

Ways We Can Serve

October 2017

October Communion Offering – World Communion Offering

In October we will be remembering our unity with Christians around the world as we celebrate communion. Our special gifts this month will go to students like Kennedy Bowie who lost her father when she was 8 and her family struggled to even find enough to eat, but with the help of her church, Lotus UMC in Maryland, and a World Communion Scholarship, Kennedy is on her way to giving back to her community as a physician. Far away in Nigeria, Obinna T. Emeh grew up without electricity or clean water. Yet, today with the help of the Global UMC via a World Communion Scholarship, he is studying to be an engineer. Nelson Mandela once said, “Education is the most powerful weapon you can use to change the world.” Please give generously any time during October.

Casa Esperanza Dinner – Friday, October 20

Our next Casa Esperanza dinner will be Friday, October 20, 5 pm. We always need your help – either through donations of food or your time. Come to the Hospitality Center or the missions’ area in the Family Life Center to sign up. This is a great opportunity to go outside of the church walls to serve others. Any questions, please contact Jenn Shields at jennshields200@yahoo.com.

St. John’s Mobile Food Pantry – Saturday, October 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 are able to 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.

Habitat for Humanity Restore Day, October 21

St. John’s will participate in the Habitat for Humanity Restore Day on October 21 by cooking hamburgers and hot dogs throughout the day. We will set up at 9 a.m. and serve (and cook) from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Shifts will be for 2 hours for each crew with 3 people per crew. Shifts and crews are filling up but we are still in need of about 4 people. In addition, our contribution besides volunteers is to also supply the food. If you can’t be part of a crew but would like to help, please donate \$\$ for the food. Make your check out to St. John’s but put “Habitat for Humanity food” in the memo field. Any questions? Contact Clyde Stanfield at cstanfield58@comcast.net or 275-8551.

Project Share – Tuesday, October 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 October 24 or during the year, please contact Tim Nuzum at tnuzum@stjohns-abq.org.

St. John’s Fall Festival – Sunday, October 29

The St. John’s Community Fall Festival is coming up on Sunday, October 29, from 4 – 6:30 pm. It is quite a popular event that brings in many first-time visitors through the doors of our church. There will be hot food, carnival games, a costume parade, karaoke, and cotton candy, but we need additional volunteers to help greet people, pass out candy, show visitors around, and oversee games we have assembled to make sure everyone is safe, welcomed, and having a good time. It will be an amazing fun-filled afternoon! You will find a sign-up sheet for specific tasks in the Hospitality Center, the office, and at the Abide worship service. You can also email Jarrod at jconyers@st.johns-abq.org if you can be there to serve. Thank you for your help!

Albuquerque Branch of Methodist Children’s Home (MCH) Christmas Store

During the month of October, we will continue to collect **NEW, UNWRAPPED** board games and stuffed animals for ages 0 – 18 years for the Methodist Children’s Home (MCH) Christmas Store. MCH’s Christmas Store offers the families they are serving this year the opportunity to select their own children’s gifts which is made possible by various UM congregations throughout Albuquerque. In addition to the board games and stuffed animals (which will be donated by St. John’s only), they are asking

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John Wesley quote paraphrased

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all congregations to consider collecting books, wrapping paper, bags and boxes. They will host an open house on October 27 for anyone in our congregation to attend and at which time we will deliver our collections. Bring your donations to the Hospitality Center or the missions' area in the Family Life Center. For more information contact Donna at donnabruce@comcast.net or 883-1373.

The Storehouse (food collection)

The needs are so great in our community, especially among children, so let's aim for filling our shopping carts (Hospitality Center and Family Life Center) to overflowing in October! We'll focus on high-protein items, such as canned tuna, chicken, and other canned meats, including pastas that contain meat. Your generosity, from month to month, is truly appreciated! For questions, please contact Mary Beth Spletzer at mbspletzer@gmail.com.

Wings for L.I.F.E. International – 1st and 3rd Mondays

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 (*a perfect project for a Sunday School class*), 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.

Casa Esperanza – 12 Months of Giving

Casa Esperanza is in need of the following household items for the month of October: bed pillows (standard size); white FLAT sheets (twin and full); white pillow cases; white bath towels, hand towels and washcloths; white bath mats; and neutral colored blankets. Bring your donations to the Hospitality Center or the missions' area in the Family Life Center through the month of October. Thank you for your overwhelming generosity. If you have any other questions, please contact Jenn Shields at jennshields200@yahoo.com.

United Methodist Women – Women's Safe House

We are collecting twin-sized bed linens, standard-size pillows and pillowcases, and hygiene items for the Women's Safe House during the month of October. We encourage St. John's congregation to join us in this collection of items. You may bring your donations to the Hospitality Center, the missions' area in the Family Life Center, the church office, or place them in the UMW closet in the SonShine Café. *Thank you!* Contact Angie Young at dajsover@wans.net.

United Methodist Women - Title I Homeless Teen Program – mid October

One of our UMW Circles will be putting together non-perishable snack food items for the Title I Homeless Teen Program. If you would like to help them out, bring a filled gallon-size Ziploc (ready to be handed out to a teen) with some of the following pop-top items: cheese or peanut butter crackers, beef jerky, apple sauce, pudding, fruit cups, granola bars, cereal bars, microwaveable mac n cheese, juice boxes/Capri-suns, Vienna sausages, instant oatmeal, individual trail mix, pop tarts, dried fruit, packaged nuts, and plastic utensils. You may bring your donations to the Hospitality Center, the missions' area in the Family Life Center, the church office, or place them in the UMW closet in the SonShine Café. Thank you! Contact Angie Young at dajsover@wans.net.

UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief)

UMCOR is currently working with disaster coordinators and early response teams to provide relief to the many people whose lives have been impacted by hurricane/tropical storms Harvey, Irma, and Maria and the earthquakes in Mexico. Here are things we can do. Please continue to pray for those whose lives have been impacted by Harvey, Irma, Maria or the earthquakes

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and also pray for the Early Response Teams, disaster coordinators, and many volunteers who are working tirelessly to provide relief. Give to UMCOR's relief and recovery efforts (you can make your check out to St. John's and put "UMCOR" in the memo field).

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! Please continue saving "Labels for Education" from Campbell's products. McCurdy hopes to collect enough labels to purchase another van before Campbell's suspends the program at the end of 2017. McCurdy also asks that we continue saving "Box Tops for Education." Please place all three types of labels in the collection box located in the Hospitality Center. Thank you!

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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