

## United Church of Big Rapids, MI. Revision Group Covenant Proposal: Team Social Action and Service

### Mission Statement

As members of the United Church in Big Rapids, MI. we will reach out to all people who are in need from the church and surrounding community. This can be accomplished through acts of compassion, justice, service and caring.

### Vision Statement

The United Church of Big Rapids, MI. states:

Our vision is to support through volunteerism, donation of time and money, educating the public and membership concerning our needs. We shall advocate for causes by having a presence in the community through justice, compassion, caring and service.

### Scripture: (Basis of our mission)

Proverbs 31: 8 -9

- 8 Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute.
- 9 Speak up and judge fairly; Defend the rights of the poor and needy.

### Objectives:

1. Raise more funds to help local organizations do their work.
2. Increase awareness of local organizations of our mission, and their needs that are supported by our mission.
3. Review areas of local needs so we can be of assistance.
4. Bring awareness of working families who are struggling financially.
5. Document our impact on church and community by the implementation of our programs.
6. Encourage volunteer involvement in our community by our church members and individuals of our community.
7. Suggest to church members that they revise church mission statement to relate to current times. Present Mission statement written in 1949?

### Strategies:

1. Raise funds to support our programs by use of different fund raising such, as a. Go Fund Me, b. special events, c. a special offering every 3 or 4 months that would be placed in a special social action account.
2. Increase communication of our program through Facebook, newspaper, church newsletter, mailout and other social outlets.
3. Invite local organizations; Starburst, Our Brothers Keeper, Habitat for Humanity and WISE to send a speaker to our church service for an informational presentation. Have an educational question and answer segment after the service in the parlor or fellowship hall.
4. Provide and maintain educational materials to increase understanding, awareness of areas of social justice, social action and service
5. Begin implementation plan (3 to 6 months), which constitute a plan of what, how, when to do it. Using this for a basis of contacting other groups in the future.

### Budget:

1. Speaker costs: \$175
  2. Books or pamphlets for church member or community member education: \$50
  3. Paper, ink costs: \$25
- 2020 Budget for Social action and service: \$250

### Plans:

Contact four local groups: Project Starburst, WISE, Our Brother's Keeper and Habitat for Humanity to determine their specific needs and wishes.

1. Team members spent the last three weeks talking to each organization to determine how our group and congregation can have an impact on their mission in Mecosta County. Each group provided information for our team to develop specific plans for each organization; that would allow us to implement a sound approach that relates to our mission. (Plans available to review)
2. As we begin 2020, with our mission in mind our group will present information on each organization. Later in the first 3 months we will have each organization give a short presentation before our congregation and have a question and answer period after our service. This will give our group the foundation to begin our helping aspect of the mission plan for social action and service.