

BOARD FOR OUTREACH AND SOCIAL MINISTRY
2020

"The King will reply, Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."

Matthew 25:40

The Board for Outreach and Social Ministry celebrates the power of individuals to create change in our church, community, and the world, and attempts to assist, equip, and mobilize volunteers in support of these ministries. Please contact Board of Outreach and Social Ministry or the Lead in any of these ministries if you have an interest in serving with these ministries.

New participants are always welcome.

Thank You to all members and countless volunteers who take part in Outreach and Social Ministries and all the other ways they volunteer at Mt. Zion. It truly was a different year with the Church building closed for 9 months of the year due to COVID-19, but the Outreach was super strong for 2020.

For I was hungry, and you gave me food, I was thirsty, and you gave me drink....

-BACKPACK PROGRAM- Lead: Carol Gustafson

Every month, during the school year, Mt. Zion volunteers organize, fill, and deliver backpacks to the EP Rock Elementary School. Volunteers spend \$12-\$15 purchasing food items to fill the backpacks. Children at risk of weekend hunger receive a bag of food that is child-friendly, nutritious, nonperishable, and easy to prepare/eat.

-FREE PRODUCE/PERSHABLE FOOD DISTRIBUTION- Lead: Katie Jones

Produce and perishable food items that can no longer be sold by the local supermarkets are donated to Mt. Zion every other Friday and distributed at Mt. Zion for anyone in the community who comes. Due to COVID-19, when it got cold outside, Cornerstone Church said they would take over hosting till Spring. Mt. Zion still volunteered on our Friday at Cornerstone.

-FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN (FMSC) Lead- Jim Eral /Anna Peterson

Volunteers hand-pack meals specifically formulated for malnourished children and FMSC ship these meals to nearly 70 countries.

-FOOD SHELF-Lead: Kendra Margl

Food the most basic need for families and individual in our community. On average the food shelf serves adults, children, seniors and distributes more than 16,000 pounds of food a month to over 94 families or households.

Mt. Zion volunteers' man the food shelf during the month of November.

2020 we had 17 volunteers from Mt Zion.

Families served- 143 adults, 88 children, 9 seniors, 94 families.

Mt. Zion Outreached donated \$200 of items, and \$33 from the Sunday School.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY-Lead: Robin Arneson

Walls were built in the church parking lot prior to the trip up to Phelps. However due to COVID-19, there were many delays.

PARISH NURSE-Lead: Eileen Wymer

Health educator, integrator of faith and health, and health advocate, Eileen Wymer can be found one Sunday a month taking care of our community through free blood pressure checks.

GRACE PLACE-Lead: Robin Arneson, Anna Peterson, and Carol Gustafson

Grace Place offers shelter to families and single individuals in the St. Croix River Valley. Mt. Zion prepares and delivers evening meals the 5th Monday of the Month. In 2020, Dates were 3/30, 6/29, 8/31, & 11/30

2ND MILE HAITI-Lead Karen McConville

A non-profit organization dedicated to providing long-term solutions for families affected by poverty. Due to COVID-19 fundraisers did not happen as in the past.

However, they still were able to send: 432 masks, blankets, and bears in one shipment.

2nd shipment 74 hats, 121 face mask, 22 sweaters, 44 small knit animals, 24 receiving blanket, 42 Quilts, 48 bags, and some infant clothing.

FELLOWSHIP-Linda Letourneau

Every Sunday between service, volunteers serve fellowship to bring the community together; donations collected are used to support a variety of causes at Mt. Zion.

I was Naked, and you clothed me....

QUILTERS- Lead: Carol Kriegl

Quilts are normally delivered to Lutheran World Relief in early November. Recipients use the LWR Quilts to shield against the cold and rain, and for warm bedding. But their versatility also makes Quilts useful as a simple tent, floor covering, or wrap to hold a baby on a mother's back. One quilt was sent up to the family of the Habitat House.

I was sick and you visited me...

PRAYER SHAWLS- Lead: Karen McConville

Given away as needed. The Mt. Zion shawl maker begins with prayers and blessings for the recipient. The intentions are continued throughout the creation of the shawl. Upon completion, a blessing is offered during church service in November.

PRAYER CHAIN- Lead: Joyce Johnson- phone / Anna Peterson-E-mail

Mt. Zion prayer chain is a wonderful resource when those you love need prayer. Concerns can be emailed or called to the church office. Your request will then be emailed to everyone on the prayer chain.

GIVING TREE 2020-EXODUS HOUSE-Lead: Linda Emmons

At Exodus House, licensed counselors provide services to adult males referred through the Department of Corrections and who have a history of substance use disorder. Exodus House provides Transitional

Residential (halfway house) services; length of stay is determined by client need. The program utilizes evidence-based practices targeted to reduce recidivism and relapse. At Christmas time, there were 7 clients that Mt. Zion congregation provided sweatshirts, toilette bag, toothbrush, socks, gloves, hats, phone charger, color pencil, adult color books, candy, and gift card.

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVES-Lead: Anna Peterson

Total Drives to date: 28 drives, 593 Units collected, 647 donors, averaging 21 units per drive.

2020- We held 6 events

February 28	<u>16 units</u> collected* goal was 18
April 24	<u>30 units</u> collected* goal was 21
June 19	<u>19 units</u> collected* goal was 24
August 2	<u>23 units</u> collected* goal was 18
October 19	<u>42 units</u> collected* goal was 26
December 18	<u>31 units</u> collected* goal was 28

Thank you to the donors and the volunteers for making it happen!

Fruit Baskets were delivered to the officers, and ER people on duty Christmas Eve.

"Let us not lose heart in doing good, for in due time we will reap if we do not grow weary. So then, while we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, and especially to those who are of the household of faith."

Galatians 6: 9-10

Respectfully submitted,

Deb Miller, and Mic Hanson

Outreach and Social Ministry