

The Alliance

Report to the 1U Annual Congregational Meeting – May 19, 2019

Respectfully submitted by Sharon Durrant, President

Since the renovation of the church, the Continuing Bazaar has become the Alliance Resale Shop. It is operating successfully by providing tasteful recycled items to happy customers. The Holiday Boutique was successful again this year.

This past year, the Alliance gave \$5,150 to organizations that serve our community in our three focus areas: children, women (especially in the area of reproductive health) and the homeless. Contributions were made to the following groups:

- [New Image Youth Center](#) (\$1,450),
 - [Planned Parenthood](#) (\$1000),
 - [Healthcare Center for the Homeless](#) (\$1000),
 - [Coalition for the Homeless](#), for children's school shoes (\$500),
 - [IDignity](#) (\$500),
 - [Covenant House](#), for services to homeless youth (\$500), and
 - [Samaritan Resource Center](#) (\$200).
- We also supported [1U](#) (\$1000) and the [UUUS](#) (\$250).

During the year we have had speakers from the League of Women Voters, members who traveled the world and shared their experiences, and a video series on Africa. Outings have included the Bronze Kingdom African Art Gallery and the movie about Ruth Bader Ginsberg. We have an annual holiday tea, occasional lunches out as well as monthly pot luck lunches. We threw a 100th Birthday party for Irma Scudder to celebrate her life and accomplishments. We hosted a fun Christmas party for 35 children from the New Image Youth Center.

The Alliance is the only organization that has met continuously throughout the life of this church. Over the past 20 years, the Alliance raised \$200,000 from the Continuing Bazaar to give to community outreach. We have a proud history.

We have concerns about the continued existence of the Alliance and its role in our church. In addition to its fundraising function, the Alliance has an equally important role of providing social support to its members. I don't want to see the demise of the Alliance as we know it, but fear that might be the case unless we have some folks join with us to help shape the organization for the future.