



Outside Our Walls

Covenant United Methodist Mission & Outreach Newsletter

October 2025

Two ways to help feed the hungry! Meet the Need and Meat the Need!

1. MEET THE NEED: Help pack meals at Covenant's Project 216 Food Packing Event

Saturday, November 8 from 8:30-noon or earlier

Signup now at the Welcome Desk or at Covenantumc.net

Where the name "Project 216" comes from:

- ⇒ Every box that is shipped contains **216 meals**.
- ⇒ Every 2 hours each volunteer will pack an average of **216 meals** designed to help the hungry thrive.
- ⇒ **James 2:16** "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 meal provides all the vitamins and minerals a child needs for a day. The food Covenant packs on November 8 will be sent to Mission of Hope in Haiti and to Inasmuch Ministry in Fort Wayne.

We need 120 people to help with the packing. All ages are encouraged to participate (children younger than 7 should be accompanied by an adult). Child care will be available for very young children.

Signups are required to allow set up of enough assembly lines. Hair nets will be provided or wear a ball cap.

Questions? Contact Janet Hall at janet.hall60@gmail.com

2. MEAT THE NEED: Donate canned meat for the food Bank at Gethsemane Lutheran Church.

* Canned meat ideas: tuna, salmon, corned beef, chicken, Spam, etc.

* Leave donations at the Mission Collection Center

CHANGES ARE COMING TO THE WAY MISSIONS WILL BE FINANCED IN 2026!

Up until 2026 the Mission Team was allotted funds from Covenant's Operating Fund (a portion of your annual pledge to Covenant) to establish a budget from which they could support various ministries as the team decided.



In 2025 the Mission Team budget from Covenant's Operating Fund is \$20,200 and has been used to help support: Inasmuch Ministry - \$4,800; Life for Children Ministry Orphans - \$2,400; Missionaries (Millers, Cox, and Agwanda) - \$11,700; Rising Stars (Lincoln School projects) - \$1,000; Administrative Costs \$300

Beginning in 2026 the Mission Team will no longer receive a portion of the church's Operating Fund.

To support the work of the Mission Team you will be asked to complete a Faith Promise Giving Commitment Card to further God's work in missions as God leads you and provides for you.

Your Faith Promise Giving will provide funds to continue support of local and international ministries and missionaries not funded by Special Offerings for example: Inasmuch Ministries, Forgotten Stones, Food Bank, UMCOR, Life for Children Ministry Projects & Orphans, Missionaries (Cox's & Agwanda), Rising Stars, etc.

What won't change?

- Donations can still be made to designated ministries
- Special offerings (Lenten Offering for Project 216, UMCOR Sunday and Christmas Offering).

?S Contact Barb Hering (barbhering@gmail.com / 414-2907) or Keith Hering (khering2@gmail.com / 414-0546)

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Oct.:** Socktober Sock Collection for FWCS Clothing Bank AND "Meat (Meet) the Need"
- Nov.:** Christmas Angel Projects - Byron gifts and "Share the Feast" food collection
- Nov. 1-8:** Guatemala Mission Trip
- Nov. 8:** Project 216 Food Packing
- Nov. 15:** Blood Drive at Covenant
- Dec.:** Christmas Angel Projects - CASA Gifts and Christmas Offering

Very Special Thanks... Dear Covenant UMC, Just wanted to say thank you for thinking of Associated Churches and the work we do in our community. You folks have been amazing partners. Thank you!

*Lots of love,
Pastor Roger*

Thank you to all who donated food and monetary donations!



Covenant's
United Women
in Faith donated
\$500 to Associated Churches
Food Bank!

Northrop students LOVE all the donations of INDIVIDUAL

packaged snacks:

chips, pretzels, cookies, crackers, pop tarts, energy bars, etc.

Leave donations at the Mission Collection Center

We will continue to collect these items thru the school year



THANK YOU for all the donations of cereal!



- ⇒ 23 boxes of cereal were taken to Inasmuch Ministry **PLUS**
- ⇒ 73 boxes of cereal, 5 boxes of pop tarts and 5 boxes of granola bars were taken to the Food Bank

YOU made a difference to many!

October Food Collection:

"Meat the Need"

with donations of canned meat -

tuna, salmon, corned beef, chicken, spam, etc.

Leave donations at the Mission Collection Center



Red Cross Blood drive at Covenant Saturday, November 15



- ⇒ every 2 seconds, someone in the U.S. needs a blood transfusion
- ⇒ 1 blood donation can save up to 3 lives
- ⇒ every day, about 36,000 units of red blood cells are needed in the U.S.

Schedule your donation now at redcrossblood.org or contact Gina Loomis at sam-gina@frontier.com



Join the students at Lincoln School collecting socks of all

sizes and colors for the FWCS Clothing Bank during the month of October.

Small or Big or Even in-between or **Orange** or **Blue** Socks. As long as they are **NEW** socks!

Leave your donations in the marked box at the Mission Collection Center

A new way to finance Covenant Missions.

Faith Promise Giving is just that, GIVING financially to missions - both local and international.

We are to give generously, joyfully, and sacrificially because Christ first gave himself for us.



Do you shop at Kroger's?

Then you can help Alive Community Outreach just by shopping!

Alive has enrolled in Kroger's Community Rewards Program.

For every purchase you make at Kroger, Alive can receive some kick-backs.



To Use the Kroger Community Rewards Program:

Simply visit <http://www.kroger.com>. Once logged into your Kroger account, search for **ALIVE COMMUNITY OUTREACH** either by name or **C1959**. Click Enroll. New users will need to create an account which requires some basic information, a valid email address and a rewards card.

What is the difference between...

Inasmuch Ministry which helps the homeless and poor with ...

- * limited financial assistance for housing and utilities
- * housing & eviction concerns
- * a food bank - clients can visit every 14 days for food, household items and hygiene items
- * a clothing closet with a wide variety of clothing in all sizes - clients may visit every 14 days
- * local bus passes for job searches and medical appointments
- * birth certificate and marriage license recovery

Inasmuch Ministry began more than 30 years ago when Broadway Christian Church's secretary began sharing her lunch with people in need.

Located at 930 Broadway in Fort Wayne, Inasmuch Ministry is open Mondays (9-11, 5-7), Wednesdays (9-11) and Fridays (9-11).

Volunteers are always needed in the Food Bank and Clothing Closet, along with volunteers to meet with clients, and a variety of other jobs. There are many ways you can volunteer.

For more information visit inasmuchfw.org or contact Barb Hering at barbhering@gmail.com

Forgotten Stones which helps the homeless and poor by providing ...

- * Circles of Allen County to those who desire to break the cycle of generational poverty with classes, mentors, and connections
- * a Representative Payee, who administers the funds of a person who is unable to responsibly manage their money.
- * a Day Shelter at 930 Broadway on Tuesdays & Thursdays from 8-11 for anyone who wants a safe place to rest with activities if they desire.
- * coming soon: job services & housing portfolios

Forgotten Stones is a new ministry that grew from Mary Ann Mings, director of Inasmuch Ministry, seeing other needs for the homeless and wanting to help them improve their situation.

Forgotten Stones uses the Inasmuch Ministry building on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8-11 for their Day Shelter. They are actively looking for their own building in the downtown area.

Volunteers needed to spend time with those that come to the Day Shelter and to provide hot meals. (see page 4). Monetary donations are also needed.

For more information contact Covenant attendee, Debbie Smith at forgottenstonesfortwayne@gmail.com



A new way to finance Covenant Missions: **Faith Promise Giving** is simply a promise to give a certain amount of money on a consistent basis over and above the tithe to Missions.

The Mission & Outreach Team's Four Focuses

Since 2012 the team has made decisions guided by our four focuses - Lincoln Elementary School, the Rescue Mission, Inasmuch Ministry and Life for Children Ministry.

Recently, the work and success of Forgotten Stones has been brought to our attention. As a team we are amazed at how Forgotten Stones is changing lives and making a difference to the homeless and poor in our community with little financial support. This has led the Mission Team to recognize one of our focuses as Forgotten Stones in place of the Rescue Mission.

We know the Rescue Mission has a lot of corporate and personal sponsors they've developed over the years. The team feels the Rescue Mission fills a need in the community as changes are occurring within the ministry so we encourage you to volunteer and support them as you feel led. However, we feel our support of Forgotten Stones can be more beneficial at this time.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Barb Hering at barbhering@gmail.com



Information about providing hot meals for Forgotten Stones:

- ⇒ Please provide meals for 40 people, but if that's not feasible you can signup for 10 meals.
- ⇒ There is no access to a stove or oven so food meant to be served warm must arrive that way.
- ⇒ Meals may be breakfast, lunch or dinner food - all kinds of food are enjoyed and appreciated.
- ⇒ You do not need to stay and serve, but you are encouraged to stay and visit or help out.
- ⇒ Sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0548AAAC2DA5F5C34-58699373-dayshelter>
Be sure to signup for the number of meals you'll be providing - any food is greatly appreciated.
- ⇒ If you have any questions, reach out to Debbie Smith at forgottenstonesfortwayne@gmail.com



Thank you so much for showing love to those who are often forgotten by society.

FYI: thank you to Covenant member, Gail Burk, for providing breakfast once a week until the end of October and to Kay Beemer for providing food one morning. They are willing to answer any questions you have about the activity. Contact Gail at momburk71@gmail.com or Kay at kay.beemer62@gmail.com



Two Programs of Associated Churches Which Help Families and Have Volunteer Opportunities For YOU!

Journey Beside Mothers provides free assistance to mothers in need of support to help them grow as individuals and raise emotionally healthy families.



Journey Beside Mothers Programs:

- * Playgroup - meets in the afternoons on the 1st & 3rd Wednesday
- * Great Moms Club - meets on the 2nd & 4th Wednesday evening. The moms meet for dinner and a time of enrichment, support and fun which allows them time to grow relationships.
- * 1-on-1 mentoring for interested mothers. Mentors receive training and are then matched with a mom
- * Nurse visits for pregnant moms through the child's 1st birthday.
- * Mentors in the FWCS if the mom is a student (parenting or pregnant) to provide additional support to help students stay engaged in school and to surround them in a supportive community.

Volunteer Opportunity ~ Childcare help for newborns - age 6 for Great Moms Club

- ◇ The 2nd & 4th Wednesday of every month from 5:45-7:30
- ◇ A background check is required and anyone ages 16+ is welcome to volunteer.
- ◇ The childcare at Great Moms Club is at 624 E. Wayne St.
- ◇ Contact Julie VonGuten at Julie.v@associatedchurches.org with questions or if interested.

A Baby's Closet helps families experiencing hardships by providing essential baby items to safely and adequately care for their children. The program provides a unique opportunity to earn coupons which can be redeemed for clothing, car seats, and baby supplies.



Volunteer Opportunity ~ help prepare the store for customers.

- ◇ Monday and/or Tuesday mornings from 8:00am – 11:30am
- ◇ Count baby clothing items, hang clothes, and put outfits together.
- ◇ Volunteering will be at 602 E Wayne St. or at A Baby's Closet 621 E. Wayne St. depending on the need
- ◇ Contact Kelley Bawmann at kelly@associatedchurches.org if interested.



A new way to finance Covenant Missions.

Faith Promise Giving is simply a way to glorify God by giving to missions over and above your tithe to Covenant to partner with God in making Jesus known to all people.



A new way to finance
Covenant Missions.

Faith Promise Giving takes God at His word and gives accordingly. Such faith enables us to keep our promises even when it seems humanly or economically impossible and is demonstrated by consistent giving even in hard times.



Every child deserves a safe, warm bed!

Now until October 15th your gift to Beds4Kids will be doubled

thanks to the Lutheran foundation. This means more children will go to bed with a pillow under their head, a blanket over their shoulders and sweet dreams in their hearts.

\$185 provides a complete bed set for a child.

Any amount will make an impact.

Donate to Covenant, indicating "Beds4Kids".



Life For Children Ministry

Michael Agwanda, Missionary

ORPHAN SPONSORSHIP ~ ALWAYS THE PRIMARY MISSION

The King will reply, "Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me". Matthew 25:40

Life For Children Ministry, a 501(c)(3) charity, provides many ways for people in Wachara and Kisumu, Kenya to improve their lives ...

- ⇒ **Construction:** improving living conditions helps the many that are without; school facilities, water wells, widows' homes, greenhouses.
- ⇒ **Sustainable agriculture methods:** greenhouses, goats and chickens are distributed to help with food supply, services like plowing and corn milling are provided
- ⇒ **Microfinance loans:** support women in business
- ⇒ **Street kids:** cared for weekly with meals and The Word
- ⇒ **Education:** to enable bigger opportunities

BUT Life for Children's Ministry's primary concern is providing a family-based care system for children orphaned by the HIV/AIDS epidemic in western Kenya. It is estimated there are 1.1 million children in Kenya who have been orphaned due to HIV/AIDS alone. The ministry works with local churches, schools, and trusted community members to identify the most vulnerable of these children.

[Click here for a video](#) that explains the orphan program by Michael Agwanda, founder and leader of Life for Children Ministry. The video is dated but what Michael shares is still true today though the number of orphans supported by the ministry has increased to over 300 orphans.

Your orphan support will provide food, clothing, education, school uniforms, medical care and spiritual nourishment. Donate any amount to Covenant, indicating "Orphan Support" and your donation will be sent to the ministry for orphan support.



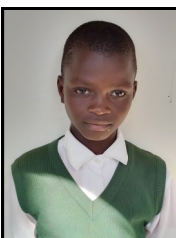
Alphonse



Irene



Wesley



Shem



Shantel



Sheryl

These pictures are just some of the orphans waiting to be adopted. More children and a brief bio can be found by [clicking here](#).

To learn more about Life for Children Ministry visit www.lifeforchildrenministry.org

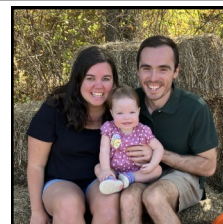


SHOW YOU CARE WITH UNDERWEAR! Lincoln School has expressed a need for boy's and girl's underwear in sizes 6-10. Leave any donations at the Mission Collection Center.



Caleb & Amy's Adventures in Ministry with Cru (received 9/23/25)

With the new school year underway, we've launched chapels for this year's freshman football team. Each year, these after-practice chapels give us the opportunity to share the love of Jesus with students who might never set foot in a church. It's a chance for them to hear about Jesus in a safe, familiar environment surrounded by their friends and teammates.



Sharing the gospel with the freshman football team!

Already, we've seen God working on the team! This past week, we (Caleb and our team leader, Benton) shared the gospel with the group. At first they were rowdy and joking around. But as Benton shared with them about Jesus' suffering on the cross for our sins, something shifted. They grew quiet, focused, and physically crowded closer. They didn't want to miss a single word. Later, when we looked through the comment cards, seventeen wrote that they had trusted Christ for the first time!

In addition, some of the freshmen have already started coming to our weekly Monday night Cru meeting. There they've been enjoying Christian community and having even more time to talk about God and the Bible. The Lord is stirring their hearts, and they are hungry to learn more and grow!

Thank you for partnering with us to take the gospel to high school campuses. The Spirit is moving and drawing students to himself. We wouldn't be able to do this without you!



Some of the guys at Monday night Cru

PAST

Praise God for the freshmen who have been staying for the chapels, hearing the gospel and responding to it!

PRESENT

Pray that the freshmen who accepted Christ would get more involved with Cru and find a church to go to.

FUTURE

Our annual city golf fundraiser next month will provide scholarships for students to attend camps and conferences this year. Pray that many people would come, be encouraged by how God is working, and give generously.

Caleb & Amy would love to hear from you!

Caleb.Cox@cru.org
(256) 258-9537
Amy.Palmer@cru.org
(260) 704-8753
4402 Cordova Lane
McKinney, TX 75070

Covenant helps to support Caleb & Amy Cox and their ministry by sending them \$450 a month, which comes from the Mission & Outreach Team's budget. To help support Caleb & Amy make a donation to Covenant (indicate Caleb & Amy Cox) or visit give.cru.org/0864190



A new way to finance Missions.

Faith Promise

Giving is giving over and above the tithe, which is used for the local church and its ministries. **Faith Promise Giving** will provide the funds for Missions.

UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief)

Global Ministries and UMCOR strengthen United Methodist response to humanitarian crises around the world thru disaster relief and recovery, migrant and refugee support, environmental sustainability, and agriculture and food security.

View this 2-minute video for a brief overview of UMCOR

umcmission.org/work/humanitarian-relief

To donate write a check to Covenant, indicate UMCOR, or donate at covenantumc.net or on the Covenant app or text "Give" to 844-847-5316

