

The Methodist Men met on Saturday, January 21 in the Fellowship Hall. Breakfast was served.

After a devotional given by Russel Wright, Robert Wright launched a discussion of goals for 2017, upcoming events, activities, and opportunities.

Goals for 2017 include:

**Chartering with the General Commission on United Methodist Men.** This will demonstrate our commitment to the UMM mission and provide helpful resources. Annual membership is \$85.00. A \$55.00 collection was accepted by Treasurer Dan Fielding and will be added to the \$25.00 in the UMM account to pay for the chartering. Russel Wright will complete the charter application.

**Increase membership by 5 new members.** This aligns with Pastor Robert Flowers talk on the previous Sunday concerning ROUMC's goals for growth in 2017.

**Outreach to the neighborhood and the community.** Rather than view the fact that our church is not located on a main thoroughfare as a negative, we chose to view our location as having potential. Literally dozens of households are within walking distance. *We can return to being the neighborhood church.* UMM is committed to 1) letting the neighborhood know that we are here; 2) letting the neighborhood know what services and programs we can offer them; 3) holding events (blood drives, chili cook-off, National Night Out) that would offer people to become familiar with ROUMC; and 4) reaching out to our neighbors to invite them to "come check us out." We confessed that going door-to-door was outside of our comfort zones; but realized that we could take "little steps" in reaching out to our neighbors.

**Making ROUMC more visible.** Have signage that announcing upcoming events as well as routine activities. Robert Wright will check into the cost of temporary "yard" signs.

**Participate in 6 service projects.** This will include 4 external (community) and 2 internal (Church) projects. Our first will be the Tarrant County Homeless Census on Thursday, January 26.

**Take responsibility for one ongoing activity or project..** One possibility is a fellowship coffee hour from 9:45 – 10:45 on Sunday mornings. This would give Contemporary Service attendees a chance to socialize; people could be directed to the Sunday School class that starts at 10:00; early arrivals and new attendees could be welcomed and provided an opportunity to socialize before the 11:00 service.

In addition to these goals, the group also decided to resume taking a collection at our monthly meetings to help fund expenses of UMM activities and projects.

Reyes Sanchez will look into possibilities for search engine optimization so that when local people "surf the web" for "Methodist Church" or related topics, the ROUMC website will place more prominently in the search results listings.

Our next meeting will be February 18 at 8:30 in the Fellowship Hall. All male members of ROUMC are invited. Please bring a friend.