

HISTORY OF THE MISSION PARTNERS



FUMC MINISTRIES IN ACTION

The Mission Partners Group in Sheridan was started from an idea by Faye Simons in 1995. Faye's concept for the group was quite simple. To organize a group (to be known as Mission Partners) in which each Partner would contribute \$10.00 per month to go to various mission type projects. This group would meet on a quarterly basis (every three months) to distribute the contributions for that quarter to worthy causes as determined by the group. There would be no other meetings or any further organization. The original group consisted of 8 volunteer members and their first contributions of \$220.00 were used to help meet our church's conference apportionments.

Since the beginning in 1995, the group has regularly met every quarter and distributed the contributions to causes such as: Volunteers of America, Intermountain Children's Home, various Advance Special Programs, Sheridan Homeless Shelter, Habitat for Humanity, the church's scholarship program, Methodist Circle J Camp, special UMCOR programs such as hurricane and earthquake relief, to Yellowstone Conference for assistance in flood relief in 2011 and wildfire relief in 2012, to support the Methodist Church Evangelization and Church Development efforts in Russia and Eurasia.

These are just a sampling of the various programs which have received help from this group. Generally, it has been established that first quarter contributions will go toward local causes, second quarter to regional, third to national and fourth to global projects and programs.

Since one of the group's members took part in a Mission Volunteer project in Russia and met the Methodist Church's missionary to Russia at that time, there has been an interest established to continually support that effort and for several years the fourth quarter contributions have been given in support of the Evangelization and Church Development program in Eurasia which grew out of this early missionary effort in Russia.

Since its inception in 1995, some \$30,000 has been distributed to a wide range of worthy causes. The success of this program can be attributed to the fact that members see their efforts making a difference for the good in others lives and supporting our Church's efforts.

