



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.

August 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 Shari Olson
218-348-2417

New Emails:

For General Inquiries:
info@communityofhope216.org

Items for the Board:

board@communityofhope216.org

Questions on Donations:

donations@communityofhope216.org

Upcoming events or suggestions:

events@communityofhope216.org

Prayer for yourself or someone else

prayer@communityofhope216.org

A Note from the President:

Good News: Our ministry continues to grow to serve those in need and there are many. We have truly been blessed by those who have shown their hearts and given of themselves for the name of the Lord. They reach out to all those who are in need of food, clothing, help to find a place to live, an ear or a shoulder, a friendship and prayer. Also, those who have worked in the background getting the word out through the website and putting our business right and maintaining the finances. *"Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will reward them for what they have done".* Proverbs 19:7

Our volunteer base as become stagnant and those who have helped to make it grow have been stretched thin. So, we are reaching out to see if - Do you have 2 hours to assist helping with the free showers we provide for those that do not have access to showers? Do you have extra daily supplies that you could share with those in need? Do you have a couple of hours to spare helping prepare the food we serve at our Community Meals? Or a couple of hours to help serve those meals? Time you may be available to share with the Lord to those in need. *"And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up".* Galatians 6:9.

To contact us to offer your time or an item to give, go to communityofhope216.org/volunteer/. Then simply complete the form and send. One of our team will contact you and let you know what is available based on your information. You choose what you do and how much time you can invest. Or call 218-348-2417 and we will help you get connected. *"God is not unjust; he will not forget your work and the love you have shown him as you have helped his people and continue to help them."* Hebrews 6:10

As cost of living continues to grow (to live comfortably in Carlton, a minimum annual income of \$51,840 for a family, and \$30,800 for a single person is recommended) the numbers of God's family needing help of some kind continue to grow.

I have had many people comment "do not reach out to help or more will come". Well, they are here; they are family, neighbors, close friends who have had a change of events in life and now they struggle. Let us not turn our backs on them or ignore their state of need for one day it could be someone you know. All are welcome to become family with our group. We are excited to meet you and get to know you. This is an excellent way to share the heart of Jesus with our children as well.

God Bless you and all those you reach out to in Jesus's name.

Amen

Shari Olson, President

Did You Know

Homelessness In Minnesota's Native American Communities (excerpts from *The National Council of State Housing Agencies and Wilder Research Studies*)

A number of issues contribute to homelessness among Native Americans on tribal land and in urban settings, including poverty, and chronic health, mental health, and substance use issues.

While largely unrecognized in general homeless policy, homelessness is a significant and growing problem among American Indians, both on tribal lands and in urban centers. In MN, a study identified more than 1200 American Indians (or 30% of those interviewed) as homeless or near-homeless (those that are “doubling up” or staying with a family member or someone they know rather than in a shelter) within six Minnesota reservations, which includes the Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Ojibway.

In this study, nearly one-third of the homeless and near-homeless report one chronic health condition, 29% consider themselves to be chemically dependent, and 23% have a serious mental illness, with the rates for all these conditions higher for homeless individuals as compared to the near-homeless. The study also found low employment and income levels among the homeless and near-homeless and a history of unstable housing (59%). American Indian families are ten times as likely to be homeless as their white neighbors in Minnesota. Although American Indians are only 1 percent of all Minnesota parents, they are 11 percent of homeless parents. Most respondents are experiencing chronic, long-term homelessness. 77% of people interviewed on reservations met the Minnesota definition of long-term homelessness: those who have been without a permanent residence for at least one year, or four or more times during the last three years.

In a 2020 study, of the people experiencing homelessness or near-homelessness on reservations, 49% were adults (25-54), 33% were children (17 and under), 12% were youth (18-24) and 7% were elders (55+).



The most common reason for becoming homeless or near-homeless is due to financial reasons. They couldn't afford rent/house payments, had been evicted, or lost a job or reduced work hours.

The Native American population of the Fond du Lac Reservation is characterized by high numbers of people living in poverty. The majority of the tenants of Fond du Lac Supportive Housing are expected to be described as “nomadic”. They have experienced episodic homelessness, with a history of failed attempts to find appropriate housing. Of the data gathered on all tribes in the state of Minnesota, the majority of participants in a 2018 study stated they earned between \$9.65 and \$11.99 when they were employed.

Locally, the Fond du Lac Human Services Division of the Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Ojibway offers services and resources for those that are experiencing homelessness or near-homelessness within the tribal community. Their offices are located at 927 Trettel Lane in Cloquet.

DINNER SCHEDULE - AUGUST

- August 4** **Good Hope Church**
Hamburgers, hot dogs, chips,
salad, fruit, dessert
- August 11** **Our Savior's Church**
BBQ Pork Sandwiches, chips,
salad, fruit, dessert
- August 18** **Our Redeemer Church**
Taco Bar, fruit, dessert
- August 25** **Good Hope Church**
Chicken Caesar Sandwiches,
pasta salad, fruit, dessert

This month's food is sponsored
through funds from



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

Thank you

Volunteers and Churches

The Community of Hope would again like to thank our church partners for providing a place for meals, donation offerings, & prayers, and our volunteers for your labor of love and your willingness to use your gifts and abilities to strengthen the mission and ministry of the Community of Hope. We are truly blessed!



Are you good at fundraising or have ideas? The Community of Hope Needs You!
board@communityofhope216.org

DONATIONS

Just a Brief Note from the Donations Team

We applied for and received a one-time financial donation from Super One Foods! This came in the form of gift cards that the Outreach Team can use for food purchases for the Community meals. Thank you Miners Inc. and Super One Foods! We are also on their running list for the "Operation Round-Up" campaign that you may have seen at the register when you check out. The list is set through 2025 so it is a ways off if we are selected. Please keep this in your prayers.



Tom Ochocki
Donations Team Lead



WOOD CITY WORSHIP FESTIVAL



Make plans to attend this year's Wood City Worship Festival! This year's event takes place on August 10, beginning at 11AM at Veteran's Park.

Wood City Worship Music Festival brings music, faith and fun to people in the Cloquet area. The Kingdom Builders Ministries helped put on the festival through volunteers and donations.

Volunteers are needed during Wood City Worship in 2 hour blocks for the children's area, selling of clothing, & stage security. Contact Shari if you can help.

WOOD CITY WORSHIP FESTIVAL

10 | August 2024
11AM

Veteran's Park
732 Ave B Cloquet, MN

Info Detail: www.kbmcloquet.com

Justin
Rizzo



GO
FISH

Sean
Feucht



Music | Fun Zone | Merchandise | Food Trucks

ESKO COMMUNITY GARDENS

The Esko Community Garden started about 3 years ago. Last year, Community of Hope rented and maintains two plots (4' x 12') to grow produce. Some of the produce raised has been used for the Sunday dinners, such as the potatoes and tomatoes and some has been given away to those in need. So far, we have used lettuce for one meal this year and cut up some of the cabbage for the July 28 meal. The plants and seeds were donated. If you would like to help with weeding or watering, contact Kathy Rye @ 262-617-6270. Community garden beds are available for rent at the Community Garden located behind the Thompson Town Hall, 25 E. Harney Road, Esko.



HOW TO PRAY

As we have discussed in previous newsletters, most simply put, prayer is communication between us and God. However, the Bible gives us lots of help in knowing how to pray and what to pray. Especially when we are newer to prayer, or just aren't sure what to say, it can be really helpful to have a model to use. Sometimes it can be difficult knowing how to approach the almighty, holy God with the right heart/attitude in prayer.

Today we will look at what Jesus said when his disciples asked him to teach them to pray.

Matthew 6:9-13 (New International Version)

9 "This, then, is how you should pray: "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, 10 your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. 11 Give us today our daily bread. 12 And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. 13 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one, for yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever.

The following acronym (using the familiar King James Version of the Bible) has been developed as a pattern we can practice using Jesus' teaching about prayer, many have found it helpful, maybe you will too!

PRAY

PRAISE

Our Father who art in Heaven, Hallowed be thy name (spend time praising or acknowledging the greatness of GOD, telling Him how holy and wonderful He is)

REPENT

And forgive our debts as we forgive our debtors (spend time confessing our sins, mistakes, and asking for forgiveness)

ASK

Give us this day our daily bread...and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil (asking God for specific needs, help, protection, strength... For ourselves and for others)

YIELD

Thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. For yours is the Kingdom, and the Power, and the Glory forever. (spend time surrendering control and submitting to the will of God, acknowledging His Lordship and Who He is)

BLOCK PARTIES

August 14 – Carlton Lofts
August 28 – FDL Compound

Want to be a part of this effort?
Send an email to:
events@communityofhop216.org.
Or contact Mary Medich @ (218) 269-5322



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!

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