

SERVE AT AND BEYOND TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

INTRODUCTION

Prayer, Worship and Reading the Bible help connect us to the “PoWeR” of God, which “SuRGes” through us through Serving, Relating with others for spiritual growth and Giving.

Serving is an important hallmark for disciples of Jesus, the One “who came not to be served but to serve and give His life as a ransom for many” (Mark 10:45) St. John tells us that on the night Jesus was to be betrayed and arrested He met with His disciples one last time and demonstrated the posture for serving by washing their feet, including Judas! (See John 13:1-15.)

In this booklet you will find a collection of suggested Scripture readings, followed by some information and materials from the ELCA suitable for use yourself, with your family, or with a small group. We have included a copy of a Time and Talent form that has been used in the past here at TLC and lists many of the serving opportunities available within the congregation. If you feel called to serve the greater church through the Allegheny synod, opportunities and contact information is provided.

There are many opportunities to serve in the Centre Region and Centre County. A few of those are listed with contact information as well as websites for further consideration.

Next we have included some lessons plans for small group that can be used in a variety of contexts and settings. This is offered for additional reflection and consideration for those who wish to delve deeper into matters pertaining to serving God and others.

For further assistance or additional information contact the church office or one of the pastors. Also, if you have other suggestions for how TLC disciples might “serve at and beyond Trinity” please feel free to share that as well.

God bless and guide you as you seek ways by which you might serve as a follower of Jesus, for in serving you do find a life that’s worth living!

Your fellow disciples in Christ,
Pastor Ron Miller
Pastor Mike Price

SUGGESTED SCRIPTURE READINGS

Matthew 20:17-28 While Jesus was going up to Jerusalem, he took the twelve disciples aside by themselves, and said to them on the way, ¹⁸ "See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be handed over to the chief priests and scribes, and they will condemn him to death; ¹⁹ then they will hand him over to the Gentiles to be mocked and flogged and crucified; and on the third day he will be raised." ²⁰ Then the mother of the sons of Zebedee came to him with her sons, and kneeling before him, she asked a favor of him. ²¹ And he said to her, "What do you want?" She said to him, "Declare that these two sons of mine will sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your kingdom." ²² But Jesus answered, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I am about to drink?" They said to him, "We are able." ²³ He said to them, "You will indeed drink my cup, but to sit at my right hand and at my left, this is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared by my Father." ²⁴ When the ten heard it, they were angry with the two brothers. ²⁵ But Jesus called them to him and said, "You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. ²⁶ It will not be so among you; but whoever wishes to be great among you must be your servant, ²⁷ and whoever wishes to be first among you must be your slave; ²⁸ just as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many."

Mark 10:35-45 ³⁵ James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to him and said to him, "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you." ³⁶ And he said to them, "What is it you want me to do for you?" ³⁷ And they said to him, "Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory." ³⁸ But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?" ³⁹ They replied, "We are able." Then Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; ⁴⁰ but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared." ⁴¹ When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John. ⁴² So Jesus called them and said to them, "You know that among the Gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. ⁴³ But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, ⁴⁴ and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. ⁴⁵ For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many."

Luke 17:5-10 ⁵ The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!" ⁶ The Lord replied, "If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you." ⁷ "Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, 'Come here at once and take your place at the table'? ⁸ Would you not rather say to him, 'Prepare supper for me, put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink'? ⁹ Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? ¹⁰ So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, 'We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!'"

John 13:3-17 ³ Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, ⁴ got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. ⁵ Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him. ⁶ He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" ⁷ Jesus answered, "You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand." ⁸ Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no share with me." ⁹ Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" ¹⁰ Jesus said to him, "One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet, but is entirely clean. And you are clean, though not all of you." ¹¹ For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, "Not all of you are clean." ¹² After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had returned to the table, he said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you?" ¹³ You call me Teacher and Lord-- and you are right, for that is what I am. ¹⁴ So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. ¹⁵ For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. ¹⁶ Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. ¹⁷ If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.

John 13:34-35 ³⁴ I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵ By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

Romans 12:1-21 I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ² Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God-- what is good and acceptable and perfect. ³ For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴ For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, ⁵ so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. ⁶ We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ⁷ ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; ⁸ the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness. ⁹ Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; ¹⁰ love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹ Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. ¹² Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. ¹³ Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers. ¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. ¹⁶ Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. ¹⁷ Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. ¹⁸ If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹ Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." ²⁰ No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them

something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." ²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

1 Peter 4:8-11 ⁸ Above all, maintain constant love for one another, for love covers a multitude of sins. ⁹ Be hospitable to one another without complaining. ¹⁰ Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received. ¹¹ Whoever speaks must do so as one speaking the very words of God; whoever serves must do so with the strength that God supplies, so that God may be glorified in all things through Jesus Christ. To him belong the glory and the power forever and ever. Amen.

1 Corinthians 12:4-13 ⁴ Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; ⁵ and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; ⁶ and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. ⁷ To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. ⁸ To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, ⁹ to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, ¹⁰ to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹ All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses. ¹² For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³ For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body-- Jews or Greeks, slaves or free-- and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

1 Timothy 4:14 ¹⁴ Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given to you through prophecy with the laying on of hands by the council of elders.

faith practices:
SERVE

These pages will help people in whatever family relationships they live to honor their call to discipleship as they reflect the heart of a servant in their homes and communities.

"For I was hungry and you gave me food, thirsty and you gave me something to drink; I was a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me...Lord when was it that we saw you....Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me."

— Matthew 25: 42-43, 45

Leader: As disciples, we are called to do the things that enrich our journey with Jesus.
Serving the needs of others enriches their lives, gives purpose to our lives and shines
as a witness to others. Shall we model Christ's example of servanthood?

CONG: Yes! Hand me my towel. I'm at your service, Lord.

L: When someone is hungry, thirsty or without clothes shall we respond to their need?

C: Yes! Hand me my towel. I'm at Your service, Lord.

L: When someone is sick or in prison, shall we care for them?

C: Yes! Hand me my towel. I'm at Your service, Lord.

L: Will we help carry one another's burdens?

C: Yes! Hand me my towel. I'm at Your service, Lord.

L: Leaders in homes and families, will you foster attitudes and activities that nurture a
servant's heart?

C: Yes! Hand me my towel. I'm at Your service, Lord.

L: Children, will you share kindness, food and clothes with those who are in need?

C: Yes! Hand me my towel. I'm at Your service, Lord.

L: Then, join me, in nurturing a servant's heart, as we honor our call to discipleship.

**C: Thank you Lord, for giving us eyes to see the need, willing hearts to care and
hands that embrace those who wait and wonder. Amen.**

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BRINGING IT HOME

Of the total 10,080 minutes we live each week, the average Christian spends approximately 60-120 minutes in a church or formal faith community. The rest of the week is spent eating, sleeping, playing, working and all the rest. Think for a moment about the many activities in which you and your family are involved. Work together to draw a circle on a piece of paper and divide it to reflect the amount of time you spend doing each activity.

- *What are some of the primary ways you spend your time? How many of them involve serving others?*

Look through the following ideas for nurturing service in your family. Choose one, two or more. Feel free to adapt them to fit your situation.

- Create a mission statement for your family. Identify who you as a family would like to be. List some ways you will accomplish the goals and ideals you have chosen. Post your statement on your refrigerator or somewhere where all can see it. Invite all to think about the reasons why God brought your individual family members together.
- Invite children to design coupons on paper or on your computer. Help them decide what the coupons might be good for—free hugs, emptying the dishwasher, taking out the garbage, etc. Encourage them to give the coupons freely.
- Instill a sense of pride in completing household tasks. Make a poster charting jobs that can easily be done. Use stickers, treats and compliments to motivate or reward those who help.
- Model random acts of kindness. When you are in a check-out line, give a place to someone who might be in a hurry or have fewer items. Put a quarter in someone’s parking meter.
- Volunteer to help communities following a disaster or get involved in a project to build affordable housing where you live.
- Become involved in “Meals on Wheels” or other food share programs.
- Become involved in opportunities to lead and serve in your congregation. There are dozens of ways to use talents and abilities of children, youth and families. Evaluate your many talents and gifts and let them shape your involvement in service to God and others. Check one the following gifts you might consider offering:
 - computer skills
 - financial management
 - child care
 - writing and editorial skills
 - drama or dance
 - vocal or instrumental music
 - care and compassion
 - prayer
 - hospitality
- Look for opportunities to reach out to your community and to the world. Participate in CROP walks and other pledging activities.

SERVE

- Share your old or extra toys with a local women's shelter.
- Go through your children's clothes with them. Package outfits they've outgrown and deliver them to a local clothing distribution center.
- Contact people in your neighborhood or congregation who are sick or in the midst of challenge. Deliver a meal to them (be sure to call first). Run errands for them or help transport them to doctor appointments.
- Be an advocate for those who are not heard. Communicate your views on specific issues to your local, state and national representatives.
- Bring extra blankets and water bottles to children's athletic events. Offer these to those who need them.
- Be open to sharing your lunch with someone who forgot theirs or can't afford one.

RESOURCES

> *Growing Little Helpers.*

> *Hands-On Service Ideas for Children.*

Both are available from Augsburg Fortress Publishers. 800/328-4648. Your pastor or church leader has access to number of catalogs that provide information on additional resources. You might also browse local Christian book stores for other resources.

serve

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developed in conjunction with the ELCA-wide Call to
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OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE – AT TRINITY

Time and Talent Stewardship Form

Please prayerfully consider the tasks listed below, and sign up for the ones the Lord is leading you to help with. Even if you are already doing one or more of these volunteer tasks, please sign up again so that we have an up-to-date list. You will not be removed from the list unless you notify the church office. The completed form may be placed in the offering plate during worship, or it can be handed in or sent to the Church Office. Simply check the boxes of those activities you wish to perform. The individuals named for each activity are the respective coordinators or trainers; please note these contacts in your records before you return the completed form. Thank you, the Stewardship Team.

Name (first and last): _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone (home): _____
Phone (work): _____
Email address: _____

Worship Support – Marla Moberg (tlcmarla@comcast.net 238-2024) for scheduling

Preferred Service: G Saturday Evening G 8:15 G 10:45

- G Deacon (assist pastor in leading worship services)
Bill Hessert (swilliamjr@comcast.net 231-1213)
- G Lector (read scripture lessons for the service)
Rhonda Walker (rew128@psu.edu 237-9160)
- G Acolyte (light and extinguish candles and assist with collection and communion)
Pastor Ron Miller (TLCRevRon@comcast.net 238-0924)
- G Communion Assistant (help distribute wine at communion)
Rhonda Walker (rew128@psu.edu 237-9160)
- G Usher (distribute bulletins, assist in seating, collect offerings, direct congregation at communion, and pick up after service)
Pastor Ron Miller (TLCRevRon@comcast.net 238-0924)
- G Greeter (provide friendly, cheerful welcome to those entering TLC for worship)

- Pastor Ron Miller (TLCRevRon@comcast.net 238-0924)
- G Communion Care (set-up, preparation, and clean-up of communion utensils)
Pastor Ron Miller (TLCRevRon@comcast.net 238-0924)
- G Communion Bread (provide the communion bread as assigned)
Pastor Ron Miller (TLCRevRon@comcast.net 238-0924)
- G Counter (count and classify offerings, prepare deposit slips, deposit funds)
Duane Moberg (dam4@psu.edu 234-6279)
- G Coffee Hour (provides food and beverages, host food table, and clean-up fellowship hall)
- G Nursery (care for pre-school children during worship services)
- G Projected Announcements (prepare announcements in PowerPoint format for projection before Sunday services)
Bill Hessert (swilliamjr@comcast.net 231-1213)
- G Sound room (set-up microphones and operate the soundboard during the service; set up and/or store computer and projector)
Joe Welz (jpwelz@comcast.net 441-5667) and Bill Hessert (swilliamjr@comcast.net 231-1213)

Education Support

- G Sunday school Teacher (prepares lessons, present lessons, supervise class, check attendance, collect offering)
Nancy Jump (njump@comcast.net 692-4537)
- G School age (Specify age/grade if desired _____)
- G Nursery
- G Confirmation
- G Post Confirmation
- G Aide
- G Adult Sunday school Teacher
- G Substitute teacher
- G Distribution of newborn/pre-school materials
- G Weekday Adult Bible Study (participate in Bible study, assist in special events)
Pastor Ron Miller (TLCRevRon@comcast.net 238-0924)
- G Vacation Bible School
Peter and CJ Weyandt (cj@weyandt.com 861-8796)
- G Teacher (youth)
- G Teacher (Adult)
- G Station Aide
- G Group Leader
- G Group Aide
- G Games Coordinator
- G Story Teller
- G Song Leader
- G Musician

G Worship Leader

Music Support

- G Adult Choir Member (Miriam Locklin (mjl345@comcast.net 355-8864))
- G Contemporary Choir Member (Donna Weller (DW0220@aol.com 237-2107))
- G Angel Choir Member (Donna Weller (DW0220@aol.com 237-2107))
- G Adult Bells (Miriam Locklin (mjl345@comcast.net 355-8864))
- G Junior Bells (Barbara Roberts (bar8@psu.edu 574-8791))
- G Special Worship Music (Miriam Locklin (mjl345@comcast.net 355-8864) and Barbara Roberts (bar8@psu.edu 574-8791))
- G Contemporary Band (Donna Weller (DW0220@aol.com 237-2107))
- G Musician (Miriam Locklin (mjl345@comcast.net 355-8864))
- G Instrument(s): _____

Youth Support – Pastor Mike Price (TLCPastorPrice@comcast.net 357-8027)

- G Food Provider for monthly events
- G Driver (drive youth to and from destinations – chaperone as needed)
- G Event Chaperone (monitor youth events, ensure youth safety, and develop relationship with youth participants)
- G Conference Chaperone (monitor events, aid in planning, ensure youth accountability and safety, confidant, friend, assistant)
- G Mountain TOP Chaperone (monitor events, aid in planning, ensure youth accountability and safety, confidant, friend, assistant)
- G Mountain TOP Prayer Partner (get acquainted with attendee, pray for them daily, confidant, friend, assistant, goodie bag provider)
- G Mountain TOP Tool Provider (good heart, willingness to share possessions)

Other Ministry Support

- G TLC Night (get supplies, set-up & take down tables and chairs, clean-up – note: please sign up weekly on dinner sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall)
Jerry Wion (gww11@psu.edu 355-1629) and Donna Weller (DW0220@aol.com 237-2107)
- G Fall/Spring Clean-Up (perform both indoor and outdoor maintenance, repair, and cleaning projects)
Glenn Lelko (gal8@psu.edu 238-7322)
- G Yard Sale (sort items, setup, cashier, room attendant, driver for pick up & delivery of large items, clean-up)
Connie Lorah (cdl157@aol.com 692-4045) and Sue Petersen (suep46@comcast.net 237-3223)
- G Men Service in Christ Fellowship (once per month food bank staffing, handyman for Habitat for Humanity projects, Christ inspired special projects support)
Doug Perkins (Cymru8741@verizon.net 867-1507)

- G Women's Tea Group (participant, server, set-up, clean-up, provide food)
Mary Lou Kiel (mlk12@psu.edu 234-2539)
- G Women's Prayer Group
Linda Leslie (lleslie49@verizon.net 237-3568)
- G Trinity Wheelmen (off-road mountain bike rides)
Karl Raynar (karl_raynar@hotmail.com 867-3242)
- G Food Bank (reminder for donations, special events assistance, deliver donations to the Food Bank)
Linda Leslie (lleslie49@verizon.net 237-3568)
- G Interfaith Mission (attend monthly meetings, notify congregation of community activities, recruit volunteers, provide informational articles in the Piper as needed)
Linda Leslie (lleslie49@verizon.net 237-3568)
- G The Oaks (residence birthday party helpers, spring fashion show helpers)
Jean Quinn (psuquinn@aol.com 234-7925)
- G Special Event Support (table & chair set-up & take down, sound system, provide food & beverage, serve food & beverage, clean-up)

Other Areas where I would be willing to assist

Areas of ministry I would be willing to help organize

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE – BEYOND TRINITY (BUT CHURCH RELATED)

Synod Committees – (see www.alleghenysynod.org for more information)

- Synod Council
- Congregational Ministries
- Youth
- Evangelism
- Christian Ed
- Finance
- Candidacy Committee

Allegheny Lutheran Social Ministries – (see www.alsm.org for more information)

The Oaks at Pleasant Gap – This is a retirement community operated by ALSM providing independent and assisted living arrangements. (see www.alsm.org for more information)

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE – BEYOND TRINITY (IN THE COMMUNITY)

Centre Volunteers in Medicine – Centre Volunteers in Medicine (CVIM) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation whose primary mission is to understand and serve the health and wellness needs of uninsured individuals who live in Centre County, Pennsylvania.

We provide access to free primary and preventive medical and dental care to residents of the county that meet certain eligibility criteria. In addition, we provide referrals to specialists as necessary and make referrals to other social services for which our patients might qualify. From the moment a neighbor enters our front door to the end of their visit, they are treated with the utmost respect and dignity. For more information call 814-231-4043 or visit www.cvim.net.

Habitat for Humanity – Habitat for Humanity Greater Centre County HFHGCC is a faith-based group working to make home ownership possible for low-income families.

Property and building materials are donated or purchased with funds from donations, mortgage payments, and fundraising projects. Labor is provided by volunteers and by prospective Habitat homeowners who invest a "sweat equity" of 350-500 hours and make a \$500 down payment. Houses are sold for approximately the cost of land and materials. HFHGCC provides 20 - 25 year, no interest mortgages.

Family selection is non-discriminatory, based on housing need, ability to make payments to purchase the home, and willingness to work in partnership with Habitat. Homes are energy-efficient and easy to maintain.

HFHGCC is one of over 1700 Habitat for Humanity International (HFHI) affiliates in the U.S. and more than 90 other countries. Founded in 1976 by Millard and Linda Fuller, HFHI has built over 200,000 decent, affordable homes for God's people in need.

For more information call 814-353-2390, visit www.tricountyhabitat.com or sent email to habitat@tricountyhabitat.com.

Interfaith Mission – We provide situational emergency assistance to meet basic human needs for low-income residents of primarily the State College Area School District and the 692 exchange in Port Matilda. This emergency assistance can be provided through referrals, products, or payments made on behalf of a client.

For more information call 814-234-7731, visit www.interfaithmission.centreconnect.org/index.htm or sent email to Interfaithmission1@juno.com

Mount Nittany Medical Center – Do you have any free time and enjoy helping others? It takes hundreds of men, women and teens to do all the volunteer jobs in the Medical Center. We are always in need of volunteers and can find something that fits your time schedule.

Volunteers work in many areas of the Medical Center, from the Information/Reception Desk to the patient floors, aiding staff, assisting patients, their families and visitors in many ways. Opportunities are available in Staff Support Services, Public Contact, and Patient Floor Volunteers. For more information visit www.mountnittany.org and click on the link for volunteering or call the Volunteer Office at 814.234.6170.

Food Bank – Our mission is to provide emergency food to those in need in the State College area and to support the network of food pantries in Centre County.

Volunteers are the backbone of our operations, and typically provide over 6000 volunteer hours helping the Food Bank! Both groups and individuals volunteer to

keep our shelves stocked and bags packed. Some groups decide to volunteer together, usually once a month during non-service hours. Youth groups from the Latter Day Saints volunteer the first and third Tuesday of the month. A men's prayer group from Trinity Lutheran volunteer the second Thursday of the month. Groups sort through donations and pack bags for client distribution. Service groups help us greatly to keep up with the needs of Centre citizens and they derive the satisfaction of serving the community together. Thanks to all our volunteers without whom we could not fulfill our mission of providing food assistance to families in need.

Anyone interested in volunteering should call the Food Bank at 234-2310 and ask to speak with Ernest Boyd or visit <http://foodbank.centreconnect.org/about.html>.

Toys for Tots – The Nittany Leathernecks are always looking for a few good volunteers. Our approach to this effort emphasizes organizational support. But we (indeed) also welcome individual volunteers. The emphasis, however, remains TOTAL community involvement. Whether you represent an organization or are just an individual trying to make a difference, please contact our Centre County *Toys for Tots* Chairman, Gene Weller, or his Vice Chairman, Greg Johnson, to see how you can support the program:

Gene Weller
Chairman, Centre County Toys for Tots
Nittany Leathernecks Det., MCL
PO Box 956
Lemont, PA 16851-0956
(814) 234-9831 (day)
ELWeller@aol.com

Greg Johnson
Vice Chairman, Centre County Toys for Tots
Nittany Leathernecks Det., MCL
PO Box 956
Lemont, PA 16851-0956
(814) 234-6093 (evenings)
gjj26@comcast.net

Big Brothers/Big Sisters – Big Brothers Big Sisters of Centre County operates under the premise that one caring adult can make a significant difference in the life of a child. To that end, the program is committed to providing quality services to at-risk children and youth in Centre County who can benefit from a one-to-one relationship.

CHILD SAFETY STATEMENT – Children have the right to be safe at all times. The safety of the children in our program is our #1 priority. We expect everyone

associated with Big Brothers Big Sisters of Centre County to support children's safety and well-being.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION – Big Brothers Big Sisters seeks to place caring adults in ongoing mentoring relationships with at-risk youth. Our program serves children between the ages of 5-17 throughout Centre County, and we are always in need of volunteers. Currently, we have between 80-100 children who are waiting for a Big Brother or Big Sister. We need you!

The first step in becoming a Big Brother or Big Sister is to sign up for an orientation session by calling 814-237-5731 OR by e-mailing us at bbbsnews@ccysb.com. Orientation sessions are offered on a weekly basis at the Centre County Youth Service Bureau's main office, 410 S. Fraser St., State College. The sessions last about 45 minutes, and during that time, potential volunteers are given an overview of the three specific mentoring services offered by Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) of Centre County, including Community Based, School Based and JUMP. Volunteers are asked to make at least a 9 month commitment to the program and must have access to reliable transportation.

During this orientation session, volunteers are given paperwork to complete, including an application and reference form, along with criminal record check and child abuse clearance forms, which will be submitted by our agency. Please bring contact information for 3 people we will contact for character references (non-family members). The next step is an interview, conducted by BBBS staff. Approved volunteers will be paired with a little when an appropriate match is found.

For more information visit <http://www.ccysb.com/bbbs.htm>.

PAWS – An organization of volunteers in Centre County, Pennsylvania, committed to providing humane solutions to our area's pet overpopulation.

In order to care for these homeless cats and dogs and to promote responsible pet ownership, PAWS maintains a non-euthanasia animal shelter and administers a spay-neuter assistance program, an educational outreach program, and emergency medical aid funding. For more information go to <http://www.centrecountypaws.org/>

Living Hope – A non-profit organization that will help people before, during, and after organ or tissue transplantations. Contact: Wayne Ellenberger, LivingHopeOrg@gmail.com or 814-571-0675.

Foster Parenthood – Contact the Centre County Children and Youth Services at 814-355-6755

Asera Care Hospice – Trains volunteers to work with patients who are diagnosed with a terminal illness and their families. Volunteers provide direct care through visits that may include talking, reading, handholding, listening. Groups may also volunteer to provide special projects to benefit hospice patients and their families. Volunteers are offered free training appropriate to their area of interest. For more information or to volunteer, contact Michael Larrimore, Volunteer Coordinator, 1015 Logan Blvd., Altoona, PA 16602, 814-598-1704.

Housing Transitions, Inc. - Housing Transitions, Inc. is a nonprofit corporation, offering a variety of housing services to Centre County residents in need. We believe that housing crises are caused by a multitude of personal and financial difficulties that must be handled properly in order to arrive at sustainable solutions. Providing individuals and families with a stable housing environment allows them to more effectively address underlying problems and increase their self-sufficiency and independence.

Our mission is to assist families and individuals achieve a more independent lifestyle by providing a continuum of effective and well-managed services.

Housing Transitions was founded in 1984 as a housing shelter and gradually has become the primary housing resources provider in Centre County. For more information go to their Web site at www.housingtransitions.com, call 814-237-7480, or email myhouse@housingtransitions.com.

Community Help Centre - We are committed to providing high quality services at the lowest cost possible. As a result, well-trained, committed, and compassionate volunteers represent the most valuable resource we provide to the community at large. To that end, our volunteers receive extensive training and are charged with managing the organization, providing the majority of our direct services and assisting with program and resource development. Help for any problem, any time. Web site: www.communityhelpcentre.com, call 814-237-0032 or email Leanne Lutton, Program Coordinator llutton@communityhelpcentre.com.

More – For more information about volunteering or serving in Centre County visit <http://www.centrecountyinfo.org> a service of the county’s public libraries, made possible by a State Health Status Improvement Initiative (SHIP) grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Health. This website can be accessed free of charge at any public library in Centre County or via any personal computer with an internet connection.

For additional information about other volunteer opportunities visit: <http://www.volunteermatch.org/bymsa/m8050/c15/opp1.html>.

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