

St. Columba

Ecumenical Ministries, Inc.

Loaves & Fishes

Summer 2020

“do justice...love mercy...unto the least of these...” *Micah, Matthew*

Board of Directors

President

Joe Morgan

Vice President

Theresa Rozelle

Secretary

Sid Etherington

Alice Allen-Grimes

Tom Baragona

Jane Bashara

Butch Brenton

Diane Collins

Jill Keifer

Lisa Radford

Ron Schafer

Staff

Director of Ministries

Alicia Mathews

Assistant Director

Helmi Ortiz

Case Manager

Ike Bingham

Homeless Assistant

Charmisa Sherrod

Day Center Assistant

Archie Walden

Volunteers

Sidnia Etherington

Cedric Harris

Diana Harvey

Larry Hull

Joe Morgan

Pat Pennington

Carmen Staicer

School Supplies Collection Starts Immediately

We are excited to be able to collect school supplies for Ocean Air Elementary again this year. While the structure of their learning is still being decided, what is known is that many students will need school supplies at the start of the school year. We have reached out to the school to get a list of their top ten most needed items this year and were told the following will be useful:

Earphones or headphones

Dry erase markers

Dry erase boards

Glue sticks

Crayons

Scissors

Pencil boxes (not pouches)

Ziplock bags with zipper seal (quart and gallon)

Pencil sharpeners with covers

Highlighters

Primary writing paper

Wide rule notebook paper

Printer or copy paper

Large dice or foam cubes for math

Many of these items can be found at the Dollar Tree or Walmart for very affordable prices. We will begin accepting donations at our office immediately and will pass them on to the school on a weekly or biweekly basis. **The deadline to have school supplies to our office is Thursday, September 3 at noon.**



DONATIONS FOR FEBRUARY - JUNE 2020



FINANCIAL

Lafayette, Bayside, Knox, Second, Wycliffe, Presbyterian; Royster Presbyterian Women, Presbytery of Eastern Virginia; CCC, The United Way; Blessed Sacrament, Sacred Heart, Catholic, Amazon Smile, Sentara Foundation, United Methodist Women, Network for Good, The Capital Group - C. Britt, J. Stokley, J. Lego, C. Miskill, N. & T. Bonney, J. & H. Ortiz, S. Williams, K. & E. James, B. Benton, C. Callahan, K. Newton, G. & M. Delany, M. Gantley, B. Watson, G. Hovick, S. Etherington, J. Escuadra, J. Fitzgibbons, M. Horner Capt. E. & P. Spillman, T. Rozelle, C. Harris, B. Wight, C. & D. Seoane, M. Jenkins, R. McDermott, M. Fierro.

IN-KIND

Bayside, Royster Memorial, Wycliffe, Lafayette, Calvin, Knox, First, Second, Third Norfolk, Squires, Grace Covenant, New Horizon, Presbyterian; Christ the King, Church of the Holy Family, Blessed Sacrament, Catholic; Catholic Daughters, Christ, Trinity, Lutheran; Community, First United Methodist, Heritage United Methodist. Finding Refugee, American Sewing Guild, Mary's Joy, Sai Center of Hampton Roads, Norview Civic League, Foodbank of Southeastern Virginia, Nansemond on the Bay, Knights of Columbus, Board of Directors St. Columba, J. Keifer, A. Mathews, P. Pennington, M. Mendez, A. Grimes, Monique, W. Stewart, M. Gantley, J. Stokley, J. Morgan, J. & H. Ortiz, N. Morgan, J. Nault, S. Williams, C. Stacier, M. Fierro, C. Hawkins, R. Rosser, M. McEntee, S. Moreno, M. Blackwood, C. Grieff, N. McKay, C. Clark, L. Hull, D. Stockburger, The Sweenys, B. Ellis, K. Chris, R. Schafer, T. Fink, B. Bertholf, Dr. Holly, J. McDonald, The Breitwiesers, K. Dollberry, G. Smith, K. Mathews, A. Walden.



If we have inadvertently omitted you, please call Alicia at (757) 627-6748.

Special Thank You

We all know that 2020 has been full of surprises and none of us could have predicted the new normal when the year started. St. Columba had another surprise in early June when we tried to turn on our air conditioner for the first time and it blew out hot air. A week later we got the bad news that the unit needed to be replaced as it was too old to repair (originally from the 1970's and installed at St. Columba in 1995).

Our process of getting estimates was an educational and time consuming one and we are grateful to every company that took time to visit our agency and help us determine our needs. We finally chose a wonderful company that was able to get us on their schedule shortly after the contract was signed and look forward to installation in the coming weeks.

Of course, this completely new system is not something we had in our budget, but something we have to have to keep serving those who need us in the community. To raise funds to cover the cost, we put out a request to our supporters and are so grateful for the response! We have received a grant John Knox Homes, Inc. for approximately half of the cost and a match from an independent donor. Other individuals have also contributed, allowing us to achieve our fundraising goal to cover the cost of the new system. If any funds are remaining from this effort after completion of the installation, they will be applied to building maintenance fund.

I also want to thank my staff for working in the heat for nearly two months to ensure our clients received the services they so desperately need. They braved temperatures over 90 degrees inside St. Columba and are eager for relief! We cannot put into words how much we appreciate everyone who has helped us get back to cooler temperatures.

2020 Fiscal Year Outcomes

Many of our services were modified starting March 16 due to the COVID-19 pandemic in an effort to balance safety with service. We were still able to provide the following during the fiscal year July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020.

Provided 783 showers.

Gave out 10,656 sandwiches.

Did 136 loads of client laundry.

Allowed 269 client phone calls.

Had 815 visits to our Clothing Closet.

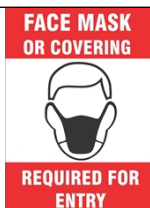
Gave food to 725 households consisting of 1,838 individuals.

Provided 1,157 prescriptions to 304 homeless persons.

Had 15 clients from Next Step move into permanent housing.

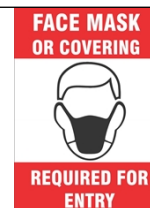
Distributed 37 Vision and 33 Dental vouchers.

St. Columba Updates and Needs



FACE COVERINGS REQUIRED

For the safety of staff, clients and supporters, we are currently not permitting anyone except employees into St. Columba. All interactions will take place at our doors and require staff and guests to wear face coverings during the interaction.



We can always use men's gently used clothing, specifically jeans and pants and new men's socks, boxers and ponchos!

We have the following ongoing needs for our ministry:

- Granola Bars
- Bottled Water
- Paper Lunch Bags
- Disposable Gloves
- Face masks or coverings
- Travel Size Hygiene Products
- Hand Sanitizer
- Lysol spray
- Bleach

Adjusted Hours

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 8:00 AM - 12:00 NOON

Service Hours: Monday - Thursday 8:30 AM - 12:00 NOON

Please note these hours may change as our situation changes. Updates will be posted on Facebook.

You can also call us at 757-627-6748 or 757-627-0312 before coming to confirm current hours or reach us by email at st.columba@aol.com for a response during evenings or weekends.

Upcoming Closures*

Monday, September 7 Labor Day; Thursday and Friday, November 26 & 27 Thanksgiving

*Closures may change due to situations beyond our control; updates will be posted on Facebook.

Do you want to receive our newsletter by email?

Send an email to st.columba@aol.com with the subject ADD and we'll get you on the list!
