

## **Mission Committee Report 2023**

In 2023 we restarted a Mission Committee as there hasn't been one in quite a few years. I feel privileged to be a part of the wonderful things the committee is trying to do for our congregation and the community. Pastor Ken has been more than a blessing to our church family and has led the committee to do some wonderful things this past year.

We started with hosting a series of Lenten dinners where we served the community a soup dinner weekly all through Lent and had some fairly in-depth conversations about community challenges and how we might be able to address them. Our discussion went deep, as our biblical tradition met the sometimes-daunting problems we see every day in our village. These conversations went very well, and we hope to do them again in 2024 with a different set of relevant topics. They made my heart happy.

We also held the Baccalaureate Service for Bainbridge High School in June and served refreshments after. Also, a success! It was a lovely service, well received, and I think the students and their families were happy.

In September, after 10 months of preparation, we held our 1st Annual Health Fair. We brought in many medical professionals, support groups from both congregations and our Episcopal neighbors and our local Fire Department to talk with the community about their health options, had different screenings available and Narcan training. Also.... a big success. We look forward to seeing if a 2nd Annual Health Fair in 2024 would expand our reach and visibility. It is easier to go at this with experience under our belts.

I would like to recognize all the people on the joint committee with United Presbyterian of East Guildford that helped make our entire vision a reality- and successful! Judy Ives, Violet and Phil Wade, Mike and Lori Davidson, Ed Gorton, Al Clune, Charlie and Cameryn Northrop, and Sandy DuMond. I would also like to thank Pastor Ken with all my heart. Without him I don't think we would have accomplished any of what we did. ❤️

Billie Jo Northrop- Chair