JANUARY, 2020

GLOBAL MISSION REPORT TO ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Anglican Rosaries for Atlanta Airport Chaplain- In 2017-18 approximately 200 rosaries were made to be blessed and presented to the Rev. Donna Mote to be used in her ministry as Episcopal Chaplain at Atlanta Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport. This project was set aside in 2019, with the possibility of making more in the future, as the chaplaincy was adequately supplied at this time.

Villa International on Clifton Road in Atlanta is an ecumenical outreach to medical students from other countries studying at Emory University and the Centers for Disease Control. We made initial contact with the director and hope to collaborate in the future with their mission of welcoming the world to our door-step.

Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD)- Parishioners were encouraged to donate to ERD after all the major disasters this year as well as to participate in the Gifts for Life program. Lenten devotional books were provided for the use of parishioners. Cicely Simon is St. Matthew's ERD Parish Representative.

United Thank Offering (UTO)- UTO is a church wide offering begun in 1889 by the Women's Auxiliary to the Board of Missions (now known as the Episcopal Church Women- ECW). Through donating monetary offerings, placed in the Blue Box and coupled with prayers of thanksgiving, people are encouraged to pass their own blessings on to others throughout the world. Parish in-gatherings are traditionally held twice a year. Monies are sent to the United Thank Offering administrative office and grants are made annually by the UTO Board. St. Matthew's UTO Coordinator is Sylvia Langley George.

Mission Beyond Our Parish- Gini Peterson retired from the Diocesan Global Mission Commission and continues as a trustee of SPCK (The Society for the Promotion of Christian Knowledge). The next book ingathering for SPCK will be held during Lent 2020. Bibles, Prayer Books, Hymnals and other spiritual guides are collected, taken to SPCK headquarters in Sewanee, Tennessee and distributed worldwide to those churches and individuals who request them.

The Global Mission Committee sponsored its Annual Global Breakfast on World Mission Sunday which is celebrated on the last Sunday of Epiphany. Church members contributed dishes representative of their culture. It was a truly delightful feast!

Reading Camp at Snellville was held in June and hosted 20 full time campers, rising 2rd-6th graders who needed reinforcement in their reading skills. The theme was "Reading Camp World Tour". Twelve of our campers qualified for free or reduced lunch programs. English, Amharic, Urdu, Punjabi, and Spanish were the languages spoken at home; several county school systems

as well as parochial/ private schools were represented. The camp was staffed by 9 teen counselors, 7 youth volunteers and 40 plus adult volunteers.

For the first time rising 6th graders were admitted. This proved successful and was seen as giving these campers a step up as they enter middle school. We will continue this practice.

We also admitted 2 rising 2nd graders. In the future they will be admitted on a space available basis.

Of our 20 campers, 19 made progress from pretest to post test with 3 advancing 2 grade levels.

Reading Camp is also focused on presenting campers with life expanding experiences that they may not have access to through other programs and might not financially be able to take advantage of. A sample of our afternoon programs included: a representative of the Gwinnett Public Library presented a program each afternoon for the campers, the Snellville Police department provided a program on bullying prevention (this program was open to family members also), flower arranging was taught by St. Matthew's Flower Guild, Karen Wilson taught Texas Line dancing and our ever-popular movie afternoon was held. Special guests presented programs about the 5 countries on our world tour- Ecuador, Italy, West Africa, Pakistan and Jamaica.

Campers are provided with breakfast, lunch and 2 snacks each day. The snacks this year were representative of the world tour countries.

In addition to St. Matthew's, supporters included The Episcopal Diocese of Atlanta, Snellville Rotary Club and many individuals who made donations to finance and supply the camp. The camp co-directors were Gini Peterson and Marsha Elixson.

Our 8th Reading Camp at Snellville will be held June 15-19, 2020 with the theme being "My Georgia- The People".

This report is submitted with thanksgiving for Global Mission at St. Matthews. We are retiring from this ministry after many years and are delighted to present to you the new Global Mission Chair, **OmolaraDesamu-Thorpe**.

Reid and Gini Peterson

Lunch Bunch

Lunch Bunch is an open space technology fellowship opportunity for adult parishioners of St. Matthew's. There are no membership requirements and no reservations are needed. This is not a study group and there is no formal program. The core of Lunch Bunch is to provide a time and place- a different restaurant each month- where people can enjoy good conversation and get to know others at St. Matthew's in a casual environment. Gatherings take place at noon on the second Thursday of each month, September- May. Lunch Bunch coordinator Gini Peterson retired from this ministry in May after many years. Lunch Bunch is now being hosted by Mother Liz.