

Ways We Can Serve

March 2018

March Special Offering – Lenten Offering

Every year, St. John's collects a special offering during Lent to support many and varied ministries in New Mexico. In recent years, this offering has gone to groups such as Family Promise, McCurdy Ministries, Grace Meal, Wesley House (UNM), Project Share, Roadrunner Food Bank, Rescue Mission, Casa Esperanza, Grace Park, Silver Horizons, Breaking Bread Meals, Four Corners Ministry, Zuni Elementary, lunch bags for the homeless, and various other New Mexico Conference ministries. Please give generously!

St. John's Mobile Food Pantry – Saturday, March 17

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@cableone.net to volunteer.

Casa Esperanza

We just hosted a dinner the last of February to the residents at Casa Esperanza so the next dinner has not been scheduled. Watch the bulletin and/or the email Disciple for information. When the dinner is scheduled, please stop by the Hospitality Center or the Abide Service to sign up to donate food. There are also opportunities to volunteer. If you have questions, please contact Jenn Shields at jennshields200@yahoo.com.

Casa Esperanza – 12 Months of Giving – In Kind Donations: Office Supplies

Thank you for donations to Casa Esperanza. So far our donations have been for the families, but we cannot forget the support staff. Without these wonderful people, there would be no Casa Esperanza. For March, we are collecting office supplies. They are in need of **paper, paper clips, post-it notes, pens, pencils, envelopes, "all occasions" greeting cards, Sharpies and Office Depot gift cards**. If you have questions, please contact Jenn Shields at jennshields200@yahoo.com.

Silver Horizons (food collection)

In 2018, we will be alternating food collection each month between The Storehouse and Silver Horizons. In March, Silver Horizons is asking that we collect **peanut butter, powdered milk, and dry rice in smaller package sizes**, easy for senior adults to handle as they prepare their meals. It is a known fact that some senior citizens make their pets' dietary needs a priority over themselves, often resulting in food insecurity. And, it's becoming more common these days for senior citizens to be caring for and feeding grandchildren. As these family dynamics change, let's do our part by generously providing Silver Horizons with food donations to meet the needs and demands they've identified in our community. Please place your donations in the shopping carts located in the Hospitality Center and in the Abide "Serve" area. Just imagine our shopping carts overflowing with food – let's make it happen! For questions, please contact Mary Beth Spletzer at mbspletzer@gmail.com.

Project Share – No Meal for March

St. John's will not provide a meal for Project Share during the month of March. The next Project Share meal hosted by St. John's will be 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 during the year, please contact Tim Nuzum at tnuzum@stjohns-abq.org.

Wings for L.I.F.E. International – 1st and 3rd Mondays (March 5 and 19)

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

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John Wesley quote paraphrased

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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.

Campbell's Labels, 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!

A BIG THANK YOU to St. John's for your donations of the Albertsons "Stamps" to redeem for pots and pans for Family Promise. We donated 20 pots and pans for families getting settled in their own homes.



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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