



Heart 'n Hands Mission

An Outreach Ministry of
St. Timothy Evangelical Lutheran Church
February 2021 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 an 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 an impoverished congregation in Newark, a refugee assistance program also in Paterson, and provide clothing for Veterans and their families in Paterson. We are in our eleventh year of service in Wayne and now reach more than **3,000** people with our monthly distributions. In addition, we 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.

Heart 'n Hands Mission Collecting and Sorting Operations are Suspended



Heart 'n Hands Mission **suspended collecting and sorting operations** for the second time in November due to the increase in COVID-19 in our area. **When we resume operations, we will be collecting in-season, clean, wearable clothing and year-round accessories only.** We will make an announcement through our email list and through social media.

Lakeland Bank



In December, Lakeland Bank highlighted Heart 'n Hands Mission on their social media channels and on the TV monitors inside their banks, recognizing us for our "hard work & dedication to helping those in need." We thank Lakeland Bank for bringing our mission to local communities through their media outlets.

BIG Thank You

Over the last two years, the **Airbus Group** has made significant donations to Heart 'n Hands Mission on behalf of the **C. Jeffrey and Katherine Knittel Foundation**. These very generous gifts have provided meaningful assistance beyond our monthly distributions to our gathering sites. During the 2020 Covid-19 pandemic, while Heart 'n Hands Mission was shut down for months, these generous donations provided requested necessities to our sites that remained open. In addition, we were able to fulfill seasonal needs including pullovers, long-sleeve t-shirts, blankets, jeans, sweatshirts, and thermals, underwear and socks.

We recently received another generous gift from the Airbus Group and a generous gift from the Knittel Foundation. As our northeast New Jersey area continues to suffer the effects of the pandemic and the economic downturn, these monies will enable Heart 'n Hands Mission to “keep the candle burning” and provide even greater assistance to those in need. We are extremely grateful to Kathy and Jeff and to the Airbus Group for their abundant generosity.

We also sincerely appreciate and humbly thank the following generous supporters who have blessed us with significant year end donations as well. All of these monetary donations have enabled us to distribute **blankets, sweatshirts, socks, adult gloves, children’s gloves, fleece hats, men’s and women’s underwear, reading glasses, hand warmers, toe warmers and drawstring bags** to our Veterans, the homeless and families in need since the beginning of January.

The Congregation of Preakness Faith Community Church
Paul Monsees and Cathy Ventrell-Monsees
Marie Beyer & The Prudential Benevity Program

Here is a picture from one of the deliveries:

Bob Davidson and Rich Wantula delivered blankets, sweatshirts, gloves, hats, socks, underwear, reading glasses, string bags, hand and toe warmers to **St. Matthew’s Trinity Lunchtime Ministry** in Hoboken.

“Great to see Bob and Rich, our friends from the Heart 'n Hands Mission, today. Thanks for the generous and timely donation of blankets and winter gear!”

*Spike Enzweiler
Manager*



Blessing Bag Program Update

We want to thank everyone who so generously supported our 2020 Blessing Bag Program. Your donations enabled us to safely distribute **336** pre-made bags of blessings, plus medicated powder and hand sanitizer to the homeless in Paterson, Passaic and Hoboken, and our Veterans. In addition, we delivered full-size shampoo, lotion, body wash and toothpaste to **300** families in need at our gathering sites for the holidays.

Additional donations allowed us to also support **156 families** in our area through **Wayne Interfaith Network (WIN)** with toiletry items including lotion, toothpaste, body wash and shampoo.

Donations from **Alice Huizinga** and **Ed and Ellen Kramer** were received after our December newsletter publication. We sincerely thank these supporters for their generous donations to our Blessing Bag Program.

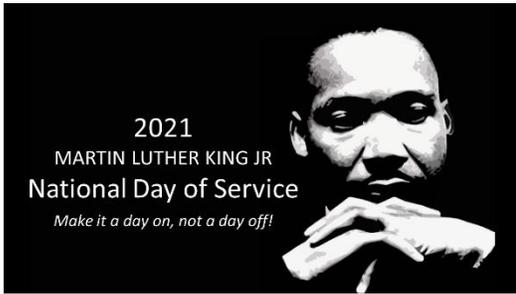


Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day has been a Day of Service for the Mission for several years, a day open to the community to help sort clothing and prepare it for delivery to the thousands of homeless and impoverished people we reach every month. Large groups of volunteers have gathered in the Fellowship Hall of St. Timothy Lutheran Church in Wayne, NJ to assist our faithful weekly sorters with everything from sorting, to boxing, to staging deliveries and loading our van. With the most recent shutdown at the church last November, we have been relying on monetary donations to purchase items desperately needed at the food pantries and shelters we support each month and drop them off at each of our nine locations.

So, **new for 2021**, Heart 'n Hands Mission has established an **Amazon Wish List** to help us fulfill the ongoing needs of the food pantries and homeless shelters we support. Our Wish List is in its beginning stages and will change and grow as we identify specific needs at each of our sites. These items are high priority for our shelters and impoverished families and are not ones we typically receive with your clothing donations. If you would like to make a donation through our Wish List, please follow this link: [Heart 'n Hands Mission Amazon Wish List](#). When checking out, please select "Heart 'n Hands Mission - St Timothy Lutheran Church's Gift Registry Address." Thank you.





Our big announcement for the Wish List was made in conjunction with the **Martin Luther King, Jr. National Day of Service** and was sent by email to all on our mailing list, and through Facebook and Instagram. The response was tremendous! The following items were received within a week of the announcement: Moisture Wicking Socks for Men and Women, Knit Winter Headbands/Ear Warmers, Men's and Women's Deodorant, Men's Razors and Shave Cream, Women's

Razors and Shave Gel and Feminine Hygiene Products. All of these items will be distributed in February and March.

Thank You

We sincerely thank everyone who responded so quickly and generously to our virtual **National Day of Service**. We received many donations from friends of the Mission as well as new supporters. There were also many anonymous donations. We are grateful for all of your gifts and we

hope that you will continue to check our Wish List throughout the year.

Carolyn & Louis Russo
Nora Pecci
Jennifer Fredholm Peffley
Charles Joseph Bedi
Peg Gerding
Lisa Shatz
Marcia Schloesser
Marjorie Davidson
Catherine Bailey
Jessica Shaw
Anonymous

Kathy Knittel
Marion Flotard
The DiMarco Family
Terri & Kevin Loftus
Valerie McGrath
Dianne Donohue
Conrad & Dawn Brassel
Jessica
The Porfido Family
Conrad Hablitz

Karen Sajban
Pat Dunn
Joan Toglea
Carol Smith
Cyndy Tschanz
The Iza Family
Carrol Norton
Karen Taylor
Mary Laverack
Nina Zardez

Angels Among Us

In our December newsletter, we recognized St. Timothy member **Debbie Andersen** as an angel among us. Debbie coordinated a group of sorters at the Mission and is our liaison with Iglesia Vision Celestial Church an impoverished church in Newark. Debbie is making an impact through other connections as well. Through Father English Community Center in Paterson, Debbie has made a connection with Broad Street Benches in Elizabeth, who had a need for blankets, sweaters, sweatshirts, and socks. The Mission was happy to oblige and these items have been distributed in Elizabeth and Newark. Broad Street Benches provides free meals, clothing and toiletries to anyone in need in their local community. Through Debbie, the Mission was also able to provide bedding for a non-denominational church in Edgewater who has been welcoming the homeless during the cold weather. We sincerely thank Debbie for helping us reach more people in need.



Board Member Barbara Kaplan received this lovely thank you note:

Dear Barbara,

Please extend a huge thank you to the folks who made and donated beautiful blankets and quilts to the sisters residing at St. Joseph's Nursing Home, Cedar Grove.

Not only do they give some extra warmth to the sisters, they are so attractive that when not in use for comfort, they add a colorful design to the beds.

Your generosity is more than appreciated.

With gratitude and thanks,

Sister Beverly Ornes, S.C.

Note: the blankets and quilts were made by the Angels Circle of St. Timothy and by generous supporters of the Mission.

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We are organized and ready!

Our November shutdown forced us to suspend collecting donations and left us without our sorting volunteers. Board Member family units however were permitted to prepare drop offs to our sites that remain open and pick-ups outside the church so we could still fill the needs of those we serve. Winter clothing that had been sorted was quickly bagged with nothing returning to the church after deliveries. Out of season clothing that had been collected was separated for future sorting. On-line purchases and donations have been organized and are staged for deliveries. And so, we are basically caught up! With all the extra time that afforded us, **Barbara Kaplan and her husband Pat** have made significant progress in organizing all our spaces – the shed, the Orange Room, our storage downstairs, and the stage in Fellowship Hall. We thank Barbara and Pat for all of their time and effort. When it is safe for us to resume our normal operations, we are ready!

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As we look forward to welcoming **Kimberly Cooper** who has accepted the call as our new Pastor, the Heart 'n Hands Mission Board would like to extend our sincere thanks to the Interim Pastor of St. Timothy Lutheran Church, the **Rev. Bernd Weishaupt**, for all of his enthusiastic support of the Mission over the last seven months.

We also send our heartfelt thanks to the following supporters who have blessed us with donations to our general fund since our December newsletter. Your donations will make it possible for us to continue to deliver much needed clothing and necessities through our mobile ministry.



Stuart Anderson

Barbara Conklin

Carol Munch

Ruth Carlson

Ray Breimer

The St. Timothy Benevolence Fund

Patrons of the Montville Diner

A Message from Heart 'n Hands Board Member Pastor Jane Harlan

Dear Friends,

February 1st, 2021 will be remembered as the day our area was hit with one of the largest snowfalls in many years. In fact, as I am writing this, the snow is still coming down and accumulation could be over 2 feet. For each of us reading this, we are the fortunate ones that have a roof over our head, warmth, food and a safe place to stay! Yet, like many of the homeless, they are not as fortunate and tonight my thoughts think about each of them. Where will they spend the night? With the limitations due to the pandemic, will they receive a meal and be able to stay warm overnight? Will they survive the snow and cold weather?

Today on Facebook I saw a posting that caught my eyes and heart. It was a prayer for the homeless which was worded beautifully. Yet, after I read it, I kept thinking "Lord, the prayer is nicely worded, but shouldn't our prayers also be put into action?"

What an honor and privilege to be part of the Heart n' Hands ministry that not only prays for the homeless but also speaks through action and makes a difference! And what touches my heart even more is not only the commitment of the team that works non-stop at St. Timothy but the countless others who continue to donate the coats, clothing, socks, shoes, underwear and toiletries needed. Together that is "Prayer in Action" and I want to say, "thank you"!

I am led to a familiar story in the Bible that continues to be special to me and would like to share it with you. It is from Luke 17:11-19

¹¹ Now on his way to Jerusalem, Jesus traveled along the border between Samaria and Galilee. ¹² As he was going into a village, ten men who had leprosy^[a] met him. They stood at a distance ¹³ and called out in a loud voice, "Jesus, Master, have pity on us!"

¹⁴ When he saw them, he said, "Go, show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were cleansed.

¹⁵ One of them, when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice. ¹⁶ He threw himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him—and he was a Samaritan.

¹⁷ Jesus asked, “Were not all ten cleansed? Where are the other nine? ¹⁸ Has no one returned to give praise to God except this foreigner?” ¹⁹ Then he said to him, “Rise and go; your faith has made you well.”

Years ago, when I became a Pastor, another Pastor shared that I should never say “thank you” in a bulletin or publicly because I might forget someone and that could cause hurt feelings. I pondered that for some time and realized that being thankful and grateful to first, my Lord, and then to the many other earthly angels he sends my way, should be a priority! And it has been for many years. Did I forget to say “thank you” once or twice; YES, but believe me when I found out, I made it up probably with a chocolate bar from the pulpit. Yet, saying “thank you” and expressing gratitude should be a priority for through a grateful heart, I believe we find His JOY!

You will find that this edition of the Heart n' Hands newsletter is an acknowledgement of many that have put the prayer for the homeless into action! As you can see, many have given of their time, gifts and generosity to make a difference! Each of you are an amazing blessing, no matter the size of your gift, and with humble hearts, we thank you!

Although many of the homeless we help cannot share their gratitude this very moment; I KNOW for a fact that if they could, they would say thank you personally!

I miss going to Hoboken and look forward to the day I can return not only to help the homeless but to see this scripture in action! Almost every homeless person I have met, has said “thank you!” KNOW they are thanking each of you too for not only praying for them but also putting your prayer into action!

Keep praying; keep serving and may we never forget to give our ultimate thanks to Our Lord for He has blessed each of us abundantly!

Pastor Jane Harlan

The Work of the Mission

And so, we look forward to the time when we are **all** able to get back to work at the Mission. We pray that all of our volunteers and supporters are safe and healthy and that those we reach each month have found a source of healthy food and a safe, warm haven to shelter in place especially on these bitter cold days and nights. Until then... please take a few moments to reflect on how you can help the Mission and make a difference for these 3,000 impoverished people who are truly suffering more than ever during this pandemic. They need our support more than ever now.

Thank you.

if we all do
one random act of
kindness daily
we just might set
the world in the
right direction

martin kornfeld

facebook.com/surfinrainbows



Love. Care. Serve.



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[Heart 'n Hands Mission Amazon Wish List](#)

