



CENTRAL CORNER

MY HOMETOWN NEWSLETTER JANUARY-MARCH 2024

The Gift of the Magi was presented at our CRC on January 14 by the Ukranian Theater Group. They did a wonderful job, and it was really enjoyable to watch. For refreshments they had beautifully painted cookies that we didn't want to eat!



On January 28 we held our first Mission Conference with all of our missionaries. It was a great evening of instruction and sharing of special miracles by Erney Markisich and Mike Shegrud.

Sue shared - - Love is not what you say. Love is what you do. Love is above all the gift of oneself. **LOVE IS A VERB!** This is what we are all doing in our callings as Missionaries and volunteers in My Hometown. "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten son - - John 3:16

Some of us were able to participate in the Movie Nights at the First Methodist Church where 87 homeless people were able to come in out of the cold on "Code Blue" nights when the temperatures were below 15 degrees for two or more hours overnight; have dinner, watch movies with snacks, and have a safe and warm night together with breakfast in the morning before returning to the streets. This was a chance to serve in an impactful way for those really needing it. Unsheltered Utah is a part of the 2nd and 2nd Coalition, which runs the First United Methodist Church during code blue nights.



MOVIE NIGHT

Feb 26-27
Monday and Tuesday
OPEN 8PM, CLOSE 7AM

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
203 S. 200 E., SLC
(385) 955-0959
VOLUNTEER SIGNUP
[BIT.LY/2AND2MOVIE NIGHTS23](https://bit.ly/2AND2MOVIE NIGHTS23)

SECOND AND SECOND COALITION
PANDOS
THE Coconut Hut
UNSHeltered UTAH
OUR'S



During February missionary interviews were held. We were impressed by the level of commitment all of you have and your willingness to work hard to make our Central area of the SLC area better.

In February White Oak Real Estate sponsored a work night for the Turtle Shelter Project. A turtle shelter vest is a simple, waterproof, light weight, foam insulated vest that can save the life of someone living on the street. The vests were distributed to homeless individuals in the local area. It was such a rewarding night; some cut, some sewed, and some inserted the foam. High tech foam vests are inexpensive, keep a person warm to 10 degree below zero, help SAVE lives, and alleviate suffering. The Columbus Center was an ideal location for this project! Gina and Steve Young, some of our missionaries participated in this project.



Turtle Shelter Vest Project

In March we participated in a My Hometown All Cities Conference where we received excellent training and encouragement. Thanks to Jeff and Julie Olson for a wonderful morning of learning together.

We met with Amy Harmer at the Utah Refugee Connection on March 13. She is doing great work, and we offered to help her in preparing bags for refugees. We will try to help in the future with their worthwhile projects.

On March 16 we participated in an End of Fast Ramadan dinner with the Muslim Community at the University of Utah Institute. There was a panel of four different churches discussing fasting. We were represented by Sister Whetzel who is the wife of the Church Communications Director, Jeff Whetzel. It was a wonderful evening to mix with the Muslim community in SLC. We were even able to watch as they held prayers in the overflow area.

We send a great big thank you to several missionaries who were released from My Hometown - - Martin Campbell, Stephanie Thompson, David Worthen, Darlene & Harold Johnson, and Dennis & Alby Jackson. We have enjoyed working with all of them and wish them the very best in their future endeavors. We also had orientation for some new missionaries which was great.

Classes at the CRC are going great. English and sewing plus a special nutrition class was taught by one of our missionaries. A Finance class was held, and also there is now legal help from the Quinney Law School the second Tuesday of the month at 5:30 p.m. Piano is a popular class, and every week groups are coming in to use the building. The South Sudanese youth practice basketball twice a week, and the Ukrainian and Bhutanese dance groups meet every week.

FREE LEGAL ASSISTANCE INCLUDING:

- Employment
- Housing
- Debt
- and more

Second Tuesday of every month
5:30-7:30pm

No reservation necessary.
First come, first served.

Immigration Legal Assistance is not available

1860 S 300 E
Salt Lake City

Columbus
ADULT EDUCATION CENTER
& YOUTH PROGRAMS

MY HOMETOWN
Central Community

THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH
S.J. QUINNEY COLLEGE OF LAW
Pro Bono Initiative

On January 13 there was a Ukrainian New Years event.



Ukrainian New Year Celebration - January 13





January 31 - Halls & Sean Marchant Visit Mesopotamian Community

Mesopotamia is the oldest civilization on earth. Turkey is divided into two continents. The Euphrates-Tigris river runs through the middle of Istanbul, and that is where the country is divided so that city is actually on two continents, Europe and Asia. The man we met with who is over this group was in a homeless camp for years before coming to the U.S. He is now over their church and has a weekly food bank set up for the people to drive by and pick up food.



On February 25 Sean Marchant met with Pastor Elizabeth McVicker of the First United Methodist Church. They served together as interfaith council co-chairs in South Salt Lake for several years. This was her going away party before she left to pastor a church in Colorado.

March 30 was an Easter Egg hunt at the CRC. There were several hundred people with children there hunting and enjoying games inside as well as treats. We enjoyed filling eggs in preparation for the hunt and watching the community come together for a morning of fun.

The 2024 year for My Hometown Central Community has started out great!!



Easter Egg Hunt - March 30
Sherri Hoskisson, Jana Price, Lynn Olsen





So much fun!!