



COMMUNITY OF HOPE

MISSION:

To demonstrate the abiding word of God through faith and good works and expressing the love of Jesus Christ by providing daily necessities as well as hope for the future to those in need.

June 2024

Board Members:

Shari Olson, President
Patti Svaleson, VP
Gail Francette, Treasurer/Sec.
Marcie Antell
Pastor Joy Armstrong
Tom Ochocki

Committees:

Creative Media – Kim Ochocki
Donations – Tom Ochocki
Finance – Gail Francette
Networking – Shari Olson
Outreach – Charity Okron
Prayer – Robin Brady
Research – Julie Juntti

Questions?

Call or email:
Shari Olson
218-348-2417
shariolsonmn@gmail.com

A Note from the President:

Where We've Been/Where We're Going

With so many needs in the community, it is easy to get drawn into trying to meet them all. It is necessary that we focus on our mission statement by providing needs like meals and daily supplies. This will allow opportunities for connection and ministry. One of our goals is to move the meal preparation along with hosting/serving of dinners to the participating churches, which would allow our Outreach Team to visit with guests and open avenues of trust and ministry.

We have made some progress with the city of Cloquet Planning and Zoning Administration. They have stated that with the new zoning changes, area churches or other organizations will be allowed to provide services without additional burdens due to surrounding businesses. For example, services being precluded because of the proximity of a school. This new zoning should be accomplished by mid-June.

I would also like to extend a big thank you to everyone for your continued efforts with Community of Hope. We have persevered with God's help, demonstrating our intentions to remain a part of the community. Our non-profit status became effective in October 2023. We have established a Board of Directors and some awesome teams. Our website and Facebook page are growing, adding more functionality thanks to Kim, Creative Media Team Leader. Charity and the Outreach Team have consistently and smoothly provided meals each Sunday. Above all, we thank God that Robin and the Prayer Team has given prayer support to all efforts.

Moving forward, we will be looking to refine our business structure. As Patti is the contact for all the teams, she will continue to meet with each team leader to define duties and streamline efforts. Job descriptions will also be developed along with SOPs specific to each team. We are also planning to have an orientation plan for new volunteers. In addition, we are planning several public events in an effort to provide a more informative community presence in 2024.

Shari Olson, President



Did You Know

There are 4 types of homelessness.

There is a popular misconception that homelessness is a long-term situation. Most people assume that a person who is homeless has been that way for a long time. However, the truth of the matter is that there are various nuances to homelessness and each person faces a different set of circumstances.

Transitional Homelessness

This is a type of homelessness that is quite common and has become more prevalent as a result of the pandemic. It is generally caused by a major life change or catastrophic event. It could be loss of a job, a medical condition, divorce, domestic abuse, substance use or a personal/family crisis. Those in this situation may live in their cars or on the street, couch surf or be a part of a transitional housing program. These individuals generally don't have a 'safety net' of family support or a financial cushion to fall back on. Some of them may still have jobs but cannot afford basic living expenses or housing. The majority are youth.

Episodic Homelessness

If a person has experienced at least three periods of homelessness in the previous year, their circumstances are described as episodic homelessness. Most of these individuals are youth or those with some type of disabling condition which may include both physical and mental health conditions and/or substance abuse disorders. They often have seasonal or minimum wage jobs that do not provide enough for basic needs.



Chronic Homelessness

Individuals in this category are usually those that are on the streets, suffer with a disabling condition and who have been homeless for more than one year. They often have difficulty getting out of this situation and may have a debilitating condition that makes it difficult for them to find and secure a job or receive assistance. They are usually older and live in areas that are generally unsafe or are not suitable for human living.

Hidden Homelessness

Most people are not aware of this type because it often goes unreported and undocumented. Young people make up the vast majority of individuals that are classified as hidden homeless. They do not have a permanent home and often live with others on a temporary basis. They have no guarantee that they will be able to stay long-term and no immediate way to find a home. Because they are not in a shelter or using other forms of homeless services, they aren't counted in standard homelessness statistics.

How can you help?

Volunteering is an excellent way to help out. Some areas include providing/serving meals at the weekly dinners sponsored by our member organizations or helping out at a food shelf or soup kitchen. Like meeting people and distributing? Perhaps consider volunteering at the Salvation Army. Good at organizing? Consider helping to plan a special neighborhood event. The Community of Hope is always looking for more volunteers to provide the necessary services to those in need. If you wish to get involved, contact one of our board members or visit our website; communityofhope216.org.

DINNER SCHEDULE - JUNE

- June 2 Good Hope Church**
Hamburgers/Hot Dogs, chips, baked beans, pasta salad, coleslaw, fruit salad, dessert
- June 9 Our Savior's Church**
Taco bar, chips/salsa, refried beans, vegetable tray, fruit, dessert
- June 16 Our Redeemer Church**
Deli sandwiches, potato salad, Caesar salad, chips, fruit, dessert
- June 23 Cloquet Senior Center**
Sloppy joes/buns, cucumber salad, pasta salad, fruit, dessert
- June 30 Veteran's Park**
Chicken Caesar baguettes, chips, pasta salad, fruit, dessert



Volunteers

Just a reminder: don't forget to sign the volunteer attendance sheets at each event. This documentation helps us when requesting grants or donations. And **THANKS** for all you do!

Want to volunteer at one of these events?
Contact Charity @ 218- 409-2606

APRIL STATISTICS

(all locations)

Number served: 154

Number of Take-out Meals: 108

Number of Volunteers: 39

Thank You, Churches!

Thank you to ALL of our church partners for providing a place for meals, donation offerings, prayers, and more!

Good Hope Church
Our Saviors Lutheran Church
Northwood United Methodist Church
St. Matthew's Church
Queen of Peace
Our Redeemer Lutheran Church
Journey Christian Church
St. Paul's Evangelical Church
Kingdom Builders



DONATIONS

CURRENT NEEDS

We are currently in need of insect repellent, sunscreen, tents and tarps, motor oil (5w-30), hand sanitizers, water and laundry detergent. These items can be dropped off at the Outreach Center, 26 10th St. N, Cloquet, Monday-Friday; 10am-2pm. Additionally, several of our partner churches have drop boxes onsite to accept donations.



AREA CHURCH ACTIVITIES

Please feel free to join any of the following events! All are Welcome!

Northwood United Methodist Church 62 Cty Rd 61, Esko, GODSPEED FITNESS

. 4:00 pm on Tuesdays. Meet at the Munger Trail parking lot in Carlton. It will encompass approximately one hour of runs, hikes, walks, or biking around our beautiful area. It begins with a devotion and ends with the glow of exercise. All levels are welcome. Feel free to go at your own GODSPEED. The hope is to prepare for upcoming 5Ks and get fit in the process. Call Barb Lammi with questions. "Run with Purpose"
1 Corinthians 9:26



Good Hope Church – 55 Armory Road, Cloquet is offering several connect and growth groups: Find Your People, Fellowship (men's group), Campfire Worship, Disc Golf Group, Family Park Days, Back Porch Bible Study, just to name a few. Check out Goodhope.ag for more information.

Journey Christian Church – 1400 Washington Ave. Cloquet: Want to find others who have similar interests or are in circumstances like yours? Journey Christian offers Ladies Bible Study, Don't Give Up, marriage groups and Journey softball. Find more information on their website at: <https://www.cloquetchurch.com/lifegroups>.

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church 515 Skyline Blvd. Cloquet (218) 879-3380. Offers a Ladies Quilting Group which meets the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month. If you like puzzles or can tie a knot, then you would be perfect for this group!

Our Savior's Lutheran Church 615 12th Street Cloquet. Enjoy reading? Our Savior's has a Cover to Cover Book Club that meets the 3rd Thursday evening each month to discuss books of interest. Bible Study is also available every Wednesday morning from 10am-11am.



We are truly blessed to have such a great Christian community which reaches out to share all we have to offer. We look forward to visiting with and learning more about you at the events listed above.

THE POWER OF PRAYER

Matthew 21:22: "And whatever you ask in prayer, you will receive, if you have faith."

- ✓ Prayer Invites the Holy Spirit into Your Life
- ✓ Prayer Restores Your Soul
- ✓ Prayer Helps You Find Direction in Your Life
- ✓ Prayer Gives You a Better Sense of Self
- ✓ Prayer Reduces Stress
- ✓ Prayer is Good for Your Heart
- ✓ Prayer Improves Your Attitude
- ✓ Prayer Helps You Express Gratitude
- ✓ Prayer Gives Your Hope
- ✓ Prayer Helps You Give and Receive Kindness
- ✓ And most important, Prayer helps you develop a relationship with God



Have You Prayed Today?

Matthew 25:40

"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.'



The least of the brothers and sisters of Jesus are those persons who are vulnerable. They are the socially, psychologically or economically disadvantaged, such as the sick, the poor, the mentally and physically disabled. Jesus cares about the needs of the poor.

ONLINE DONATIONS

Did you know you can now make monetary donations on the Community of Hope website? Every dollar helps us further our missions and support the goals of Community of Hope. Our work is only possible through caring people like you. Visit <https://www.communityofhope216.org/donate-now/> for more information or to make a donation. And thank you so much for your continued support!

Thank you, Volunteers

The Community of Hope would like to thank all of our volunteers who have helped us in so many ways during the past year. Our volunteers demonstrate the power of a united group to provide much needed assistance to the Carlton County families experiencing homelessness. We truly could not provide the much needed support without the generous efforts of our volunteers.



Have you followed us online?



facebook.com/communityofhope216

www.communityofhope216.org

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