



Heart 'n Hands Mission

an Outreach Ministry of
St. Timothy Evangelical Lutheran Church
August 2018 NEWSLETTER

Our mission is to collect and provide clothing and other necessities to the homeless and working poor of Northeastern New Jersey and to raise awareness of the plight of the homeless and working poor in this area and beyond.

Heart 'n Hands Mission of St. Timothy Lutheran Church is a mobile Outreach ministry which provides quality donated clothing and personal care items to the homeless and working poor at five food pantries, soup kitchens and community outreach programs in Paterson, Passaic and Hoboken. We also assist a poor congregation in Newark and provide clothing for veterans and their families in Paterson. We are in our ninth year of service in Wayne reaching **2,000** people with our monthly distributions. We also support Wayne Interfaith Network and members of the Wayne community. Heart 'n Hands Mission is 100% volunteer and 100% of all monetary donations go directly to meet the needs of the homeless and working poor.

Christ Lutheran Church

On the first Saturday in May, **Christ Lutheran Church in Woodcliff Lake** hosts its annual Trash and Treasure sale. There are rooms full of housewares, clothing, accessories, bedding, books and more. Over the last seven years, we have been given the opportunity to come at the end of the sale and take items that would benefit those who are served by Heart 'n Hands Mission. This year, **Barbara and Pat Kaplan, Cliff Konnerth and Cathe Davidson**, along with 3 scouts from **Boy Scout Troop 170** returned to St. Timothy with bags and boxes of casual summer clothing and accessories.

We truly appreciate this opportunity and we are grateful to **Ann Christiansen** and the congregation of Christ Lutheran Church for all of their hard work to wash, prepare and organize the clothing before the sale making it easier for Mission volunteers to sort and distribute the donations quickly over the next few months.

Summer Sorting



May also signaled the end of Sunday School at St. Timothy. Classrooms became sorting stations and staging locations for the summer. Entire Monday mornings were spent doing the work and much was accomplished. We thank **Lori VanDerStad, Hannah and Christian Wantula** and **Rich Wantula** for allowing us to use their classrooms. This saved us up to two hours of prep and cleanup every Monday morning. That gave us nearly 30 extra hours of sorting time during the summer! It also allowed us to add a Monday evening sorting team once each month. These evening events allowed us to sort mountains of bags of clothing that we received from **The Browse and Shop** as it prepared to close for the summer and numerous large donations from individuals. Clothing donations were sorted in record time, Care Kits were assembled, Blessing Bag supplies were organized and counted for the upcoming fall project and the Orange Room looks spectacular. We thank **Debbie Andersen, Danette Andersen, Collette McNally**, who led the charge on Monday evenings, all the volunteers who came to help, our **Monday morning sorting team** and members of the **Mission Board** for all of their hard work this summer.

Baby Kits and Bibles

In June, we received a car load of donations from **Debbie and Chris Houlihan** of Manalapan with Bibles of all kinds for babies, children, teens and adults, religious bookmarks, reading eye glasses and more. Debbie also brought 35 Baby Kits. The kits contained baby shampoo, wipes, children's books and keychains in Frozen themed gift boxes and carryall totes. Each kit also had a beautiful fleece blanket donated by **Midge DeVenero-Reichardt**. The Baby Kits and many Bibles were delivered to Iglesia Vision Celestial Church in Newark. The parishioners were very grateful for these special gifts. Bibles were also distributed to our sites in Paterson and Passaic. We thank Debbie, Chris and Midge for these wonderful gifts.

An Anonymous Donation for the Homeless

Heart 'n Hands Mission received a tremendous gift from an anonymous donor whose sole request was that the monies were used to benefit the homeless. We immediately reached out to several of our site contacts for any special requests. Throughout the rest of the year we will do our best to fulfill as many of those requests as we can.



We have been able to provide razors, shave cream, medicated powder, deodorant, Chapstick and sunscreen for our homeless friends in Hoboken. The Mission also purchased underwear which was distributed in Hoboken. In addition, we purchased numerous pairs of good walking shoes in sizes that are frequently requested by our homeless friends. Later in the year, we will again purchase jeans and blankets.

These gifts provided an extra level of comfort during the summer months and will go a long way towards improving dignity and warmth during the fall and winter. We send our heartfelt gratitude to our anonymous donor!

A Heart 'n Hands Mission Moment

Submitted by Craig Beyer



The children who we see often at First Presbyterian Church in Passaic will ask me if we have any stuffed animals, if they do not see them among the other donated items. One of our faithful helpers is Michelle and everyone calls her Shelly. Shelly is usually the first to warmly greet us each month and helps unload the van. Her favorite thing is to hand out the stuffed animal donations. Guess how I learned that her very most favorite cartoon characters are the Minions...? A really nice person donated a Minion and it was sitting in the front seat of our van. Shelly was over the top delighted.



Do you subscribe to a food delivery service?

Would you please collect the silver insulated bags that come in your package for us? Thank you!

Halloween Costumes

We are always looking for Halloween Costumes in good condition for our working poor families in Passaic. Each year, Barbara Kaplan, organizes and prepares the costumes for distribution in September and October. Please think about donating some of your children's costumes from previous years and help make this Halloween special for those who are in need.



What Are You Doing For Others?



Are you looking for volunteer opportunities? Do you have an hour or two to spare? All are welcome to join our Monday Morning Sorting Team. There are many jobs to do each Monday morning from pre-sorting seasonal clothing, to sorting and folding clothing for distribution, to preparing Care Kits and toiletries, to moving filled boxes to our storage spaces, to loading and unloading the van. We also need help staging donations for the three organizations that help us out by coming to the Mission to pick up the donations for their sites.

Several of our volunteers come every week from 9:30 – 11:30 am each Monday morning. Others come as they are able. Weekly sorting is crucial to our Mission so that we have enough clothing and toiletries prepared for each of our sites every month.

Please consider joining us on a Monday morning!

Delivery Drivers Needed!

Be a part of the Double-D team. How wonderful it is to have volunteers to sort and box our donations, but it's all for naught without drivers to get it to our friends in need. Please consider giving of your 'time and talents' as a member of a driving team to deliver the donations to one of our distribution sites. It only takes two or three hours to be a blessing to others!

Distribution deliveries occur once a month to each of 4 Gathering Sites (Food Pantries and Shelters) we serve. The first, second and fourth Mondays, and the second or third Saturday morning are the usual scheduled days. Delivery teams of 2 people make each delivery. Mission volunteers unload the van at each site with the help of volunteers at the site and carry in the boxes and bags of clothing and supplies. Helping our friends in need find appropriate clothing is also part of the visit. Then the van is reloaded to return to church. Two of our deliveries are a simple drop-off and once the van is unloaded the delivery team is free to return to the church.



We need regular drivers, as well as those who can be available on an as-needed basis. Please contact Rich Wantula or leave a message at 973-694-8316 Mailbox #6 if you would like to assist with a delivery.



Heart 'n Hands Mission ~ Blessing Bag Project

The 2018 Blessing Bag Project will officially begin on September 1st.

In an effort to keep the Blessing Bags consistent, please note the following helpful hints:

- **TRAVEL SIZE** toiletries are the key to fitting everything comfortably in a gallon size Ziploc bag.
- **TRAVEL SIZE** toiletries can be purchased for less than \$1 in stores like Target, Harmon, Dollar Stores and Big Lots.
- Some items are sold in multiples – this reduces the overall cost per bag.
- It is also important to stick to the list – **Travel size** not Hotel size toiletries for our homeless friends and 1 of each item unless stated otherwise.
- **Please do not** substitute or add additional items especially loose cotton balls.
- **Q-Tips, Band-aids and Flossers** purchased in bulk should be divided into separate snack size bags to preserve cleanliness.
- **Please** pack **all food items** together in a smaller Ziploc bag.
- **Please** check expiration dates! Items should not expire before March 2019 !
- If you are unable to complete a bag we welcome individual items to help fill a bag.
- Monetary donations are always welcome.
- We will gladly accept your donations from September 1st through November 11th, 2018.
- **Thank you for your continued support of the Blessing Bag Project!**

Each GALLON SIZE Ziploc Blessing Bag for an Adult should include:

Travel size Toothpaste	Toothbrush
Travel size Mouthwash	Small Deodorant – generic scent please
Travel size Shampoo	Small Bar of Soap (not Family size, not hotel size)
Travel size Shave Gel	Disposable Razors – 2 generic
Travel size Lotion	Band-aids – 8
Travel Size Gold Bond Medicated Powder	Chapstick – non-flavored
Travel size Body Wash	Q-Tips – 1 travel pack or 30 Q-Tips in a snack size bag
Pocket Pack of Tissues	Small Dental Floss or 30 flossers in a snack size bag
Generic Comb or small brush	Travel Size Hand Sanitizer or Pocket Antibacterial wipes
Pack of Hand warmers - 1	CHEWY Granola or Protein Bar - 1
2 small Slim Jims or 1 pack of Snack Crackers	Gum or Lifesavers – 1 pack

Please add a note of encouragement or holiday cheer! Notes neatly decorated by children are welcomed.

DURING OUR BLESSING BAG PROJECT WE WILL ALSO COLLECT:

Warm Hats Adults White Crew Length Socks Warm Gloves
These items can be donated separately from the Blessing Bags

Blessing Bags, toiletries, hats, socks and gloves can be placed in the collection basket on the Street Level near the elevator or in The Orange Room across from the elevator.

FYI: we do collect **unused Hotel toiletries** for distribution throughout the year.

Please remember the homeless while you are traveling!

Hotel toiletries can be placed in our collection basket at any time.

Please bring your donations to Heart 'n Hands Mission at St. Timothy Lutheran Church
395 Valley Road, Wayne 973-694-8316 Mailbox #6



Please mark your calendars for our
COLUMBUS DAY OF SERVICE

It will soon be time to change seasons!

Our Annual Columbus Day of Service is scheduled for
Monday, October 8th – 10 am to 1 pm

All are welcome to join us as we put away our summer donations and
prepare fall and winter clothing for distribution.

St. Timothy Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall ~ 395 Valley Road, Wayne

Men’s casual clothing is always needed, especially jeans, khakis, hiking shoes, sneakers, and sweatshirts.
We will also collect sleeping bags in good condition throughout the fall and winter.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DONATIONS

We are very grateful to all of our supporters who donate clean, wearable clothing to the Mission each week.
Please note we cannot accept glassware, ceramics or china of any kind. Nor do we accept household
appliances or kitchenware. Our space is extremely limited and we use every available inch for clothing,
outerwear, shoes, boots, bedding, personal care items, diapers, children’s books and small toys.

Please DO NOT leave your donations outside the doors of St. Timothy when the church is closed. They can
cause a walking hazard for those entering the church and inclement weather can ruin your donations. If you
cannot drop off your donations on Monday mornings when Mission Volunteers are working, please call the
church office at 973-694-8316 and speak to the Church Secretary Laurie Crowley about leaving your donations
on another morning when the church office is open.

If you are only available in the evenings, please call the Mission at 973-694-8316 and leave a message in
Mailbox #6. A Mission Volunteer will get back to you as soon as we are able to make alternate arrangements
for you to drop off your donations.

**We are not accepting any business clothing at this time. Men’s casual clothing, jeans, hiking boots and
sneakers in good condition are especially needed.**



Heart ‘n Hands Mission
St. Timothy Lutheran Church
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Heart 'n Hands Mission is very blessed with a dedicated group of volunteers without whom we would not be able to do what we do. There are many steps involved in the process of collecting, sorting and preparing, loading and delivering donated clothing, bedding, shoes, outerwear and toiletries. Each one serves an important role in this process and we are so very grateful to each of them for their time and their talents.

We wish to send our sincere thanks to our faithful **Monday Morning Sorting Team Members** under the wonderful direction of **Barbara Kaplan** and welcome our newest member Debbie Yodice!

Lois Clapp, Carol Cook, Cathe Davidson, Ellen Grexa, Judy Lupichuk, Nora Pecci, Sarah Riotto, Karen Taylor, Lou Warner, Margot Weinert and Debbie Yodice;

to our **Delivery Team members:**

Craig and Marie Beyer, Bob Davidson, Art DeRose, Cliff Konnerth, Amy Mikelis, Carol Neilson, Rich Wantula and Lou Warner;

to our **Staging and Loading Team members:**

Craig and Marie Beyer, Bob and Cathe Davidson, Barbara, Pat and Nathaniel Kaplan, Cliff Konnerth, Rich Wantula and Lou Warner.

We also want to thank Kathy Knittel, Pat Kaplan, Vicki Coyle, Dan Bitcon and Lindsay Clapp who have helped us out when their schedules permit.

Your dedication and service to Heart 'n Hands Mission breathes new life and purpose into our ministry each week. We are incredibly grateful to all of you for your continued support.

We are so very grateful to all of the volunteers who serve the Mission each week picking up donations, sorting, loading and unloading the van, and making deliveries. We couldn't do it without each and every one of you!

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Thank You

We send a huge thank you to everyone who has given so generously to Heart 'n Hands Mission. Every donation makes a difference to those who have so little. We have been blessed with the following specific donations:

- Anonymous – Thank you for the very large donation of socks!
- Katie Baron – Blessing Bag toiletries
- Gordon Bradley - hotel toiletries
- Clayton Davidson – hotel toiletries
- Carl and Margaretha Johnson – diapers, baby wipes and toiletries
- Sue Meisner – toiletries
- Bill and Dolores Monsees – socks, undershirts and underwear
- Siobhan Reid – hotel toiletries prepared in Care Kits and ready to go!

We send a big thank you to **BSA Patriots' Path Council** Scout Executive Dennis Kohl, the Staff at PPC and the Scouters for donating clothing and hotel toiletries for our Care Kits throughout the year.



Thank you to **Jamie Lanuez** for her very generous donation of full size personal care products.

Thank you to **Amy Mikelis** and her daughters for purchasing and packaging Newborn diapers and wipes for our friends at Iglesia Vision Celestial Church.

We thank the Montville, Wayne and surrounding communities for their support and all of their donations.

Thank you to volunteers **Nora Pecci** and **Judy Lupichuk** for the “special care” they take in preparing clothes for distribution and for blessing other groups in our community with items and supplies we are unable to use.

Packanack Dry Cleaners and **Temple Qinesis** continue to collect clothing for us. Pickups are done monthly or bimonthly when notified. **Divine Cleaners** also collects clothing for us year-round and is a big supporter and provider of gently used clothing. We thank these businesses for their continued support.

We thank all of you who quietly leave donations in our Orange Room each week and those we see each Monday. Your support is invaluable to our mission and your donations bring joy and comfort to so many each month.

We are also grateful to our friends who continue to spread the word about the Mission and regularly collect and deliver donations from their friends and relatives.

We send a very special thank you to **Pastor Moutenay and St. Timothy** for allowing us to utilize the “Orange Room” and storage space downstairs in order to continue to serve the needs of others in our community.

Thank you to the **St. Timothy Monday Morning Crew** for being so supportive and helpful especially in setting up tables for our Days of Service; and to the individuals who help us on Monday mornings and help with donations whenever they are able.

We also send a heartfelt thank you to **Laurie Crowley**, our St. Timothy Secretary Extraordinaire for all of her help on Monday mornings and throughout the week when our supporters arrive with donations. Your patience, creativity and willingness to help at a moment’s notice make our job so much easier. You are an angel.

We are able to continue to spread joy and hope to our friends in need through your generous donations. We sincerely appreciate and humbly thank those who have blessed us with financial gifts to our general fund since our last newsletter. Your donations make it possible for us to continue our mobile ministry by helping to provide necessities to those we serve.

Marjorie Davidson

Anonymous

Prudential Benevity Fund

And so the work of the Mission continues.

The joy of life is to love.
The essence of life is to care.
The opportunity of life is to serve.
- William Arthur Ward

Love. Care. Serve.