

# LOCAL MISSIONS MINISTRY GROUP



## PRINCE OF PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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## THE LOCAL MISSION MINISTRY GROUP

at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church focuses awareness on needs and relief efforts with Dublin, Columbus, and Ohio. Its mission includes

**Awareness:** To seek out and raise awareness of opportunities in central Ohio where we as a church can provide assistance, via monetary gifts, goods, encouragement, and prayer.

**Response:** To identify specific means by which our ministry can provide meaningful and appropriate support.

**Action:** To initiate and encourage congregational participation in our ministry efforts.

If you're interested in joining us in this ministry, we invite you to contact Nancy Shuman, chairperson, or the church office at (614) 766-6377.

## BLOOD DRIVE

Every year Prince of Peace hosts at least two American Red Cross Blood Drives, providing space inside the church, organizing blood donors, and recruiting volunteers. Through this ministry, we support the Dublin community and also help to supply needed blood for the Red Cross.



Every two seconds someone in the U.S. needs blood. One pint of blood can help to save three lives. It's essential for surgeries, cancer treatments, chronic illnesses, and traumatic injuries. Each Prince of Peace donor helps to meet these needs.

Through announcements in our *Peace Signs* newsletter, we announce upcoming blood drives and then provide sign-up sheets for blood donors, volunteers and snack helpers.

## DUBLIN FOOD PANTRY

The mission of the *Dublin Food Pantry* (DFP) is to eliminate hunger and food insecurity in our community by increasing access to food and necessities for those who need it most within the City of Dublin and the Dublin School District. DFP relies on community partnerships, volunteers, and donors to accomplish our mission.

In July, our church members are asked to sign up to volunteer at the pantry every Tuesday. Look for ways to be a part of this ministry in our newsletter, *Peace Signs*. Check out their website [www.dublinfoodpantry.org](http://www.dublinfoodpantry.org)

### Food Pantry Cabinet

Prince of Peace has a food pantry cabinet in our Fellowship Hall. You are invited to contribute at any time during the year. We collect dry or canned goods. Each week we have volunteers pack up the donations and drop them off at the Food Pantry at 81 West Bridge Street in Dublin.



### Harvest of Hope Food Drive

Each fall, the Dublin Food Pantry organizes the *Harvest of Hope Food Drive* to provide a complete Thanksgiving dinner to all families in the Dublin area who are in need. Area churches and organizations are asked to provide up to 450 items to contribute to this Thanksgiving special event. Prince of Peace Lutheran Church along with Little Shepherds Learning Center has participated in this event for over 18 years. Last year the Dublin Food Pantry asked us to collect 450 box potatoes and jars of gravy, another year we were asked to contribute cans of green beans and we did! 4000 cans of beans! Look for ways to participate each October in our newsletter, *Peace Signs*.

# FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH

First English is a Lutheran congregation in the Olde Towne East area near downtown Columbus. It is a congregation with a rich history dating from the 1860s. Prince of Peace supports First English with financial contributions, donations of needed supplies and clothing, and with a community meal six times a year.

## Thursday Evening Meals



First English offers a community meal each Thursday evening for anyone who can attend. The meals are provided by partner congregations and are served family style to more than 100 people.

Prince of Peace has been hosting one of the Thursday evening meals for several years. We provide the food and the volunteers to prepare and serve the meal.

Our opportunity to serve occurs every other month on the third Thursday. This time provides a chance for us to interact with residents of the Olde Towne East neighborhood.

Sign up sheets for food donations and volunteers are displayed at church three weeks before the meal day. Prince of Peace has always been generous in its support of this important local ministry.

## Hygiene Kits

First English offers the use of their shower to the homeless in its community. Prince of Peace provides Hygiene Kits with soap, shampoo, a comb, toothbrush, and toothpaste to be distributed as needed.

## GIVING TREE

The *Giving Tree* is a mission that Prince of Peace has faithfully supported for many years. We work with the organization “Boundless” which offers temporary and long-term services, residential options, and family support resources to individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities.

Every December, interested members of Prince of Peace each select an envelope containing an individual’s name and his/her Christmas wish list. The members then purchase gifts for these individuals. The gifts are placed around the Christmas tree in the Fellowship Hall and then delivered to staff members of Boundless who distribute the gifts to the residents. This mission is a wonderful way to spread the joy of the Christmas season.



## HABITAT FOR HUMANITY



Seeking to put God's love into action, *Habitat for Humanity-MidOhio* brings people together to inspire hope, build homes, empower families, and develop communities.

*Habitat for Humanity* is a non-profit, ecumenical Christian housing ministry that encourages people of all faiths to work together to end substandard housing. *Habitat MidOhio* has spent more than a quarter century helping to bring the dream of homeownership to families in need. Through hard work and thousands of hours of homeowner sweat equity, *Habitat's* corporate and faith-based partners, donors and volunteers have played a role in rekindling hope for over 340 families living in central Ohio.

*Habitat for Humanity* partners with families who demonstrate need for safe and affordable housing, who earn between 30% and 60% of the area median income, and who are willing to partner with the community in building their house by putting in up to 250 hours of sweat equity working on their house, volunteering with Habitat, and taking classes in personal finance, home maintenance and good citizenship.

The *Dublin Adopt a House (AAH) Partnership* is a coalition of seven churches from Dublin and Powell who partner together to raise money and provide volunteers towards helping to build one Habitat house each year. The *Dublin AAH* provides an opportunity for a diverse faith community to work together towards a common good.

## HELP YOUR NEIGHBOR

The mission of our *Help Your Neighbor* program is to form a local ministry group that will act as an advocate for patients in hospitals who have no health insurance, who suffer from financial hardship and cannot afford necessary medical equipment in order to make a safe transition home, or who need temporary assistance paying their bills as a result of their hospitalization.

Many of these patients have suffered life-altering illnesses, such as strokes, cancer, major multiple fractures from car accidents, or spinal cord injuries.

Prince of Peace is involved by providing the necessary funds to provide medical equipment, clothing, ramps, temporary assistance paying bills, or medications. Our members receive an email whenever there is a patient in need, and the members then have the option to make an anonymous donation to the *Help Your Neighbor* fund, through Prince of Peace. The ministry also receives contributions from the loose offerings during church worship services.

Examples of assistance provided in the past include wheelchair ramps, bariatric equipment, wheelchairs, medications, winter clothing, temporary payment of rent, temporary car payments, car repairs, and grocery store gift cards.

Please consider getting involved with this group. There are no meetings to attend! If you are interested in joining, you need only submit your email address to Barbara Rubenow at [brubenow@yahoo.com](mailto:brubenow@yahoo.com), or call the church office at (614) 766-6377. When patients who are in need of assistance are identified, members of *Help Your Neighbor* will be informed by email and there is no obligation to respond. Help of any kind is greatly appreciated by those in Columbus who have so little and face such adversity.



## LAYETTES FOR LITTLE ONES

*Layettes for Little Ones* is our ministry to help Ohio families in need with supplies for their newborn babies.



A layette is a collection baby supplies which includes a receiving blanket, booties/socks, a washcloth, bath soap and lotion, clothing, toys, and a prayer book.

This layette ministry serves Lutheran Social Services of Central Ohio Outreach Ministries, families and community members of First English Lutheran Church in Columbus, the Welcome Warehouse in Dublin, and other individuals upon request.

Members of Prince of Peace knit/crochet/sew blankets, sweaters, booties, washcloths; shop second hand stores for gently used baby items; write prayer books; deliver layettes to our outreach services; and make financial contributions for the ongoing work of this ministry.

Since October, 2011, over 1000 layettes have been delivered!

In addition to providing for the babies' physical needs, this ministry also offers prayers of encouragement for the parents and provides an outreach ministry to the members of Prince of Peace who are looking for ways to help Ohio families.

If you would like to help, please contact Kay Crosby by calling the church office at (614) 766-6377.

## LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICES

*Lutheran Social Services of Central Ohio (LSS)* serves thousands of people in need each day in 27 Ohio counties by addressing the four core societal issues of hunger, housing, healing and hope. From single adults to extended families, LSS is dedicated to "creating a better world by serving people in need."

### **Undie Sundays**

Each year during the month of March, Prince of Peace sponsors and underwear drive, called *Undie Sundays*. We collect new underwear for men, women and children and then deliver the items to Lutheran Social Services for distribution to Faith Mission and the CHOICES Women's Shelter.



### **Thanksgiving Kits**

In November Prince of Peace collects and packages items for the *LSS Thanksgiving Kits*. These kits contain the side dishes (potatoes, vegetables, cranberry sauce, stuffing, etc.) for a traditional Thanksgiving dinner and are distributed with a turkey to families in need in Central Ohio.

### **Fun Kits and Snack Kits**

In June, our Vacation Bible School students collect items for *Fun Kits* (books, stuffed animals and toys) to be given to families when they arrive at CHOICES Women's Shelter. These items help to comfort the children while their families are being registered. The VBS students also supply items for *Snack Kits* – which are given to children in the shelter each day after school and before bed time.

## LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICES (continued)

### **Kitchen Kits for LSS CHOICES Women's Shelter**

Through this ministry our mission is to help survivors of domestic violence as they leave the CHOICES shelter and transition into their new homes. We supply families with housewarming *Kitchen Kits*, so they can take a first step on a new path with some of the basic needs to get them started.



You can help by donating funds to purchase items needed to complete these kits.

You provide the funds, and we will do the shopping!

The kits include dishes, cutlery, glassware, pots and pans, and more.

We will pack the items and deliver the kits to CHOICES as needed.

For more information on this new ministry and how you can help, please contact:

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