



Outside Our Walls

Covenant United Methodist Mission & Outreach Newsletter

October 2022

↓ **UPCOMING EVENTS YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS: Project 216 and Christmas Angel Projects** ↓

Help Package Meals for Project 216 ~ Saturday, October 22 from 9:00-11:30
Signup now at the Signup Desk or online at Covenantumc.net



Did you know the name "Project 216" comes from 3 sources?

- Every Project 216 box that gets shipped contains **216 meals**.
- Every 2 hours at a packing event each volunteer will average **216 meals** designed to help the hungry thrive.
- **James 2:16** says, "If one of you says to those in need, 'Go in peace, keep warm and well fed' but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it?"

Each bag holds 6 meals when boiled with 6 cups of water and contains rice, soy, vegetables, and a scientifically-proven blend of 21 vitamins and minerals that relieve and reverse the effects of micronutrient malnutrition in young children. Each meal provides all the vitamins & minerals a child needs for a day. It's not just a meal but a way to better health for starving children.

The food Covenant packages on October 22 will be sent to Mission of Hope in Haiti and to Inasmuch Ministry in Ft. Wayne. During the Christmas in July project Covenant raised almost enough money to package 20,000 meals. Additional donations are welcome - it only takes \$.30 to purchase the ingredients of one meal!

We need 75 people of all ages to help with the packaging. All ages are encouraged to participate, though children younger than 7 should be accompanied by an adult. **Signups are required** to allow the set up of enough assembly lines. Gloves and hair nets will be provided or you may wear a ball cap. Masks, at this time, are optional. Sign up at the Sign Up Desk in the church lobby or online at Covenantumc.net

Questions? Contact Janet Hall at janet.hall60@gmail.com or visit www.project-216.org

CHRISTMAS ANGEL PROJECTS



OCTOBER

* **PROJECT 216 FOOD PACKING EVENT:** See above article

* **HAT, GLOVE/MITTEN COLLECTION FOR LINCOLN SCHOOL & THE FORT WAYNE RESCUE MISSION:**

During the **month of October** donate hats, gloves/mittens for men, women & children to help keep them warm during a cold winter. Leave your donations at the Mission Collection Center or in the church office. If you prefer, make a financial donation (indicate "Oct. Angel Project") and we'll shop for you.



NOVEMBER

* **GIFTS FOR BYRON HEALTH CENTER RESIDENTS:** Help fill wish lists of residents of Byron Wellness Community, formerly Byron Health Center, many who are lonely and forgotten at Christmas. Wish lists will be available in **November**. Peg & Steve Roser are leading this project.



* **CANNED SOUP COLLECTION:** Help provide soup to the hungry of Ft. Wayne! Leave your soup cans on the table in the church lobby from **Oct. 30 - Nov. 20**. The soup will be taken to Associated Churches Food Banks. Or make a financial donation which will be sent to Associated Churches to purchase soup. Carl Baker is leading this project.



DECEMBER

* **GIFTS FOR CHILDREN OF THE CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) PROGRAM:** Find gift wishes on a Christmas tree in the church lobby on **Nov. 27**. Wrapped gifts, with the tags, must be returned by **Dec. 18**. Or make a financial donation and the project leaders, Pat Fosdick, Cheryl Summers & Sandie Liechty will shop for you.



* **HAND WARMERS & SOCK COLLECTION:** Hand warmers and socks are needed for the men and women The Fort Wayne Rescue Mission serves. Or make a financial donation and we will purchase items for you.



* **CHRISTMAS OFFERING:** Make a special offering during the **month of December** as a way to celebrate the birth of Jesus and make a difference in the lives of others. This Offering will be divided between **Life for Children Ministry** in Kenya, **Inasmuch Ministry** in Ft. Wayne and **The Fort Wayne Rescue Mission**.



Questions? Contact Barb Hering through the church office, 489-1888.

Make a difference for Lincoln students in October



Help us make sure all students at Lincoln can purchase a book at the November Book Fair. Over 125 students usually sit by and watch their classmates purchase books but they can't buy one because they didn't bring money for any number of reasons.

Covenant wants to encourage the love of reading which is the key to learning. Be assured the money will be used to purchase books and students won't know some classmates are receiving this gift.

Make a donation during October, in any amount, to help provide funding for these students.

Write a check to Covenant, indicating "Book Fair", or donate online or on the church app.

Questions? Contact Barb Hering thru the church office at 489-1888.



The following is shared by Covenant member, Deanna Mains, who is a CASA volunteer:



"Change a Child's Story: Volunteer with Allen County CASA

The mission of the Allen County Office of GAL/CASA (Guardians Ad Litem/Court Appointed Special Advocates) is "to advocate for the best interests of children who are involved with the court as victims of child abuse and/or neglect in Allen County and strive to ensure that these children are safe and have a permanent home." In 2021 alone, CASA volunteers in Allen County represented 659 abused and neglected children.

Last year, I became a CASA volunteer. I have been supported by the fantastic staff at the CASA office, who provided in-depth training before I could be assigned my first case. The "work" is not hard: I visit with the child(ren) at least once a month, and we use this time to talk, play, read, and get to know one another. Sometimes we have age-appropriate discussions so they understand what is going on with their case. I use these visits, as well as discussions with others involved in the case, to collect information and determine whether the needs of the children are being met. A CASA's responsibility is to advocate for the child so that the child's voice can be heard. Before each court hearing, I submit a written report, using a very straightforward template provided by the CASA office, that summarizes the status of my children and provides recommendations to the court. I also attend the hearings in person, along with my CASA supervisor, and I am occasionally asked to speak on behalf of my children. I can provide encouragement and support in other ways if I choose, so I participate in meetings about educational and medical needs, and I attend school functions to cheer on my children.

A CASA provides consistency during a very difficult time in the lives of the children. My current children have known me longer than nearly all other adults on their case, and the fact that I am choosing to spend time with them is a reminder that they are God's children and are loved, despite what their circumstances may suggest.

You need no legal background or special skills to be a CASA. If you are at least 21 years old, have a heart for children, and have a few free hours per month, I encourage you to consider volunteering for CASA. I would love to share my experience with you, and you can also find more information at allencountycasa.org.

Deanna Mains"

If you're interested in talking with Deanna, contact her through the church office at 489-1888



Circles of Allen County: Building Community to End Poverty You can help end generational poverty!

The key to reducing poverty is building intentional relationships across income lines. Inasmuch Ministry is starting this new ministry called Circles of Allen County and you can become a part of it.

The Participants:

* **Circle Leaders** are the participants because they are the ones who lead themselves out of poverty. They are hardworking and motivated. But often overwhelmed by the daily struggle to make ends meet. Circle Leaders commit to completing training, setting goals, and attending weekly Circles meetings.

* **Allies** are volunteers who are matched with a Circle Leader (2 for each Circle Leader). Everything is about their intentional relationship. Allies commit to complete training, attend Circles meetings at 2 times a month, and learn about poverty. Allies help Circle Leaders use their unique gifts and skills to reach their personal and financial goals.

Circle Leaders educate their middle-income & upper-income Allies about poverty and they lean on their Allies for advice and encouragement.

The first Allen County Circle group will meet at Come As You Are Church (7910 S. Anthony Blvd) on Monday evenings. An Ally is expected to meet with their Circle Leader on the 1st & 3rd Monday from 5:30-7:00 to share a meal with all other Leaders and Allies in the Circle and then take time for sharing, encouraging, listening, and caring for their Circle Leader and family. Allies are encouraged to attend the meals & programming on the 2nd & 4th Mondays of the month. The commitment is for 18 months.

Circles reduces poverty - when a circle of support forms around a person in poverty advice is offered, contacts are shared, and the fears that keep people in poverty start to disappear.

Circles changes communities - participants navigate their way to prosperity and volunteers get an in-depth education on poverty.

Circles is working - after 18 months those in the program achieve an average 71% increase in their income.

To learn more visit circlesofallencounty.org or find information and Ally Application forms at the Mission Center or contact Barb Hering thru the church office at 489-1888.

Caleb and Amy Cox's Adventures in Ministry with Cru

September 2022 Prayer Letter



"When I was at camp this summer, I felt like God was leading me to invest in the girls on my drill team, because so many of them aren't sure what they think about God. So I started a Bible study for them to have a place to learn more about him," Riley, a sophomore at Vines, explained to me (Amy).



While this is the first year Riley has been involved with Cru, she has long had a passion for helping her friends know more about God and the Bible. In the beginning of the school year, she took a step of faith and invited all of the girls on her drill team to a Bible study before school, where she explained to them how to have a relationship with Jesus. Riley has over 30 girls who come to this Bible study, and most of them do not have a relationship with God. These girls also come hungrily to our Monday night Cru meeting, asking questions about God. I am so grateful for these students and am so excited to be able to build relationships and invest in them this school year. Please pray for Riley and the girls from the drill team as the Lord shows himself to them.

We are excited about all God is doing in the lives of students at Vines and Plano Senior High School this year. God has provided us with many student leaders who are excited about starting Bible studies and reaching their friends. We would love your prayers for both the leaders as well as the students who come to the various Bible studies across campus.

Thank you for your sacrificial financial support and prayers. We are grateful you are with us in this unique opportunity we have to invest in student's lives in a meaningful way. Please let us know how we can be praying for you this month!



Girls at our weekly Monday night Cru meeting

PAST

Praise God for a great start to the school year! We have over 40 new students in our Cru movement this year. Pray for us as we invest in these students!

PRESENT

Pray for our student leaders, like Riley, who are continuing to reach their peers from their school and sports teams. Pray that students would be open and receptive to the gospel.

FUTURE

Pray for us as we plan and prepare for our next Cru outreach for students to invite their friends to on October 11th.

Caleb and Amy would love to hear from you!

Caleb.Cox@cru.org

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Amy.Palmer@cru.org

(260) 704-8753

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**WHEN THE STORM IS OVER
GOD'S GRACE ABOUND THROUGH YOU AND UMCOR.**

Because of your compassionate support, God's grace is made tangible to those suffering from natural disasters and war. When you give to UMCOR, you empower survivors of these tragedies to rebuild their lives. Your donation helps UMCOR provide psychological and social support, medical care, disaster case management and physical provisions like food, water and shelter to survivors, whether in the aftermath of a natural disaster or in the middle of a war zone.

UMCOR is known for being the first in and the last out (which can be years) during any disaster and you help to make that happen thru your donations.

Visit UMCOR.org to make a donation to "Where Most Needed" or donate thru Covenant by writing a check (indicate UMCOR on the memo line) or donate online or on the Covenant app.



News from Mason & Claire Miller

Mason and Claire, with their children Zion and Holland, will be returning to Nairobi, Kenya on October 11. They will fly 8 hours overnight, have a 20 hour layover in Frankfurt and then another 8 hour flight to Nairobi. I know they appreciate your prayers for their safe travels and that the children handle the trip well.



While in Nairobi, Mason and Claire will be ministering to youth from many different countries who are in Nairobi because their parents are ambassadors. They will be working with BlueSky Global Ministries whose vision is to see the multinational community of Nairobi, Kenya, spiritually transformed and equipped to influence the world for God's glory. They pursue this by building relationships through adventure, using three core platforms: BlueSky Adventures (rock climbing gym, expedition trips, and team building), Camp BlueSky, and BlueSky Community (year-round relational ministry). Learn more at blueskyglobal.org

Good news! Mason and Claire have reached their goal to purchase two vehicles once they are in Kenya. If you helped to support this need - Thank you!!

Now that the Millers are returning to Kenya, Covenant will help to support them and their ministry by sending them \$415 a month, which comes from the Mission & Outreach Team's budget. Your donations to the church budget make this possible - thank you! You can join the Miller's support team at www.blueskyglobal.org/give-staff-millers



The Rescue Mission's Fall Banquet

When: Thursday, November 10 at 6 PM

Where: The Allen County War Memorial Coliseum

Featuring: Comedian Michael Jr.

Enjoy an evening of praise and worship as The Rescue Mission raises funds for the most vulnerable in our community. The Rescue Mission's Fall Banquet celebrates the work God has been doing in the lives of the homeless through their programs.

We invite you to hear stories of transformation, enjoy a meal, and experience the comedy of Michael Jr. Purchase ticket here: fwrn.org



Do you have a heart and passion for Missions?

Want to help make decisions on the direction the team is going and how our funds are used?

Then join the Mission & Outreach Team!

Check us out! We meet on the 2nd Monday of every month at 5:00 at the church

Questions?

Contact Barb Hering at barbhering@gmail.com
Terry Pargmann at thepargmanns@frontier.com

Mission Matching Game : can you match the ministry with the service?

1. __ Where you can donate & purchase furniture and building supplies
2. __ Supports HIV/Aids orphans
3. __ Provides help in classrooms
4. __ Shares lunch time with a student
5. __ Packages nutritious meals
6. __ Provides bus passes to look for work
7. __ Supplies food for food banks
8. __ Where troubled youth find love and help
9. __ A shelter for homeless men
10. __ 100% of money donated to this ministry is used towards designated projects
11. __ Builds homes for those in need
12. __ Provides financial help with utilities
13. __ Save 3 lives with a donation
14. __ Encourages "Real change, not spare change"
15. __ Housing for homeless women & children
16. __ Tutoring program for K-5 students
17. __ Where you can donate & purchase clothing & household items to help the homeless
18. __ Free meals 3 times a day 365 days a year for anyone
19. __ Where you can serve in Christ's name
20. __ Where to learn more about these opportunities to serve

Ministry Names

- A. Life House
- B. Risings Stars
- C. Inasmuch Ministry
- D. Life for Children Ministry
- E. Bashor Homes
- F. Treasure House
- G. Charis House
- H. Red Cross Blood Drive
- I. Associated Churches
- J. Rescue Mission
- K. Lunch Buddies
- L. Study Connection
- M. Covenant UMC
- N. Charis House
- O. Project 216
- P. Habitat for Humanity
- Q. UMCOR
- R. Habitat ReStore
- T..All of the above

Answers: 1-R, 2-D, 3-B, 4-K, 5-O, 6-C, 7-I, 8-E, 9-A, 10-Q, 11-P, 12-C, 13-H, 14-J, 15-G, 16-L, 17-F, 18-J, 19-T, 20-M