

**Date: July 16,
2015**
Time: 9:30 AM

Location: St. Mark's

Those in attendance
Erin Hachtel – FUMC
Robert Barr
Wib Miller – St. Mark's
Emmy Hann – 1st Pres.
Jo Tutolo – St. Al's
Keisha T. – SA
Harley Maddox – SA
Esther Nagel – Peace
Kristel Asmus –
Dayspring
Hugh Fairchild – Christ's
Church
Leslie Cady - LDS

**Anyone interested
in joining
our group
PLEASE contact
Erin Hachtel**
erin.hachtel@fumcbg.org

Our Mission:
Through understanding,
communication,
compassion, and
cooperation, Wood
County Area Ministries,
an interfaith network,
will equip and organize
its members to better
serve the underserved in
our community.

Our Vision:
Wood County Area
Ministries seeks to meet
the basic needs of the
people in our community
through faith and
compassion by
empowering them to live
self-sufficient and
spiritually fulfilled lives.

Wood County Area Ministries

☑ **Welcome and Opening Prayer** – Erin Hachtel, chairperson

☑ **Introductions**

Discussion: "Our community has everything it needs to thrive."

Do you agree with this statement? Share thoughts.

- Community activities can teach skills and cooperation, keep on learning
- Some thrive but some are not doing well – very little connection between them
- Helping people to become aware of the resources and how to connect
- There may be people who just want to take advantage but we need to help them see their gifts, that they, too can give
- No Wrong Door training helps us all to see the helping services we have in the community to help everyone thrive
- We can ask the question "what can we do to help you do more than just survive, but rather to thrive?"

Setting Direction for WAM

What are our competencies – what is it that we do?

- Coordination of church ministries
- Takes the pressure off each individual church to try to help everyone. The need of families is shared and coordinated

What are things that we could do, but aren't doing?

- Offering budget classes – working on a one day training in September
- Reach out to other sources like civic groups
- Ask those who need help what they CAN do for themselves and others, compile a list of talents in the area

What are our resources?

- Regular and occasional financial support
- Faith
- Wonderful volunteers
- Desire and love to help others
- Churches that look to meet the needs of others
- Community of Wood County
- Reentry group helping our returning citizens get hooked up with services (Family Services will help connect them)

What are resources out in the community that we would love to connect with?

- Partner with other community resources and combine services
- Everyone encouraged to look around and share
- Needs in the community that could turn into a job for others

☐ **Financial Report – Denise** – April, May and June reports see attached

☐ **Service Report from other Ministries** – First Presbyterian continues to operate its Deacons' Shop, which provides clean, used clothing to those who need it. The Mission Team provided a picnic style event at a migrant labor camp in Rudolph last Sunday (12 July), with pizza as the focus of the meal. Clothing suitable for field work was offered, along with sacks of food (primarily beans, rice, canned tomatoes, and masa harina) provided by parishioners and the Bowling Green Christian Food Pantry. A special highlight was the arrival of the Bookmobile from the Wood County Public Library, with the offer of a free book for each child. Our Director of Christian Education, Adriane Weisert, provided non-sectarian art activities for the youngsters. Beatriz Mays of La Connexion, which holds meetings at first Presbyterian, coordinated this event along with our Mission Team chairman, Bob Vincent, who, among other things, saw to the erection of enough tent covers to keep us mostly dry. Several women, including some BGSU students, were available to translate information that was provided relating to some social services, including health care. This outing represents an example of multi-agency cooperation to meet some special community needs: a church, a library, and an ethnically-oriented social group. This is something I feel that Wood Area Ministries is trying to accomplish as its members look deeper into defining our function in Wood County. An additional service which the Mission Team has overseen this past year has been the provision of weekend food for students in the Wood County Alternative School which meets at First Presbyterian. Libby Allen-Dachik is the co-ordinator for this program.

Peace Lutheran Church will be hosting our Fifth Friday Feast on July 31 from 5 – 7 pm. Menu will be Chef Salad with chicken strips, bread and create your own sundae bar. This is a free community event where all are welcome.

Salvation Army - Tools for School reminder Thank you to all the churches who have agreed to collect school supplies to donate. Collections will continue until Aug. 10. Please drop off all the supplies collected either to the Salvation Army in BG or call for us to pick them up. Pick up or drop off can occur anytime before Aug. 11. For more details or any questions, please contact Leslie Cady 419 345-7496

☐ For next meeting, please consider:

How can we work so that those we serve are better off (i.e. significantly different, in the long term) because of what we do?

☐ Next Meeting – 8/27 at 9:30 AM at St. Mark's

☐ Closing Prayer – Kristel Asmus provided the closing prayer