



## **How Are We Doing On SPS-37 ?**

In a word, FANTASTIC! We now have five full boxes of school supplies to donate to Crosslines at the mid-year and we aren't done yet.

What is SPS-37? It's a terrific October St. Paul UMC mission!

SPS-37 represents the number of elementary schools in the Springfield R-12 School District; this program is SPECIFICALLY for the mid-year supply replacement program for those elementary schools through Crosslines. It is targeted to re-supply the schools at the end of the first semester, which is roughly Christmas vacation, with consumable supplies that school children need. These supplies are what parents usually provide, but in cases of economic scarcity, some parents cannot provide these for their children, and here is where we step in!

Rather than having these children go without or expecting teachers to fund these needs, the items can be supplied from the donation stash Crosslines will have from area participating churches or other organizations that will step up and make the donations.

We will be accepting these school supplies until the end of October so there is still time to find some terrific bargains at back-to-school prices.

## **What Happened To Our Care Packages for Soldiers?**

Recently, someone asked if we were going to do the care packages for soldiers serving in harm's way again as that used to be our October mission at St. Paul.

And the answer is yes, we will be doing them again but that mission project has been moved to the month of May to help alleviate the overload of heavy-duty mission projects during the fall and early winter months. Our mission calendar is extremely light in the spring.

In December of 2010, the Hospitality, Missions & Outreach Committee approved a recommendation by coordinator Sandie McIntire to move the project to the month of May and substitute the SPS-37 mission project for October. The committee also passed the recommendation by McIntire that the project be resumed in 2012 rather than 2011 because of time constraints and extremely high postage costs to mail the packages overseas.



Our fall Bible Study program will begin on Sunday, October 2nd, in the Fellowship Hall downstairs at 1:00 p.m. The study session is conducted by Pastor Ron McIntire and lasts one hour each time it meets.

This fall, we will be studying the kings from the Old Testament. The fall session, which will encompass seven weeks of study, will be on October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>. The group will NOT meet on Sunday, October 30<sup>th</sup>, because of the Commitment Sunday Dinner. However, the group will resume its studies on November 6<sup>th</sup> and the final meeting of the fall study session will be on November 20<sup>th</sup>.

(And for those who want to know in advance, the winter session will be eight weeks in length beginning on January 22<sup>nd</sup> and conclude this study of the kings of Israel.)

A sign-up sheet will be on the table in the foyer by the elevator and prepared work sheets will be available for those who want to use them. We ask those interested in attending to sign up so that we know how many materials to have ready for the class. Additionally, the first week's worksheet will be on the same table on Sunday, September 25<sup>th</sup>, so that we can begin our study and discussion time during the first meeting.

Everyone is invited to our Bible study and encouraged to bring a brown bag lunch or a fast food meal and join

### **United Methodist Women**

We had a great brunch and program on Tuesday, September 6! As usual, we had enough for a crowd to eat, and a big thank you to all who brought something. Our speaker was Mike Kromrey, who is in charge of Education and Outreach for the Watershed Committee in Springfield. He gave us a condensed version of the program he was to give at a national conference he recently attended. Other cities want to know about the good things Springfield is doing to conserve, preserve, and educate the public about water. Look for a bulletin board in the near future about water. Our next UMW gathering will be in December. We'll be in the holiday mood at that time!

*Marti Robinette*