

SOCIAL CONCERNS

In March we will be promoting our One Great Hour of Sharing Offering. This is a special mission offering which contributes to programs of health, education and agricultural development, relief, and refugee assistance in more than eighty countries.

'The OGHS theme is inspired by John 21:15-17 when Jesus asks Peter, "Do you love me?" When Peter confesses to loving Jesus, he tells him, "Feed my sheep." We too are called to care for all who are in need, just as God cares for each of us.'

When you make a gift to OGHS, you actively participate in tending God's flock throughout the world.

Thank you,
The Social Concerns Committee:

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

The first Sunday of each month is designated as Intergenerational Sunday. We look forward to participation from as many people as possible and value the enthusiasm and diversity our younger members bring to the worship services. Thank you Scouts for your participation on Feb. 7th.

The Lenten season will begin with an Ash Wednesday service in the Fellowship Room on Feb. 17th at 6:30 PM. The Committee continues to support Pastor Christine with attendance at upcoming services at Springfield Health & Rehab on Feb. 28th and Easter Sunday, April 4th at 2:30 PM.

PARISH CARE

We know that there are a lot of wonderful bakers in our congregation. If anyone would like to bake bread for Communion it would be appreciated. One unsliced loaf (without nuts) on the first Sunday of each month from one volunteer is all we would need. Please contact the church office if you are able to help.

From Stewardship

"From Jesus' fullness we have all received grace upon grace." This is the theme for this year's Stewardship campaign.

The campaign will begin on February 7th. Dedication Sunday is March 7th.

We are trying to save postage costs this year. The pledge packets will be passed out at church on the 7th. We will mail to those not present. Please mail back in the self addressed envelope before February 25.

Thanks your Stewardship committee.

SOCIAL CONCERNS

Our focus at this point in time is the massive need in Haiti. We will respond with a church wide offering in the next couple of weeks. We have also decided to donate the proceeds from the Blessings Jar for the next few weeks also. The first week collection was over \$125. Thank you very much!!

In other areas, we are gearing up for One Great Hour of Sharing. As you may have heard some of these funds have already been sent by UCC to Haiti. Our offering will start soon and culminate with the offering being taken on the 14th of March. We also are in the planning stages with the Christian Education Committee for the Heifer Project.

In December we collected \$217.00 for the Christmas Fund. As you know, this fund enables the Pension Boards' Ministerial Assistance program to assist pensioners with health care premiums, pension supplementation, Christmas Checks and provides emergency grants.

The Habitat for Humanity offering was taken at the Christmas Eve Service and the amount donated was \$1053.50.

The committee is also working with the Association of Springfield Churches (ASAC) to help provide a warming shelter for individuals and families that find themselves in need during the cold winter.

These are just some of the ways that you have shown your generosity and good will to the surrounding community and the world at large. Many thanks to you all.