

## Older Adults Covenanted Ministry Report

**Purpose of Ministry**—To provide support, guidance and direction for the activities of Missouri Mid-South Conference in enhancing involvement and resources for older adult church members and their community as they age.

“Ministry with older adults recognizes and celebrates the vital contribution older adults make to the lives of our congregations and broader settings of the church. Age brings with it qualities of perspective, persistence and prudence. Age also brings with it awareness of limits, vulnerabilities, and loss. The United Church of Christ celebrates these gifts, shares these losses and encourages faithful living across the age span” —UCC web page.

We continue to put an emphasis on our landing page on the Conference web page that has many resources that have been provided by the Older Adults Covenanted Ministry and individuals from local congregations.

Several presentations have also been made by members in a variety of settings- local churches, clusters and Associations.

Recognizing that we have a number of retired clergy who feel disconnected from the Conference and would appreciate a phone call or visit, we are developing a Retired Clergy Stewards program. Our emphasis in the first year will be to reach out to those who are no longer able to participate in Conference or Associations activities. **If you are able and willing to make a few calls or visits, we would love to have you join this team! We will have a sign-up sheet at our CAG table.**

**Shannondale Mission Trip**-Our Ministry is sponsoring a mission immersion trip to Shannondale on May 23-26. This came as a request of our presentation at CAG last year. (As I write this report registration is still open. Shannondale serves the poorest county in Missouri. Come and help support their great work.)

As we continue to learn and work together, we hope you will find value in the work of this ministry. Come join us!

Respectfully submitted

Joyce Bathke, Chair