

November theme: Hunger

Carol Coons, Hunger Team Leader • Don Geiser • Lisa Henry • Carol Malach • Tom Morse • Ruth Moser • Otto Muller-Girard, Jr. • Lucile Rice • Marilyn Scheftic • Irene Shaffer

It's Christmas Basket Time Again!

The Third Church Annual Christmas Basket delivery is scheduled for Sunday, Dec. 19. It is headed up by Irene Shaffer with logistics by Bill Coons and Ned Green. This traditional effort to help 80 needy families from the Calvary-St. Andrews Church neighborhood to have a good Christmas, is also a wonderful way to work together as a congregation and experience the true meaning of Christmas!

During the month before the delivery date, we are asking you to bring in many different kinds of food. Also, because most of our needy families have children, the traditional Angel Gift Tree will be located in Johnston Hall.

Here's how you can help!

- Bring in donations of food (see suggestions in the box)
- Sign up to donate a ham
- Obtain and assemble boxes
- Buy, wrap and bring in an Angel

Tree gift: (absolutely must be in by Friday, Dec. 17)

- Volunteer to sort food and assemble baskets:
 - Thursday, Dec. 16, 9:30 am: Sort food and take inventory
 - Friday, Dec. 17: Shop for food
 - Saturday, Dec. 18, 9:30 am: Pack food baskets - families welcome

- Sunday, Dec. 19: Bring a canned ham AND/OR Deliver baskets and gifts to two families

Call the church office or sign up outside Johnston Hall on Sunday morning to help with any or all of these tasks!

SHOP EARLY AND OFTEN!

The following items are needed for the Christmas baskets this year. Please include them on your weekly shopping trips. While we have designated certain dates for different food items in order to make sure we have a nutritionally balanced food assortment, if you miss a Sunday, (or find a great sale!) please feel free to bring in these items at any time during the month. Deposit your food donations in the barrels marked "Christmas Baskets". Place wrapped Angel Tree gifts (with Angel attached!) under the tree!

- Sunday, Nov. 14 : Cereal and packets of dry milk, bars of soap
- Sunday, Nov. 21: Canned fruit/vegetables, boxed macaroni and cheese
- Sunday, Nov. 28: Pasta and sauce, peanut butter, jelly, toilet paper
- Sunday, Dec. 5: Canned soup, rice, baked beans, canned yams
- Sunday, Dec. 12: Tuna and other canned meats. (No hams now, please)
- Sunday, Dec. 19: Canned hams, 2 to 5 lbs. (by 11:00 am, please)

Questions? Need Information? Call Irene Shaffer 454-7311 ext. 234

Food Cupboard Update: The Face of Hunger

Who is using emergency food services? At a recent volunteer meeting, Jaime Saunders, Vice-President of Operations at Foodlink shared the results of a survey of and about food recipients.

- There has been a 9% increase in demand over 2003
- 41% of households have at least one member under 18
- 70% had incomes below the official poverty line
- Fewer households possess the basic knowledge, skills, and resources required to maintain food security (knowing where the next meal is coming from) and adequate nutrition
- Resources and donation

sources are not only dwindling but are being stretched.

How does Third Church fit into this picture?

- 45 to 50 individual volunteers and substitutes distribute food on Mondays and Thursdays
- The Over the Hill Gang and T-3's restock shelves every week.

- The congregation donates food each Sunday
- Volunteers shop for food using funds from the \$13,000 Outreach Hunger Team budget.

The Food Cupboard needs volunteers!

Below are opportunities to help with Third Church's Food Cupboard:

- Mon. or Thurs. morning, one day per month; call Betty Gocker at 248-0274
- Do you like to shop, call Cile Rice at 461-3813
- Re-stock shelves on Sun., call Kelly Thevenet-Morrison at 218-0555
- Re-stock shelves on Tues. or Wed., call Ned Green at 248-8703

OVERVIEW OF THIRD CHURCH'S FOOD PANTRY Fiscal Years 2001 - 2004

Fiscal Year	Pounds FOODLINK Shipped to Third	Households Served	Meals Provided
2002	10,588	1,190	20,763
2003	15,530	1,533	25,920
2004	22,593	2,099	28,035
TOTAL	48,711	4,822	74,718

Outreach Committees and Team Leaders

Contact any of the Committee Chairs to get involved on a committee or learn of upcoming programming.

World Peacemaking & Mission

Rob Veitch, 865-9918 or
rveitch@jcs.com

Economic Development, Mary Boyd

248-0657 or mboyd@eznet.net

Hunger, Carol Coons

227-5953 or cycoons@netacc.net

Health, Steve North, MD, 506-9714 or

Stephen_North@urmc.rochester.edu

Homelessness, Bob Melech

546-3564 or rsmelech@aol.com

Public Education, Tom Gillett

461-4581 or tdgillett@frontiernet.net

Church and Diversity David Gregory

288-8361 or dstargreg@yahoo.com

Earth Keepers, Melissa Carlson

442-1364, mcarlson@eznet.net

Holiday Shopping CAN Benefit Homeless Families!

Monday, Nov. 29, 6:30-9:00 PM

One World Goods and Blueground Jewelry (both located in Pittsford Plaza) will donate 15% of the proceeds to The Rochester Area Interfaith Hospitality Network.

Light refreshments will be available in each store.

Update on Offering of Letters

On Sunday, Oct. 17, Third Church participated in an Offering of Letters for *Bread for the World's* 2004 campaign, **Keep the Promise on Hunger and Health**. Letters were written during both worship services, and collected as part of the offering. We wrote 174 letters in total! 68 of these were addressed to Senator Clinton and 106 of these were addressed to Senator Schumer. If you haven't participated yet, you can you can:

- Access a sample letter on the TPC website to send our Senators
- Access information at www.bread.org.
- Call the Capitol switchboard at 202-224-3121 and urge our Senators to fully fund the Millenium Challenge Account without cutting other poverty-focused assistance.

We cannot let this president, Congress or our nation forget we have made promises to some of the poorest people in the world. Now it is time to deliver on these promises. Our letters will help remind our elected officials of our commitment to *Keep the Promise on Hunger and Health*.

Heifer Project International Gift Ark

In 2003, *Forbes* magazine named Heifer one of 10 "Gold Star Charities" that achieve the highest impact from donors' gifts. Third Church is engaged in an effort to raise \$5000 to support a Gift Ark, full of 30 animals. There are 3 ways you can participate:

- **Fill an ark:** small ark banks are available in Johnston Hall after worship. You can change the world with your spare change.
- **Ark Auction:** purchase your Christmas, birthday, anniversary, Mother's Day, Father's Day gifts from the wonderful selection of Third Church handmade items. These items are on display in Johnston Hall. Check often - more items are added daily!
- **Buy a Heifer Project International animal:** buy one animal and send gift cards to many relatives/

friends telling them about Heifer Project and your gift made in their honor. You may contribute the cost of an entire animal, or purchase shares. For example, a water buffalo costs \$250, one share costs only \$25. Instead of buying bunny slippers for your Aunt Louise, buy her the bunnies...only \$60 or \$10 a share.

Heifer Project Gift Ark Art Auction

We will hold a SILENT auction for the ark art items. Bid often on your favorite items. The items that have not received a silent bid, will be auctioned at the Family Dinner on Dec. 3. The winners of each silent bid will be announced that night. Come for dinner (prepared by Susie Jacobs), enjoy the auction (auctioneer, David Stimson), and participate in some caroling (led by Scott Stratton-Smith)!

IHN News

Next host week
Jan. 30 - Feb. 6

Volunteer Training:

A class will be held for IHN volunteers (who have not recieved training) or anyone interested in volunteering on Thurs. Nov. 18. To sign up contact: Camille Clayton at 586-8304 or Cclay224@aol.com or Wendy Shellman 383-8288 or shellman@rochester.rr.com.

Donations Needed:

- Baby swing • Serving bowls and spoons • Tablecloths (for large rectangular tables) • Twin-sized blankets (washable) • Throw rugs • Spatulas, frying pans, mixing bowls, peeler, paring knife • Love seat or small couch

Please contact Jan Chisholm, 227-7904, janchis@rochester.rr.com.

World Peacemaking and Mission Update

Video Available: On Oct. 3, Major Stav Adivi told a packed house why, as a man of conscience, he refused to serve in the occupied territories of West Bank and Gaza. While in Rochester, Major Adivi also spoke at some area Synagogues. If you were unable to make this event, a video of his talk (DVD or VHS) is available for loan.

Mideast Book Study Starting:

The WPM team is planning a study of Rabbi Michael Lerner's book, "Healing Israel/Palestine." Meeting times are flexible. If you are interested, please contact Linc Spaulding (342-9568 or LRSpaulding@yahoo.com) by Nov. 14 so we can order books.