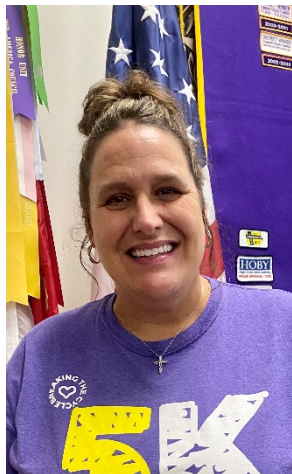




Oct 9, 2021

Vol. 37, No.40

Candace Gregory, Open Door Mission



Dr. Candace Gregory, CEO of Open Door Mission (ODM), has lived in the Treynor area for 11 years. She and her husband Steve celebrated 25 years of marriage this year. They have four children: Steven, Samuel, Chloe, and Daniel. The couple heads up the Treynor Wrestling Booster Club.

Candace has a very engaging personality and loved telling about and showing pictures of the Treynor Day of Caring. 500 Treynor students come to ODM for five hours along with teachers to volunteer. The teachers choose their area to work and divide the students into work groups. The work varies from garden work, sanitizing toys, sorting food, to doing activities with the small children. A 20 minute presentation with Candace helps the students understand more about homelessness and poverty. The groups then go to work and at the end of the day, come back together in huddle groups to share stories on what was accomplished, and receive coveted awards. This program is offered to other schools in the area as well.

Gregory stated that many of the students come back to work on their own time. She stated that investing this time in the students and helping them understand homelessness influences the choices they make. They are able to see that wrong choices leads to social issues that compound.

Open Door Mission's purpose is to meet the basic needs of individuals and families while inspiring HOPE for lasting change.

A surprising fact is that 50% of the people they serve at Open Door Mission have a college education. The average age of a homeless person in the US is age 9! Another fact is that 10,000 lbs. of food can go out in a day at ODM in

addition to the huge numbers of meals served daily.

Two upcoming volunteer opportunities are: 1) Turkey'N' Fixin's and 2) Project Santa's Toy and Joy Shop. Both programs empower individuals and families to provide for their families. Donations from individuals, families, and businesses make these programs possible.

Besides the main location at 2828 North 23rd St East in Omaha, there is a site called Homeless Prevention Resource Center in Council Bluffs at the intersection of 16th Ave and Ave D. Both are places where unused items, food, etc. can be dropped off. Future plans are to offer an Internet Café and GED classes.

Why are people homeless? It's due to a lack of safe, affordable housing, education, or life skills, mental illness, domestic violence, or life-altering addiction. A big concern for Candace is the government creating dependence and she is teaching independence. She expressed that the worst thing happens when someone is given money who she is helping get sober. She feels it's important to empower people to provide for themselves.

Next week's program will be a Sewer Tour with Casey Baragary leading. Meet at Zion Church first.

The public is invited to attend all meetings. The coffee is always on. Gary Funkhouser coins our club as "The best informed club in Treynor!"

"Plant the seeds of expectation in your mind."

Norman Vincent Peale

Meeting Minutes

Dale Willenborg, club President, called the meeting to order at the Treynor Community Building on October 10. Present were 15 members and guests, Candace Gregory, Julie Funkhouser, Cindy and Thomas Biederman, Ethan Jones and his mother.

Dale Willenborg led the Pledge of Allegiance and Bill Vorthmann gave the opening prayer. Dale Willenborg, Gary Guttau, Keith Denton and Gary Funkhouser provided humor.

Dee Guttau won the 50/50 drawing. Kevin Underwood won the attendance drawing. Ken Graham won the football contest.

Birthdays/Anniversaries: None

Bragging Rights: (\$ are used for youth activities)

- Jim Clausen announced his new granddaughter; Harlo Clausen, 8 lbs, 15.5 oz.
- Judy Guttau stated they would be attending a wiener roast hosted by Dee and Gary Guttau
- Dale Willenborg announced his grandkids and kids in WA state had COVID
- Judy Guttau bragged on having three grandkids performing with the Treynor band today in Glenwood.

COMMUNITY:

Ken Graham stated that he would be watching the Iowa/Penn State Football game today. Dale Willenborg stated that IWCC is #4 in their division in the country and are playing #1 today.

The Legion will have a pancake feed tomorrow (Sun., Oct. 10) from 8-12.

Trunk or Treat is Oct. 24 in Treynor.

John Klein stated that the Treynor Band won street marching and field performance in their class at Clarinda last week.

BUSINESS:

Dale Willenborg stated we will host a NOW event on Tuesday, Oct. 26. Dale has 8 potential new members to invite and Kirk Vorthmann stated he has a couple. All are encouraged to attend and invite potential new members. Dee Guttau suggested the menu be pizza. John Klein suggested passing around a paper for prospects' and notifying the prospects they have been nominated as a potential member. Then ask or send the invitation. Judy Guttau will ask to have the announcement on the Marquee.

The program sign-up sheet for 2022 was circulated.



L-R: Ethan Jones, his mom, Thomas Biederman, Cindy Biederman, Dale Willenborg

Cub Scouts were present today to receive their can kennel check of \$1238.70. Cindy Biederman talked about their efforts to recruit new members, membership fees, and some of their projects. Because Ethan is from Macedonia, the seed has been planted to spread the word at Carson and Macedonia since there are no scout programs there.

Today's auction was pears donated by Dee Guttau and purchased for \$2 by Dale Willenborg.

The meeting was adjourned with members reciting the Optimist Creed.

HUMOR

**It's finally October!
Which means, all of
the cobwebs and
dust in my house just
became Halloween
decorations.**

Calendar

Oct 17 Dennis & Kay White

Events

Oct 13 Can Kennel Sorting – 2:30 PM
Oct 17 Underwood Awards Banquet, Reservations
due Oct. 12
Oct. 24 Treynor's Trunk or Treat
Oct 26 Treynor's NOW (New Optimists Welcome)
dinner – 7 PM

Programs

Oct John Klein
Nov Jerry Hempel

Speakers

Oct 16 Casey Baragary, Treynor Waste Water
Treatment Mgr – On-Site SEWER TOUR.
Meet at ZION for tour.
Oct 23 Brenda Mainwaring, CEO, Iowa West
Foundation
Oct 30 Bob Keysor, Army Veteran of Treynor
Missile Base

Birthdays

Oct 17 Marsha Underwood
Oct 29 Bill Vorthmann

Anniversaries

Oct.13 Dale & Dianne Willenborg

Contributor: Dee Guttau,

Editor: Judy Guttau, judy.guttau@tsbg.com, 402-670-4330,

Dues/Donations/Flag Money: Mail to Optimist Club of Treynor, PO Box 354, Treynor, IA 51575