Missions Meeting
September 10, 2026

Members Present:
Pastor Kallie Jodie Claes Trudy Gove Dakotah Norton Shannon Taylor
Barbara Ricks Lolly Guerra

The meeting opened with prayer led by Pastor Kallie.

Blessings Box:
Approximately $3800 remains in the Blessings Box budget, enough to last the next four months. Jodie shops in bulk twice a month. Sheila and Dakotah help unload food items from her car and take them to the pantry. The shelves look good, but the food is going fast. The Blessings Box is filled daily, sometimes twice a day. Jodie plans to purchase more snack items and is making meal bags to help get rid of a lot of canned veggies. Trudy has also offered to make up more snack bags.
Seed packets are still in the pantry. Perhaps they can be offered to the congregation on Sundays or given to local schools.

Hays Free Fridge:
Dakotah has been in contact with those involved with the project and has gotten good information. Since they are a small organization, they are willing to give support, but it is pretty much up to KUMC to follow through with the project. Construction is needed as well as electricity. The church would need to purchase the refrigerator and any other equipment. There is still much interest in completing this project in the future.
Ideas for a community garden are still being considered but would also be the responsibility of KUMC. Kallie stated that attempts for a garden have been made in the past, but it is difficult to keep plants alive in our Texas heat. Rosemary is the only surviving plant from prior attempts that is free to the public.

Ancora Ministries:
The new Outpost is now open, and the program is supplying approximately 2,000 weekend meal bags for children in schools in Kyle and the surrounding areas. More schools are requesting to be added to the program, which has made the need for more volunteers necessary. Jodie stated that Marlee recently volunteered and said that the experience was amazing. There is a SignUp Genius link for volunteers to sign up on packing and delivery days. Packing is done on Tuesday mornings from 9-11 am, and Wednesdays from 6-8 pm. Deliveries to schools are done on Wednesday mornings from 9-10:30 am.

A grand opening celebration will be held on Wednesday, September 16 at 6 p.m. The Outpost is located at 395 County Rd. 202, Bldg. 4 in Kyle.

Community Meal:
Dakotah reported that a community meal hosted by the Pokémon group in which he is involved is planned for Saturday, September 19 at 5:30 pm in the KUMC Family Life Center. Group members will prepare and serve the meal. He will contact Alissa to have information posted in the church weekly newsletter. The meal is open to church members as well as the community. Hopefully, meals can be offered quarterly during the year. Future meals may be offered on Fridays.
Volunteer opportunities will be offered to the congregation on SignUp Genius.
Kallie stated that it is the responsibility of the group to make sure the kitchen, FLC, and bathrooms are all cleaned for Sunday services.

Food Distribution:
Barbara reported that 31 families were served at the distribution on Thursday, September 10. A loyal group of volunteers shows up each distribution day to set up and help clients with food items, as well as helping load items in their cars.

Blood Drive:
Shannon reported that 17 people were scheduled, with 2 new people, making 19 total. 16 units of blood were drawn, which is 106% of the goal.
A list of potential future dates will be reviewed and confirmed. Shannon will also confirm that KUMC will be a site since a new clinic will soon be in Kyle.

Life Together:
The next Life Together meal will be on Saturday, September 12 at the Southside Community Center in San Marcos. $301.75 remains in the budget. This amount allows the program to continue in October and perhaps longer. A request to renew the grant can be made to Methodist Healthcare Ministries in January. Dakotah is researching other grants.
An effort will be made to make the congregation more aware of the program and to offer sign-up opportunities to volunteer to prepare and to serve meals.

Fall Festival:
The Fall Festival is scheduled for Sunday, October 4 from 4-5:30 pm in the FLC. It will consist of a costume giveaway, games, and snacks. Activity stations may include a spider flinger, duck pond, pumpkin bean bag toss, arts & crafts, a picture station, and popcorn. A volunteer sign up

will be available by Tuesday, September 15. Volunteer slots will include set up from 3-4 pm, activities from 4-5:30 pm, and clean up from 5:30-7 pm.

Grant Money to Feed Children:
KUMC was offered and accepted a $6500 grant in late spring to feed children during the summer months with the stipulation that the money be spent by the end of the year. The funds weren't received until a week after school began. Therefore, there is an urgency to use the funds by year's end. Plans are to provide themed boxed food meals that are easy to prepare for families with children during long school breaks, which include a 5-day break during Halloween, the Thanksgiving holiday, and the Christmas/winter break. Alissa will compile a registration list from some of the families on the food distribution list, families that participated in the backpack giveaway, and from families that frequently attend events at the church. $65 will be allotted per family. $40 will be used to purchase food staples and a $25 HEB gift card to purchase cold items such as milk, etc. The first box giveaway will be on Thursday, October 8. Two pick-up times will be available, 3-4 pm and 5-6 pm. Food items will be purchased on Wednesday, October 7 and unloaded at the church at 11 am. Boxes will then be packed by volunteers. Recipients must be on the list to receive a box. Jodie and Lolly will work together on the logistics to finalize things before the giveaway.

Upcoming Events:
Plans for the Early Bird Thanksgiving Meal in November and for the Santa/Nativity event in December will be discussed during the next meeting.

The meeting was closed in prayer led by Pastor Kallie.

The next Missions meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 30 at 5:30 pm in the Admin Office.