

Ways We Can Serve

April 2018

April Special Offering – Two Important New Mexico Ministries

Christian camping at Sacramento Methodist Assembly in the beautiful mountains near Cloudcroft, NM has a long wonderful history. Many decisions for Christ are made in a camping setting and people of all ages return year after year for spiritual nourishment, fellowship, and fun. Donations from individuals like us are crucial to keep this ministry vibrant for future generations. And it is open to all of us. “Come to the mountain and let God refresh your soul.”

A second Methodist ministry in New Mexico is Landsun Homes in Carlsbad (a continuing care retirement community). For many years, Landsun has provided a warm and welcoming Christian community with levels of care from independent living to long term care in the Health Center. The care is so good that some of its residents outlive their resources! Thus the Caring Hands Fund was born, and every year we have the opportunity to contribute to help our brothers and sisters at Landsun.

These two wonderful Methodist ministries in New Mexico depend on individuals like us. Your gifts will be divided between the two unless you specify otherwise. Please give generously!

Casa Esperanza Gala Event – Saturday, April 14

Casa Esperanza needs volunteers to help at their Gala Event on Saturday, April 14. Volunteers are needed for set up, registration, silent auction, ushers, teardown and security. Call 505-246-2700 for more information.

St. John's Mobile Food Pantry – Saturday, April 21

St. John's, in partnership with Roadrunner Food Bank, hosts a mobile food pantry to families in need every 3rd Saturday of the month in the Family Life Center. We provide 50 pounds of food for 50 households. Costs for the mobile food pantry are \$175/month so any donations are appreciated. Contact Bonnie Schwarting at bschwarting@cablone.net to volunteer.

Project Share – Tuesday, April 24

Project Share is open for dinner six nights a week and serves 40,000 meals each year to Albuquerque's homeless and hungry. Project Share is now a program of St. Martin's Hospitality Center so the amount of people served is larger. This means more food, more money for food, and more servers. We are especially in need of people to commit to helping as servers. If you can help in any way on April 24 or during the year, please contact Tim Nuzum at tnuzum@stjohns-abq.org.

Casa Esperanza Dinner – Monday, April 30

Casa Esperanza Dinner will be Monday, April 30, at 5:30 p.m. St. John's will be providing dinner for the residents of Casa Esperanza. If you feel called to volunteer or donate food items, please look for the sign-up sheets at the Hospitality Center and Abide Service on April 15. If you have questions, contact Jenn Shields at 505-450-9978 or jennshields200@yahoo.com. Thank you for all the support and charitable donations.

Casa Esperanza – 12 Months of Giving – In Kind Donations: Leisure Items

For April, we are collecting **puzzles, craft and art supplies, books for all ages, card games and new toys**. Thank you for your donations to Casa Esperanza. Please bring your donations to the Hospitality Center or to the Abide “Serve” area in the Family Life Center. If you have questions about the donated items, please contact Jenn Shields at jennshields200@yahoo.com.

The Storehouse (food collection)

In 2018, we will be alternating food collection each month between The Storehouse and Silver Horizons. Our food collection for the month of April for The Storehouse will focus on protein foods. Such non-perishable items as **canned**

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tuna, ham, chicken or Spam, as well as lunch-to-go tuna snack packs will be appreciated. **Peanut butter** is always a favorite, as well as **canned pastas containing meat**. Please place your donations in the shopping carts located in the Hospitality Center and in the Abide "Serve" area. We sincerely appreciate your faithful giving, month after month! For questions, please contact Mary Beth Spletzer at mbspletzer@gmail.com.

Wings for L.I.F.E. International – 1st and 3rd Mondays (April 2 and 16)

Life-skills Imparted to Families through Education (WFL) meets every 1st and 3rd Monday evenings at St. John's. Set-up begins at 5 p.m., get to know you mixers at 5:30 p.m., dinner at 6 – 6:30 p.m., and then the speaker and after-dinner programming for children is until 7:30 p.m. Volunteers are needed for the following: 1) Prepare an entrée, salad, fruits/vegetables for 78 attendees each week, 2) Help with the set-up and food preparation, 3) Come and eat dinner and share around the dinner table, and/or 4) Help with the after-dinner tutoring program for Pre-K and K-12 youth. Volunteers can help weekly, monthly, or once a year. Everyone is welcome and bring the whole family for a FUN hands-on mission experience. For more information contact St. John's member Ann Edenfield Sweet, 505-554-6698, or AnnEdenfield@WingsforLIFEInternational.org.

Box Tops for Education and Tyson Project A+ (on-going)

McCurdy Ministries, a United Methodist supported ministry in Espanola, now participates in the "Tyson Project A+" Program. On Tyson frozen products, you will find "Project A+" labels to cut and save. Each submitted label earns 24 cents for McCurdy! McCurdy also asks that we continue saving "Box Tops for Education." Campbell's has suspended the Labels for Education program so we will no longer be collecting these labels. Please place the two types of labels in the collection box located in the Hospitality Center. Thank you!

Missions Emphasis for April – Parish Nurse

Linn Furnish, RN, is St. John's Parish Nurse. She has been a RN for 33 years, working in a variety of nursing positions and settings. This is an unpaid position and not a "hands on" nursing position other than taking blood pressures, giving hugs, or holding hands to pray. A Parish Nurse is an advocate for the members of the church.

For the first year, she proposes to do the following:

- Blood pressure screenings 1 or 2 days a quarter. Other nurses in the church are encouraged to assist.
- Wellness classes 1 or 2 a quarter, including topics such as nutrition, safety, exercise, sleep, and stress reduction, bringing in guest speakers as needed.
- Visiting church members in the hospital or at home, at the request of clergy.

Questions? Contact Donna at donnabruce@comcast.net.

UMCOR Hygiene Kits (collection to be taken to Annual Conference in June)

Hygiene kits provide basic necessities to people who have been forced to leave their homes because of human conflict or natural disaster.

St. John's will be collecting the following items **April and May 2018** to be taken to Annual Conference in June, assembled into kits and then transported to UMCOR Depots. Any of the items are needed.

All items must be **NEW**. All emergency kits are carefully planned to make them usable in the greatest number of situations. Due to the fact that strict rules often govern product entry into international countries, it is important that kits contain only the request items, nothing more. UMCOR is now purchasing toothpaste in bulk to be added to the hygiene kits before shipping to ensure that the product does not expire before they are sent.

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- **Hand towels**
 - 15 x 25 inches to 17 x 27 inches
 - Kitchen, cleaning and microfiber towels are **not** acceptable
- **Washcloths**
- **Combs**
 - Combs need to be sturdy and longer than 6 inches long
 - No pocket combs or picks please
 - Rattail combs and combs without handles are acceptable with a minimum of 6 inches of teeth
- **Metal Nail Files or Nail Clippers**
 - No emery boards, please
- **Bath-Size Soaps**
 - 3 oz. and larger sizes only
 - No ivory or Jergens soap due to moisture content
 - Do not remove from original packaging
- **Toothbrushes**
 - Adult size only
 - Do not remove from original packaging
- **Adhesive Bandages**
 - ¾ inch to 1 inch-size
 - Common household Band-Aids

Note: If you see a need and would like to donate funds to any of the above listed projects, make your check out to St. John's UMC and please be sure to write the project name in the memo field of your check.

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