiday Market, on December 1st from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM, is an upscale Christmas bazaar, Central style! You and I have a role in this church-wide event. Through Holly Jolly Market we promote three elements of Christmas – Christmas Traditions, Christmas Gifts, and Christmas Decorations.

Traditions: Holly Jolly Market will have hot cider, music, twinkly lights, gift wrapping, holly (our logo!) and mistletoe if you can bring some in – maybe a fire pit? – Santa? Look for delicious food, of course.

Gifts: Holly Jolly Market will feature unique, handmade gifts to buy from a variety of local artisans. Plus, Holly Jolly Market will also feature a Vintage Boutique.

Vintage Boutique is where YOU AND I come in. The Vintage Boutique will sell our best gift-quality donations. Let's open our cabinets, boxes and attic and DOWNSIZE our wares for a simpler, more peaceful life. Donate items you think people will buy to give as gifts. (This is clearly not a yard sale! It is a place to buy one-of-a-kind or hard-to-find quality gifts.) Examples include: china, nice serving pieces, teacups & saucers, vintage linens, candle holders, collectibles, collectible books (first editions or author-signed), jewelry, vintage toys, baked goods.

Decorations: Holly Jolly Market will also sell good Christmas decorations (especially vintage) that YOU AND I donate. Please look through your Christmas boxes for your nicer things you no longer use, still in very good condition. PLEASE ALSO DONATE Christmas gift wrap, ribbon & bows, tissue, and gift boxes – Holly Jolly Market will sell gift wrapping services for our customers.

This Sunday, bring your donations – Vintage Boutique items as well as Christmas decorations and gift wrap – to the Old Library or the Gathering Room. Time to organize the Holly Jolly Market is very short.

Proceeds from this low-budget yet fun and classy fundraiser go to church operating expenses. Therefore, in effect, we are paying ourselves with our donations.

Thank you so much for supporting our church.

Spread the word! This Sunday, pick up extra fliers and distribute to businesses and bulletin boards. Let's plaster Staunton with fliers!

Want to help?

Artisan vendors and volunteers, please email hollyjollymarket@centralumcstaunton.org.

-Diana Un

A Lunch of Thanks

We are looking forward to seeing everyone on December 2nd to share a meal, fellowship and to give thanks for all of the many volunteers that make Central a community where love, care and support abound!

This very special lunch will be in place of our regular Soup & Sup Sunday.

-Connie Davis & Millie Brown



Live Nativity

As part of the Downtown Staunton "Cherish Every Christmas" celebration on December 8, Central will have a Live Nativity Scene. It will be in the small parking lot on Beverley Street from 4:00-6:00 PM that Saturday. This is another great way for our congregation to show Staunton residents that we are an active downtown church!

I will be looking for some volunteers, especially our young members, to participate.

We have costumes, and a stable will be built. If you know someone with a live donkey, or a lamb that we could pamper for a few hours, please let me know.

If you can help for an hour or so please give me a call.

Thank you so much,

Barbara Snyder
540-290-4213

Welcome Back!

Congratulations and welcome back to our administrative assistant Sarah Russell, and a big welcome to baby MacKenzie! Sarah has resumed regular office hours and is happy to be able to bring MacKenzie to work with her. Be sure to stop by the office to say hello to mother and baby.



August 2018 Council Minutes

The Church Council of Central UMC was called to order by Chairperson Tom Davis at 7:10 pm on August 28, 2018 in the Wesley Fellowship classroom. Won Un presented the devotion. Minutes from the July 24 meeting had been distributed via the CUMC newsletter and e-mail. Those present included Tom Davis, Jim Clemmer, Sandra Clemmer, Barbara Snyder, Won Un, Ken Beals, Virginia Buchanan, Jim Printy, and Joe Hill.

Committee Reports:

Lay Leader: No report.

SPRC: No report.

Finance: Joe Hill reported that the audit team consisting of Sam Richardson and himself had completed the audit of the 2017 finances. All accounts were found to be accurate as both the treasurer and financial institutions reported. He shared the audit summary, which showed that the total amount of cash in all treasuries of the church began the year at \$1,353,105.47 and ended the year at \$1,410,904.85. It was a very good year for the investment accounts. He also shared the revised 2019 budget for CUMC, which contained updated apportionment figures. Council unanimously approved this budget. He also shared the July financial report from Jeff DeLong and Sarah Russell. Sarah reported that offerings for 2019 are down nearly \$20,000 from this point in 2018.

Trustees: A home school group had expressed interest in using our church, but has since decided to locate elsewhere. The church kitchen is being rented two Mondays per month to Erin Etzel of Queen Bean Coffee, which is located at Terry Court. She is in the process of getting Health Department approval. Trustees are also in the process of reviewing church use guidelines and fees for usage. Jim reported that the elevator has been repaired and is in working order. Mike Melton recently added an electrical outlet in the first floor hallway for use by the Food Pantry. Trustees have also started the process of having the sign in the large parking lot improved/replaced. Also, Millie Brown is working on improving the “pit” area.

Nurture/Witness: Sandra Clemmer reported that the visit to Beulah Land on August 15 had gone well. Barbara Snyder reported Helping Hands was a huge success again this year. Barbara and Sandra assisted with a pizza luncheon for the youth and a reception after the Stacey Nuckoles funeral. A gift for Sarah Russell will be presented on September 2.

Outreach: Connie Davis sent in her report. She is requesting volunteers to assist with Mischief and Magic. We will need help on September 28 to set up and on September 29 to work this huge event. Agape lunch at Trinity is doing just fine with Barbara Snyder and Tom Davis overseeing this important outreach. She expressed many thanks to Won and the other team of volunteers that make this possible. Tom added that the most recent Trinity lunch was served to 41 people. Connie reported that the Food Pantry is working well. Sandra added that the computer part has been working a little better. Connie reported that the mission team that went to Florida in February is headed to North Carolina on October 14-20 to work on a home in Swann

Quarter. Jeff Kiser from Calvary is the team captain. The team will be staying in a Methodist Church that is not being used at this time.

UMM: On September 15, the UMM will be painting the parking lines in the Church parking lot and will also do some outside cleanup work.

Children/Youth: The Children and Youth Ministry team met on two occasions. This group developed a list of plans and requests. They decided to not have Sunday School classes during the 9:30 time slot but rather to have Children’s Church for the children after the Children’s Focus time in the 11:00 Morning Worship. They also would like a Children’s Choir started.

Virginia True mentioned that the Staunton Choral Society is raising money through donations for 2019. She will provide a short article for the next newsletter so members can donate.

Pastor: Won reported that the NAACP has asked us to join their organization including paying an annual fee. Council did not approve this. Won reported that a visitation team will visit Jean Smith in Lynchburg soon, possibly with Cold Steel Benders. Won received a letter from the Staunton Eight UMC Churches regarding the Advent Luncheon. This group will not be sponsoring an Advent Luncheon this year. They proposed some caroling events in lieu of the advent luncheons. Ken Beals suggested that we offer this to members who wish to participate. Won suggested that we host our own advent luncheons and invite other churches. Jim Printy noted that our parking lot is still in use by the City of Staunton. Sandra Clemmer noted that Wednesdays are Food Pantry days and that many of those who typically do the work are already involved with the Food Pantry. Tom Davis suggested that before we commit to this we should have a list of volunteers. Won will work on securing a list of volunteers. Won reported that a new Mission Trailer has been purchased and resides at Calvary UMC. Won thanked those who assisted with the reception for the family of Stacey Nuckoles. Won reported that the Samaritan Fund had been used a lot lately. Won reported that plans for the Queen City Mischief and Magic event have begun. We will prepare to serve 1500 for breakfast and 2000 for lunch. Won announced that a wood splitter had been purchased so that wood could be split and provided for those who need firewood this winter. Won reported that the Staunton Eight is planning to purchase a “prayer tent.” They requested that CUMC donate for this. Council decided to not donate toward this project. Trunk or Treat will be done this year at the Staunton Mall but CUMC will not participate. Staunton Eight also requested our participation with a float on the Christmas parade on November 26. We agreed to do that. Staunton Eight is sponsoring a Christmas Eve program but CUMC will be having our own service then. Won presented a new slate of charge officers for 2019.

October 2018 Council Minutes

The Church Council of Central UMC was called to order by Chairperson Tom Davis at 7:08 pm on October 23, 2018 in the Wesley Fellowship classroom. Connie Davis presented the devotion. There were no minutes as the last meeting of Council had been at the annual Charge Conference; the last recorded minutes were from the August 28, 2018 meeting which were distributed via e-mail. Those present included Tom Davis, Jim Clemmer, Won Un, Ken Beals, Kelly Peters, Bill Bushman, Sandra Clemmer, Sybille Jobin, Yi-Ping Chen, Connie Davis, Sam Richardson, Jim Printy, and Joe Hill. Tom asked Council to approve the Council position of Children and Youth Council Chair. This position was unanimously approved; Kelly Peters is attending as this representative.

Committee Reports:

Lay Leader: Connie Davis reported that she had enjoyed presenting her report on the mission trip which was done at Morning Worship on October 21.

SPRC: Sybille Jobin reported SPRC has not met recently and that things were going well. There will be one more meeting in 2018 where staffing needs will be discussed. She asked Council members for their input on staffing needs.

Finance: Joe Hill reported that giving for 2018 has sharply decreased compared to 2017. He presented a fact sheet that will be shared with the congregation. The Finance Committee has approved a special Christmas offering giving members a chance to catch up on their 2018 giving. For 2019, members will be sent quarterly giving statements.

Trustees: Jim Printy reported that the Trustees have approved a proposal that, beginning in 2019, in January of each year an average of the market value of each endowment fund for the past three years to calculate the 5% quarterly payout. Council unanimously approved this proposal. Jim also reported that we are continuing to receive rent on the parking lot from the City of Staunton. The parking lot sign will be replaced soon. The exterior trim of the building has been contracted to be painted soon.

Nurture/Witness: Sandra Clemmer reported there have been receptions for Janet Nuckoles family, Jean Smith’s family, Sarah Russell’s family, and for our new members. They also developed a meal plan for Mary Douglas. Also, they have helped with Mischief and Magic and will be helping with Halloween. The Christmas parade is November 26; cookies and hot chocolate will be served. Linda Dinsmore and Sybille Jobin are going to work on a card ministry for shut-ins. Sybille reported that they would like to expand the list of those who would like to be visited and/or receive cards.

Choir/Music: Yi-Ping reported that the Christmas Cantata is being planned for December 2. Four extra musicians will be hired at \$125 each. Bell Choir practice has begun on Wednesday evenings.

Outreach: Tom Davis reported that Trinity Episcopal has installed a combination lock for those working on the Trinity Luncheons. He has the code. Connie reported that things

are in good shape for the October 29 luncheon there. Future Mischief and Magic fundraisers will be discussed at the next Outreach meeting. There is still lots of food leftover from the 2018 Mischief and Magic fundraiser. Connie reported that the District Mission Trailer had not been ready for her recent mission trip to North Carolina. Connie and Sandra reported that Food Pantry attendance had been down but is still going well.

Children/Youth: Kelly Peters reported that a canned food drive is currently going on. They are planning a Kids Night In on November 2 with a movie and crafts. Possibly there will be another Kids Night In during December.

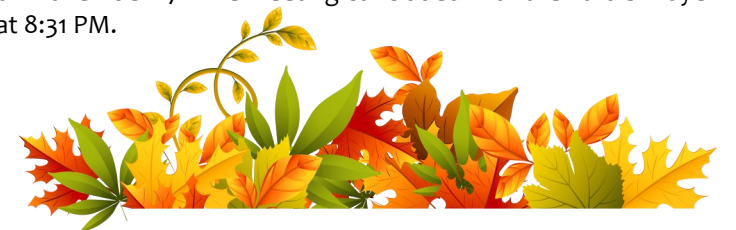
UMW: No report

UMM: The UMM helped with the Mischief and Magic. Bill Bushman reported that the UMM painted the parking lines in the Church parking. UMM is sponsoring a Brunswick Stew fundraiser starting at 10:00 on November 10. Some of the UMM has been helping Patty Mills with upgrades to her carport.

At Large:: Ken Beals mentioned that Augusta Street UMC will be invited to participate in the December 2 Christmas Music Program.

Pastor: Won reported that Constance Mitchell is in need of our prayers. Emily Morgan is making some improvement. Mary Douglas is recuperating at her house from heart valve replacement. Won reported that the Staunton District is starting a Secret Boutique at Marquis Memorial. Connie Davis, Susan Obaugh, and Linda Dinsmore are assisting with this project. Won reported that the General Conference of the United Methodist Church and the Annual Conference are wrestling with the issues of homosexuality. Three plans are being considered with the “One Church Plan” possibly to be the one adopted. Won would like for leaders at Central to have discussions on this matter. He would also like to have leaders of CUMC have monthly discussions about long term finance. Won reported that the new Mission Box has replaced the one damaged in the Florida accident. Calvary UMC was supposed to have taken on this project but no progress has been made getting the trailer outfitted as desired. Currently the trailer resides on our parking lot. Won reported that the Charge Conference Report is complete. Three points of emphasis are spiritual, finance and children ministry. Won plans to try to cover the entire Bible, cover to cover, during his 2019 sermons. He would like to expand the participation of children/youth in Morning Worship services. We welcomed three new families to our membership on October 21. Perhaps other families will be added around Easter. Won thanked the Trustees for purchasing a new projector which will be installed in the Fellowship Hall. He passed along a letter of thanks from for allowing them to use our sanctuary for Suzuki Concerts. He also received a letter of thanks from UMCOR for our donation of \$1,767.50 during 2018.

The next Council meeting is scheduled as the Charge Conference on November 27. The meeting concluded with the Lord’s Prayer at 8:31 PM.



2019 Goals

Dear Centralites,

Happy Thanksgiving and early Merry Christmas!

May God in Jesus bring joy and happiness that exceeds our expectations.

Permit me to share with you my goals for 2019. I shared in my Charge Conference report, but I think it is important for me to reiterate once again.

My goals for 2019 are:

- Preach on the entire Bible in one year.
 - ◊ We will begin working through the entire Bible in the form of preaching from start to finish to familiarize ourselves with some of the most important Biblical lessons for Christians. This will be a major and new undertaking; therefore, it is uncharted territory which translates into starting from the scratch. This will fulfill one of the four Christian spiritual formations.
- Achieve 100% church officers' participation in Adult Bible study and 50% lay member participation.
 - ◊ How can one be a church leader and yet not spend time close to the Word of God? Sure, one can still lead with the sword-king's principles but is that what we want? The logic is simple. In order to lead, the leader must know the methods of the cross-king. The best way to know the cross-king's methods is to spend time learning about the Word of God in Bible study.
- Continue efforts to advance children and youth ministries.
- Establish monthly participation of children and youth in worship service.
- Explore and implement revenue-generating activities to support Central's mission and ministry.
 - ◊ See "Fundraiser Question".

-Pastor Won



New Central Pictorial Directory

During the month of January, take a few minutes after a worship service to pose for a new directory – yourself and your family.

This time, we will take an individual picture as well as a family picture. Your cooperation will be greatly appreciated.

Fundraiser Question

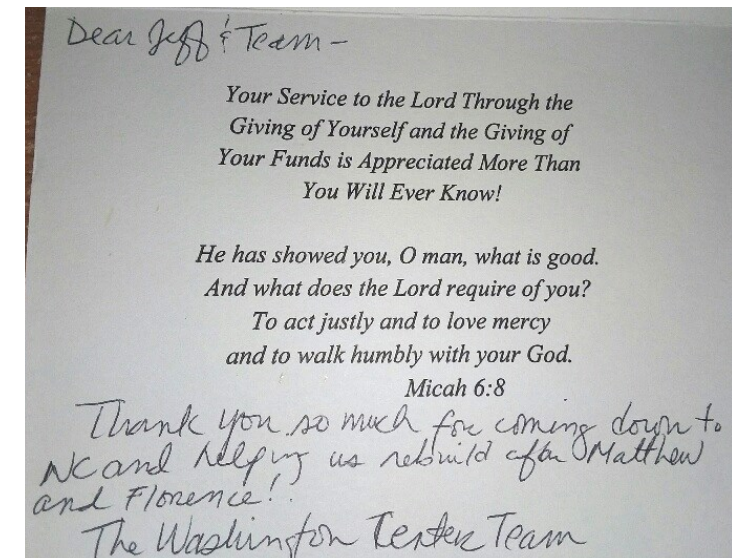
Are you curious as to why Central holds fundraisers? The answer is three-fold: 1. It helps to support victims of natural disasters in times of need. 2. It is what Jesus would ask us to do in the face of suffering and hardship. 3. Disaster relief funds are not in the church budget; therefore, we have to find creative ways to help out God's people.

To be honest, I would love NOT have any more fundraisers because it takes time and effort to host one and it takes a couple of weeks to recover. I secretly hope and pray we have enough funds reserved so that Central will no longer need to hold fundraisers. And then, I think to myself if we do that then we will be betraying what Jesus taught us to do in Matthew 25.

Therefore, do not be concerned with having numerous fundraisers. Of course, we can solve this concern with one generous gesture: write the church a big fat check.

Let us make one thing clear. We have this unfounded notion and guilt that we are money-changers. In fact, you ARE if you keep the money to yourself! The Temple money-changers were doing just that: raising the price on the dove (since the people were not allowed to offer their Roman currency to "change" from coin to dove) and keep the profit for themselves. It was hard enough for the people to make 5 offerings (burnt, grain, peace, sin and trespass) and tithing; they also had to pay the money-changers (technically speaking they were dove-changers). And the worst of it, the Temple allowed this to happen so that the priests could stay kosher. You see why Jesus was red hot going around turning over the tables and driving the money-changers out of the Temple? Ultimately, he was upset and pointing out the oppressive and false religious system.

-Pastor Won



CONNECTING THE CHURCH IN MISSION

General Board of Global Ministries

458 Ponce de Leon Avenue NE, Atlanta, GA 30308
404-460-7575 • umcmmission.org

September 26, 2018

Conf-Dist-Donor:803 -80-000048410

Central
United Methodist Church
Po Box 953
Staunton, VA 24402

Dear Friends in Mission:

Thank you for your support of the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR). Through your gift, you are helping to provide assistance for survivors of human trafficking, funding for health and development projects that alleviate hunger and poverty, holistic community-based health programs, and access to clean water and sanitation. This is just a sampling of the good works that gifts like yours make possible. Thank you for giving so generously.

Through The Advance, the designated giving channel of The United Methodist Church, **100 percent** of your contribution will go to Disaster Response, International, Advance #982450. Your gift received on 09/07/18 of \$1,767.54 is responding quickly to meet emergency needs around the world. Giving through The Advance enables United Methodists to partner with one another in mission and ministry around the world. Thank you for joining with us to "Be Hope" to those who desperately need it.

Please let us know if you have questions and/or concerns, as we welcome the opportunity to speak with you. You can reach the Gift Processing Unit at 404-460-7489. You can find out more about UMCOR's work by visiting our website at www.umcor.org. To receive weekly updates about UMCOR's work, sign up on our website for the UMCOR Hotline, a weekly email about the latest happenings at UMCOR.

This gift will bring hope to those who need it most.

Grace and Peace,

Roland Fernandes
General Treasurer
General Board of Global Ministries

Russell Pierce
Executive Director of Communications, Advance & Fundraising
General Board of Global Ministries