

Missions Meeting
September 30, 2026

Members Present: Pastor Kallie Sheila Boes Shannon Taylor Trudy Gove
Dakotah Norton Marcy Puente Ruby Puente Lolly Guerra Barbara Ricks

The meeting was opened in prayer led by Barbara.

Blessings Box: Jodie sent in a report stating that approximately \$3,400 remains in the Blessings Box budget, enough to last the next three months. She only spent \$479.76, which is less than budgeted. The pantry shelves and table have stayed relatively full this month. She plans to put in orders for pick up early next week. Jodie has no concerns about spending the money by the end of the year.

Jodie and Kallie have spoken to Trey Williams about occasionally ordering Blessings Box items with his Ancora items. He is willing to do so.

There was an ant problem in the Blessings Box and around the picnic table area last week. Jodie had to clean out the box and wipe it clean earlier in the month. She recommended that no fresh food from the food distribution be placed on the picnic table at least until the ants calm down. Jodie and Bonnie Martino handed out leftover produce at the picnic table for about 40 minutes after the September 24 distribution.

The picnic table near the Blessings Box is in need of repair or replacement. Dakotah will investigate replacement options, whether to get rectangular or round.

Glass containers of baby food are still being left in the Blessings Box. Dakotah will try putting a sign on the shelf where they are usually placed stating that we cannot accept glass containers. Glass containers that we have on hand may be offered to Live Oak Academy.

The case of the missing seed packets has been solved. Sheila had them and was attempting to give them away on Facebook, with no results. Since almost all the packets have expired, it was decided that they be disposed of.

Food Give-Away: Lolly reported that the first food giveaway is scheduled for Thursday, October 8. So far, 21 families have registered. Emails were sent to families with children from a list compiled from the backpack giveaway, VBS, and the food distribution. There are two time slots available to pick up food, 1-2 pm (16 registered) and 5-6 pm (5 registered). Food is being purchased for 24 since most products come in cases of 24. Set up will be in the Fellowship Hall. Shelf safe items will be purchased on Wednesday, Oct. 7

and then brought to the church to be packed in grocery bags; refrigerated items will be purchased on the morning of Oct. 8. There seems to be a good number of volunteers who have signed up to help. Future dates are scheduled for October 29, November 19, and December 17.

Hays Free Fridge: Dakota stated that there has not been any real progress, but that he is still in communication with Cara. It is still a work in progress.

Life Together: The meal of pulled pork on September 12 was enjoyed by around 25-30 clients with leftovers available. There was an abundance of volunteers including several new faces. The Southside Community Center will be hosting a hamburger cook-off in October and will cover all the necessities. Volunteers will not attend that day. The next meal will be on Saturday, November 14.

Blood Drives: Shannon reported that dates for 2027 are scheduled for Jan. 31, April 4, July 4, and Oct. 31. Since these are mostly all holiday weekends, they might increase church attendance.

Food Distribution: The number of families served is continuing to be around 30. A new system will be implemented on October 8. Clients have been informed not to arrive until 12:45, and to stay in their cars. Numbers, in no particular order, will be handed out. Numbers in groups of 5 will be called out beginning at 1:00 pm. until all are served. This system is to prevent clients from waiting outside in less than comfortable weather, and also to prevent saving spaces in line.

Ancora Ministries: The new outpost has allowed for more food storage, which in turn allows for more snacks being packed each week. A SignUp Genius is available for volunteers.

Fall Festival: The Festival and Costume Giveaway will be held on Sunday, October 4, from 4:00-5:30 p.m. Dakota reported that there is still a need for volunteers for the event including set-up, manning stations, and clean up. Pastor Kallie will promote the festival during Sunday services. Trudy has organized costumes on racks, with sizes from infants to adults. There is a need for more infant and toddler sizes, as well as adult sizes. 6-8 stations are planned to include a duck pond, popcorn, drinks, crafts, a photo booth, a tattoo booth, and a bean bag toss.

Garden Club Request: The Kyle Garden Club meets monthly in the KUMC FLC, and its members are big supporters of the Blessings Box and other KUMC needs. They will be hosting their annual Christmas donation drive on Tuesday, Dec. 1, from 9:30-11:15 a.m.

They have invited someone from the Missions Team to speak from 10:40-10:50 sharing our current missions and community impact. Trudy has volunteered to attend and speak.

Community Meal: The meal planned by Dakotah's Pokémon group did not take place on Sept. 19.

Early Bird Thanksgiving Meal: Ana and Lisa have contacted several local businesses for donations, including HEB, Costco, New World Bakery, and Popeye's. Lisa is also contacting the VFW and American Vets. Revisions to last year's SignUp Genius food requests will be made to allow for adequate food on hand. Volunteer time slots will need to be followed to prevent too many people from being in the kitchen at one time.

Upcoming Events: The Nativity/Santa Event is scheduled for Sunday, Dec. 6, 2026. Fat Tuesday is scheduled for Feb. 9, 2027.

Shannon closed the meeting in prayer.

Next Meeting: Since events are quickly approaching, the next Missions meeting will be held on **Wednesday, October 21, at 5:30 p.m.**