



Heart 'n Hands Mission

An Outreach Ministry of St. Timothy Evangelical Lutheran Church SUMMER 2022 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, the Broad Street Benches program in Elizabeth, the Light Up Project in Palisades Park, GERA – a refugee assistance program in Paterson, and provide clothing for Veterans and their families through Catholic Charities in Paterson, Passaic and Clifton. We are in our twelfth year of service in Wayne, reaching 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.

Lenten Service Project

We were thrilled to be contacted once again by **Heather Golinski** of **Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Church in Boonton** regarding a Lenten Service Project. Students in their Pre-K through 8th grade program collected supplies and filled 37 Blessing Bags with socks, toiletries and lots of snacks! There was also an inspirational note decorated by the students in each bag. We thank all of the students and their parents for this wonderful donation. The Blessing Bags were sent to our Veterans through the **Catholic Charities – Supportive Services for Veteran Families** program in Paterson. The extra supplies that were donated will supplement our Care Kit Program.

Care Kit Program

In January, we announced our Care Kit Program. With travel grinding to a halt during the pandemic and many hotels eliminating small toiletry items, our traditional care kit distribution all but ceased. Those care kits consisted of hotel size shampoo, conditioner, lotion and soap, and they were distributed monthly to our homeless friends. Although the supply diminished the need remained. Once our “hotel stock” was depleted, we had no choice but to purchase travel size toiletries to continue providing these necessities. Since January, we have received donations from our Amazon Wish List and monetary donations used to purchase these travel size items. These shower, shave and dental kits have been distributed to the homeless in Hoboken, Palisades Park, Elizabeth and our Veterans in Paterson.

On May 22, 2022 we held a Care Kit Assembly Day after worship. We thank **Barbara and Pat Kaplan, Lori VanDerStad, Anya, Gloria and Compton Cooper, Garey and Fallon Goskowski, and Bob and Cathe Davidson** for their help in assembling **54** Men's Shave Kits, **113** Men's Shower Kits, **74** Dental Kits and **42** Women's Shave Kits. Many of these kits were delivered to St. Matthew's Lunchtime Ministry in Hoboken the following day. St. Matthew's serves 70 - 80 homeless people each day and they are always grateful for everything we are able to provide.

On June 17, 2022, the **Youth Group of St. Timothy** held a lock-in and assembled 80 Dental Care Kits for their service project. We thank Youth Group Leaders **Illona Oosterwyk** and **Cliff Konnerth**, and all of the youth who helped. These kits were distributed to our homeless Veterans and to the homeless in Elizabeth and Palisades Park.

In lieu of our annual Blessing Bag Project, the Heart 'n Hands Mission Board has decided to focus on providing much-needed Care Kits on a regular basis throughout the year to our sites that provide services to the homeless. Our goal is to assemble a minimum of 150 Care Kits for distribution every month. Each Care Kit fits in either a sandwich or quart size food storage bag. Our homeless friends depend on these donations to help them maintain good health and hygiene.

Our approximate cost per Care Kit is:

Dental Kits - \$2.88

Toothbrush – Toothpaste – Toothbrush Cap – Sugar Free Gum or Mints – 30 Flossers or Floss – Chapstick

Men's & Women's Shave Kits - \$1.85 - \$2.47

Shave Cream – 2 Razors – Pocket Pack of Tissues – 8 Band-Aids – 2 Triple Antibiotic Ointment Packs

Men's & Women's Shower Kits – \$4.13 - \$5.13

Shampoo – Body Wash or Soap – Lotion – Gold Bond Powder - Deodorant

Assembling Care Kits can be a wonderful service project for groups of any age! Please refer to the examples below and to our flyer on page 8 to see how you can support this vital program. And please remember the homeless when you get back to traveling! New, unused hotel toiletries are always needed as well!

Since our Spring Newsletter, we have received donations from the following supporters:

Mary Laverack

Alice Huizinga

Anonymous



Care Program Update

In addition to the Care Kits that we distribute to the homeless, we also provide large toiletries for families in need. Through your generosity and the work of a few dedicated volunteer shoppers we have been able to provide our sites with many of the items they need. In the first six months of 2022, we have distributed:

1,303 large toiletries – toothpaste, shampoo, deodorant, bar soap, lotion, body wash, hand sanitizer

916 Care Kits – shower, shave, dental

We are grateful for the toiletry donations that have supplemented our Care Program with a variety of items such as children’s dental and personal care items, feminine hygiene products, large powders, conditioners, pump soap, hotel toiletries, combs, brushes and other hair accessories. All new, unused items are distributed!

Care Kit Assembly Days



The Mission will host a Care Kit Assembly “Coffee Hour” on **Sunday, July 10** and **Sunday, August 7** after worship at St. Timothy. All are welcome to join us for lemonade and light refreshments as we prepare Care Kits for our summer deliveries.

WE NEED BOXES!

Currently all but two of our deliveries are drop-offs which means we need boxes! Clothing, shoes and toiletries all go in boxes. We do our best to utilize each box we receive. Amazon boxes are great! Our only stipulation – if filled boxes are too heavy to lift then they are too big for us to handle. Thank you!



AND FOOD DELIVERY BAGS!



We continue to collect clean silver food delivery bags. Please save them for us. How we use them is a secret but we are so grateful for them!



Our Amazon Wish List is updated regularly to reflect the needs of the sites we deliver to each month and includes items for our **Care Kit Program**. We distribute these necessities to men’s homeless shelters, food pantries and community resource centers that serve homeless individuals and impoverished families.

Please look at our Wish List at [Heart ‘n Hands Mission Amazon Wish List](#) and see how you can help others in need. If you would prefer to make a monetary donation, you may send your donation to:

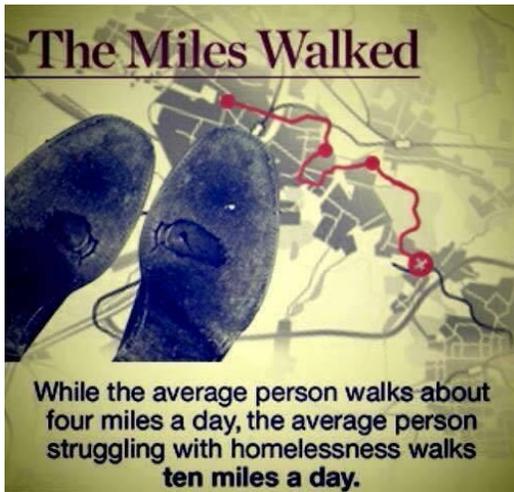
Heart ‘n Hands Mission
St. Timothy Lutheran Church
395 Valley Road
Wayne, NJ 07470

Eagle Scout Project

“The Eagle Scout Service Project is the opportunity for a Scout (Scouts B.S.A.) to demonstrate leadership of others while performing a project for the benefit of their community.”

Colin Bedi, Life Scout from Scouts BSA Troop 107 in Wayne, built new partitions to benefit St. Timothy Lutheran Church and Heart ‘n Hands Mission for his Eagle Project. Colin and his fellow scouts, Scout Leaders, friends and family built 10 moveable connecting partitions that can be used in a variety of ways throughout the church buildings. Heart ‘n Hands Mission President Bob Davidson and St. Timothy Lutheran Church Council President James Koppental received the project on May 29th. We thank Colin and all of Troop 107 for this wonderful project.





Our homeless friends are always in need of good supportive shoes – sneakers, hiking boots and hiking shoes in good, wearable condition.

Our sites that serve homeless populations also regularly request socks, new underwear and t-shirts.

Please consider donating these necessities – especially for men!

Halloween Costumes

The fall will be here before we know it and with it, Halloween. Each year we try to provide Halloween Costumes in good condition for our working poor families in Passaic and Paterson. Barbara Kaplan organizes and prepares the costumes for distribution in September and October. Please consider donating some of your children's costumes from previous years to help make this Halloween special for those who are in need.



We send our sincere thanks to our faithful **Monday Sorting Team Members** under the wonderful direction of **Barbara Kaplan**. We are so grateful for whatever time you can give!

Our Monday Morning Sorting Team:

Jane Carlson, Lois Clapp, Carol Cook, Bob and Cathe Davidson, Ellen Grexa, Pat Kaplan, Mona Mosser, Carol Nielson and Lou Warner

Our Delivery Team:

Bob Davidson

Our Staging and Loading Team members:

Bob and Cathe Davidson, Barbara and Pat Kaplan, and Lou Warner.

We also thank Art and Sandy DeRose for joining us to load, sort clothing and prepare Care Kits when they have some extra free time and Jane Carlson's granddaughter, Olivia, who helped us in June.

We are incredibly grateful to all of you for your dedication and service to Heart 'n Hands Mission.



We are always looking for volunteers to help sort clothing, assemble Care Kits, or be a delivery partner.

Do you have an hour or two to spare on a Monday morning? Are you available for a few hours on a Monday or Tuesday to help with a delivery? Could you be available at 7:30 am on a Monday morning to meet someone at the Mission for a distribution pick up? Are you a member of a social group that would like to assemble and donate Care Kits for our homeless friends?

The Mission is open for sorting on Monday mornings from 9 am – 11:30 am. Deliveries are on Mondays and Tuesdays. Please speak to Barbara Kaplan or Bob Davidson to say, **“YES, I would love to help!”**

Thank You

We send a special 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 thank all of you who quietly leave donations in Fellowship Hall 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.

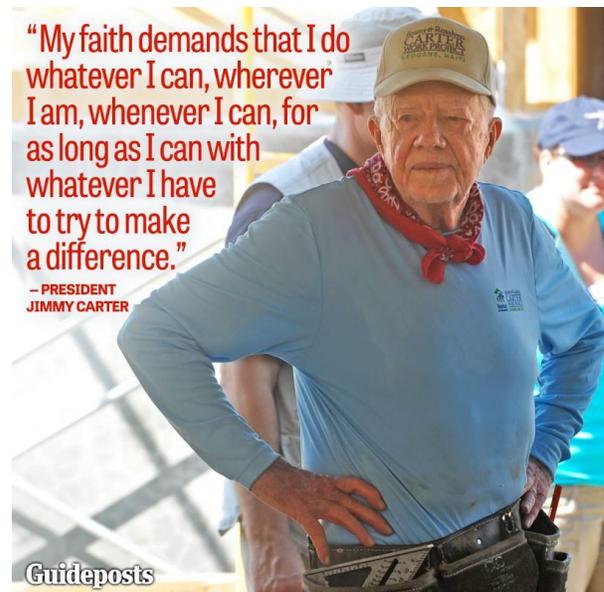
We are also grateful to our friends who continue to spread the word about the Mission and regularly collect and deliver donations from their friends and relatives.

We thank the following supporters for their specific donations:

- Anonymous – feminine hygiene products
- Amanda Dec – personal care items
- Doreen & Nellie – crocheted hats and scarves
- Anonymous – hotel size toiletries

We thank **Pastor Kimberly Schmidt Cooper** and the **St. Timothy Church Council** for their support and for allowing us to use a variety of spaces within the church buildings. The Mission is a big operation that requires a lot of space for sorting, staging for deliveries and storage. We need more help to quickly sort and prepare donations for delivery. Please join us for an hour or three on Monday mornings. Our time together is fun and rewarding.

And so, with our faith to guide and strengthen us, the work of the Mission continues.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DONATIONS

We are very grateful to all 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 Church Secretary **Deb Califf** 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.

Men's casual clothing, jeans, hiking boots and sneakers in good condition are especially needed.

Heart 'n Hands Mission is very blessed with a small, 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.

If you would like to become a volunteer please contact Heart 'n Hands Mission at 973-694-8316 Mailbox #6 or come on any Monday morning – we will be happy to get you started!





Heart 'n Hands Mission

Love. Care. Serve

Life's most persistent and urgent question is, "What are you doing for others?"
- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Blessing Bag Program Announcement

In lieu of our annual Blessing Bag Project, the Heart 'n Hands Mission Board has decided to focus on providing much-needed Care Kits on a regular basis throughout the year to our sites that provide services to the homeless. Our goal is to assemble a minimum of 150 Care Kits for distribution every month. Each Care Kit fits in either a sandwich or quart size food storage bag. Our homeless friends depend on these donations to help them maintain good health and hygiene.

Assembling Care Kits can be a wonderful service project for groups of any age!



Shave Care Kits for Men or Women

- 2 razors
- 2 oz. travel shave cream
- 1 travel pack of tissues
- 8 Band-Aids
- 2 antibiotic ointment packs

Shower Care Kits for Men or Women

- 2 oz. travel size shampoo
- 2 oz. travel size body wash
- 1 oz. travel size Gold Bond powder
- 2 oz. travel size lotion
- 2 oz. travel size deodorant

Dental Care Kits

- Chapstick
- toothbrush and cap
- travel size toothpaste
- pack of sugar free gum or mints
- floss or 30 flossers in a snack bag