

THANK YOU NOTES



Stories of Connectional Giving

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English as a Second Language, First UMC Waterloo

Sometimes it doesn't take a lot of resources to make a huge difference. The ESL (English as a Second Language) Outreach in the Waterloo-Cedar Falls metro area is helping new Chinese and Korean immigrants learn English, support one another, and adapt to a new culture.

A core group of women meet monthly for a shared meal and support. They, in turn, reach out to assist others in the Chinese community who are in need of help, providing such things as school supplies, tutoring for their children, or Christian literature written

in Chinese. Small groups gather for Bible study in homes or restaurants. Larger gatherings are held where they are now based at First United Methodist Church in Waterloo.

Last summer attendees of the Iowa Annual Conference brought coloring books that help the children learn both English and Bible stories. The Rev. Ruth Yan, a deacon in the Iowa Conference, says that the parents are so grateful that "the United Methodist Church cares about us."

Matthew 25 funds from the Northeast District — and supported by apportionments from local churches — help make this ministry possible.



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