

## **Change for Change Report 2018**

Submitted by Lisa Fuller

In the fall of 2017 Rev. Jim McConnell introduced the concept of Change for Change, with the RE children collecting and donating coins toward a social justice project of their choosing.

Rev. Jim created an eye-catching CFC collection vessel for the sanctuary, and David Sarra helped the RE kids create their own coin collecting cans.

I reviewed various social justice opportunities with the kids. 'Guest at Your Table', an annual intergenerational program to raise support for and awareness about UUSC's (UU Service Committee) work to advance human rights, was introduced; but a more local social justice effort was desired.

The RE kids narrowed their interests down to animals, nature and other children. After lots of discussion, a decision was made to direct fundraising to agencies helping animals: the Berrien County Humane Society and Sarett Nature Center. It might be nice to take an RE field trip to the Humane Society and Sarett to learn more about how their donations could help animals there, or invite representatives to attend this summer's RE Day Camp.

At home the children could earn coins by helping with chores, returning cans, etc.

The children decided they will promote CFC after the weekly Story for All Ages, just before they leave for their RE class. Each week, one of the children will say something like, "We are collecting Change for Change. If you would like to help us help animals in Berrien County, please put a coin or two in the offering basket today." They would then empty their own coins into the CFC vessel.

To keep the children engaged in this fundraising effort it is suggested that they participate in counting and recording the coins from the offering basket on a weekly or monthly basis.

The collected coins will then be processed by Honor Credit Union's nifty no-fee coin counter, deposited into the BUUF checking account, and shown on the monthly Income & Expense sheet as Change For Change income.

Later we'll decide how often to send or present the donations.

### **Consider offering to help in these areas:**

- Oversee Change for Change program
- Chaperone field trips to Humane Society, Sarett if needed
- Assist with presenting donations
- Assist with Honor Credit Union deposits and communication with BUUF's bookkeeper