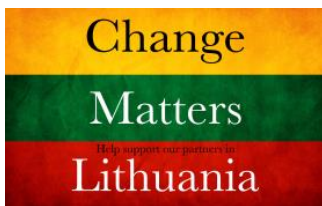


## Lithuania Rebirth

In September, Sam Garrett, Charlene Kondrat, Robin Richardson, and Laurie O'Donnell traveled to



Lithuania to attend a conference regarding the future of Methodism in Lithuania. As many of you know, we have been a long standing supporter of the church in Eiguliai. Members of our congregation raised funds to help them build a church building of their own. Unfortunately, the Eiguliai church no longer exists, but there is a new and exciting opportunity for us to be in partnership with the Eastern Circuit of Methodist Churches there.

We were especially impressed by the perseverance of the people. Despite years of oppression, they are still eager and determined to share their faith outside the church walls with the people in the community.

For the first time the District Superintendent will be a Lithuanian! Remigijus Matulaitis is filled with passion about the future there. He is currently the pastor of the Kaunas church and will continue with that role when he becomes Superintendent in January. He expressed that they want to be in partnership WITH us.

The Eastern Circuit, which is comprised of four churches pastored by one minister, Andrus Kask, and his wife Jelena, is in the most need of a supporting partnership. The church where we worshiped was a room in an office building. It served as the Sanctuary, welcome center, office, fellowship hall, and Sunday school all in one. The pastor travels to a different church each week to have services, the farthest being 250K away.

They are interested in launching new programs for the youth and for the elderly. Many of the youth are from single parent families and there is a great need for after school activities. They are especially interested in starting a music program for the kids. Many of the elderly have no family left there, as their children have moved elsewhere to find employment. Andrus and Jelena would like to develop a visitation program to make hospital visits and check in on the homebound.

One of our ideas is that we develop a Skype Bible Study for the youth in both countries and have the youth become "Facebook buddies" so that they can interact.

We've also discussed having a Choir Tour every four years so that each of our youth would have the opportunity to travel to Lithuania once during their high school years at ROFUM.

There are so many ways that we are able to serve there and we are excited to be in partnership with them. Just as we are experiencing an explosion of new vitality in our own church, they are hoping for the same! Now is the right time!

We are bringing back "**Noisy Bucket**" Sunday this month. On the 4th Sunday of each month, please bring your spare change (we'll take paper money too!), to fill the buckets. Everything we collect will go directly to the Eastern Circuit churches.

We are looking to create a "**Friends of Lithuania**" team to help us plan and direct our revitalized partnership. Sign up in Fellowship Hall if you are interested!

## UMW Corner



United Methodist Women is having a **pillowcase making workshop** for their Thursday, November 2, meeting at 1:00 pm in Fellowship Hall. The pillowcases will be given to children in need. You do not need to know how to sew to participate in this project! Fabric donations will gladly be accepted. Contact Kathy Riggs at 248-390-4345 with any questions. In November, the UMW is also collecting toys for the **Cass Christmas Store**

along with adult size gloves, hats, and scarves on the mitten tree for the DDA (Developmentally Delayed Adults) Center at Cass. In December, the mitten tree will be for our own lunch program guests.



## Redford-Brightmoor Initiative

### "One Stop Shop" Christmas Store

During the month of November, we will be collecting winter coats and boots for RBI's One Stop Shop Christmas Store. Please put your donations in the Missions bins in Fellowship Hall before Monday, November 30. Learn more about RBI at [redfordbrightmoorinitiative.org](http://redfordbrightmoorinitiative.org).





**Hurricane Relief Collection**

Thank you for your overwhelming support for the Hurricane Relief effort to send money and supplies to UMCOR following the devastating damage caused by recent hurricanes in the South. We collected over \$7,000 for UMCOR, and over 65 boxes of supplies were sent to UMCOR and to Sami Matsumoto’s school in Fort Myers, FL! Corrigan Moving company donated their services to fill 2 semi-trucks from more than 15 Methodist churches and camps in Michigan with relief supplies. Corrigan picked up the items at the churches all across Michigan on Monday, October 2, and delivered them to the UMCOR Midwest distribution center in Illinois.

Find out more about UMCOR at [www.UMCOR.org](http://www.UMCOR.org).



**Eclipse Party for Gleaners**

With your help, we were able to raise \$6000 for Gleaners Food Bank and with their matching grant, \$12,000 went to feed hungry families in our area! The Boys Scouts also pitched in to help with the food drive and hundreds of bags of groceries went into the Gleaners Food Pantries. It was amazing to see our community come together to shine a light on hunger and move the needle to make a difference.

We also want to thank *Two Unique* catering company for donating the delicious food for the event! The world got a little darker but the light of good was shining bright in our community.



Networking, Organizing, and Advocating for the Homeless



**Sock-it-to-Me September**

During the month of September we collected socks and underwear for the NOAH project. Your generous donations, along with dollars from your Missions fund, allowed us to donate **2,000 pairs of socks and 250 pair of underwear to NOAH!** Thank you for helping NOAH with the important and vital work they do in Detroit! Find out more about the NOAH project at <http://noahprojectdetroit.org/>

**Hands4Detroit**

We want to thank everyone for their participation in the Hands 4 Detroit work at All Saints Community Center on Saturday, October 7. It was a beautiful sunny day and we had a great group of volunteers with helping hands and everyone eagerly immersed themselves in the painting and gardening work assigned. Lisa at All Saints was so grateful for the completion of this project. We want to thank Nan Wilberding for her awesome leadership on this project!



When you help a child, you change a life!



**Methodist Children’s Home Birthday Club**

We have committed to hosting the birthday club in **November and December.** We need volunteers to buy gifts as well as monetary donations. Sign up in Fellowship Hall after services or contact Gigi Harris at [gracelharris@yahoo.com](mailto:gracelharris@yahoo.com) or 248-508-7135.

**Redford-Brightmoor Initiative Halloween Costume Collection**



Thank you for your donations of Halloween Costumes! We will be donating them to the kids in the Brightmoor area of Detroit. Your generosity will help make Halloween a happy and fun event for the kids in Brightmoor!