



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.

October 2024

Board Members:

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

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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

"Like Us" on FB!

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Web Address:

www.communityofhope216.org/

THE POWER OF PRAYER

Mark 11:2

"So I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours."



What exactly is "the power of prayer"? There are many times in our lives when we feel helpless, especially during difficult circumstances. In John 15:5, Jesus says "Apart from me you can do nothing." The power by which God created the heavens and the Earth, is the same power that parted the sea for Moses and that Jesus used to heal the sick and cast out demons. It was that power that raised Christ from the dead. All of these miracles happened through the **power of prayer**. Many of the greatest people in the Bible turned to prayer – Daniel prayed for mercy and forgiveness for the people and to shut the mouths of the lions in the lion's den; Hannah prayed for a son; Peter prayed to be saved from drowning; Jesus prayed to the Father for miracles. God gives us power through His Holy Spirit.

Why does it work? Prayer works because God wants our complete dependence on Him. He wants us to recognize that without Him, we can't transcend our limitations. God is the source of our fulfillment. He is and wants us to make Him the answer to our longings. Prayer draws us into a deep relationship with God. Our prayer life brings us closer to Him through honest communication, just as any child does with their parents.

Prayer changes us. In our busy lives, we often do not pray enough. Or we pray for things we don't really need and treat God as if He were some kind of genie. While God will always answer our prayers, He may not answer them in a way we expect or think is best. But we must trust God's will, for He truly knows what is best for us. We should spend time trusting and understanding God's plan for us. When we do, we can be sure God listens to us.

Powerful prayer is not about you and what you are able to do; it's about the power that lives inside of you. Connecting to that power and the truth of what Jesus did on the cross is what empowers your prayers. By joining your faith with the Holy Spirit, you will move mountains. Now, that is powerful prayer!

Did You Know

Have You Heard the Term “Throw Away Youth?”

Throw away youth are young people who have been forced or asked to leave home by a parent or guardian, and for whom no alternative care has been arranged.

You might think that Cindy (name and other identifying information have been changed) was in her late 20s, maybe her early 30s. Looking closely, there was no sparkle in her eyes and her demeanor was sad with little affect; she just looked tired and worn out, her hair stringy as it fell to her shoulders from underneath a dirty and worn wool cap. But Cindy was not in her mid-to-late 20s or early 30s; she was 16 years old. She had been thrown out of her home by her mother two years earlier. It was a cold January night when she was first told to leave. She went to a friend’s house and stayed for a couple of days before her friend’s parents told her she needed to “go home and make things right,” which Cindy tried to do. After a few weeks, Cindy’s mother told her to leave home and never come back again. Cindy spent the next few nights sleeping in the backyard of her friend’s house; her friend’s parents did not even know she was there. Food was difficult to come by; she tried to eat at various church programs but again was turned away because she was an unaccompanied minor.

There is a growing street population of young people who have been thrown out of their homes by their caretakers or their families, and who face life-threatening situations each day. For these youth, the furthest thing in their lives is reaching the so-called “American Dream;” and their most immediate need is survival, simply living out the day in front of them. They have few options that lead to a decent and safe living environment. Their age, lack of work experience, and absence of a high school diploma make it most difficult to find a job. As a result, they turn to other means for survival; runaways and throwaways are most vulnerable to falling prey to the sex trade, selling drugs, or being lured into human trafficking, and some steal or panhandle.

According to the United Way of Carlton County, 5% of Carlton County students are homeless each year and the number is growing. They are living in cars, parks, abandoned buildings, under bridges, etc. They have moved homes more than three times a year and are couch surfing without a legal parent. They may be living in a public or private place not designed for humans to live or sleep.

Many of the “unhoused” teenagers in Carlton County don’t meet the big-city stereotype of homeless youth, panhandling on the street, sleeping on park benches. Many also don’t meet the bureaucratic definitions that might come with services: they don’t need a foster home; they don’t need child protection. The reasons a young person ends up unhoused are many. There might be substance abuse in the home or domestic violence. A parent might not accept a child’s sexuality or might have another strong difference of opinion. Often, the teenager’s parent or guardian is allowing them to move out, but they’re also not giving them any support. Most end up couch-surfing with friends and extended family, sometimes until things get better at home. Other times, they never return home.

Unfortunately, Carlton County closed its youth shelter in October 2022. One solution is a host home program, currently being initiated by the United Way with help from Carlton County Human Services. Other services including the Community of Hope are working with local law enforcement, schools, JET and Carlton County to try to address the problem without duplicating services. If you would like to help, please contact us. “It takes a city (village) to raise a child.” Let’s be part of the solution.

COMMUNITY CHURCH EVENTS

Good Hope Community Church: 55 Armory Road Cloquet

- **The Fellowship Men's Breakfast**-Saturday, October 5; 8am-10am
- **MYC for Youth 6th-12th grade**-Registration deadline 10/13.
- **Women's Group**- A time of worship, teaching and socialization. 3rd Friday 6-8:30pm at Good Hope Cloquet.
- **Fall Groups**- Both Growth & Connect groups are in full swing! Visit their web page
- **Jamaica Missions Trip**- January 29-February 5. Registration deadline: Nov. 6th.

Our Savior's Lutheran Church: 615 12th Street, Cloquet

- **Chili Cook-off** – October 13, 4:30pm.
- **Lutefisk Dinner** – October 26, 3:00-6:00. Purchase tickets at the office.
- **Trunk or Treat** – October 27th - 2:30pm-4:30pm.
- **Book Club** – 3rd Thursday of the month @ 7pm.

St. Matthew's Lutheran Church: 4 Elizabeth Avenue, Esko

- **Roast Beef Dinner** – October 9 - 4pm-7pm. Purchase tickets in advance
- **Trunk or Treat** – Oct 31st – 5:30-6:30pm
- **Soul Sisters** – Mondays @ 6:30pm
- **Men's Morning Bible Study** – Tuesday's @ 7am

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church: 515 Skyline Blvd, Cloquet

- **Ladies Bible Study** – Thursdays @ 7pm
- **Men's Bible Study** – Thursdays @ 7pm
- **Confirmation Classes** – Wednesdays @ 6pm
- **Quilting Group** – 2nd & 4th Thursdays @ 9:30am

Journey Christian Church: 1400 Washington Avenue, Cloquet

- **In the Footsteps of the Savior** – October 2, 6:30-7:45. Lifegroup for Adults
- **Family & Friends Skate Night** – October 7, 5:00-7:30pm
- **Youth Fall Refresh/Sand Hill Lake Bible Camp** – October 17-19/ Grades 7-12.
- **Ladies Bible Study** – Tuesday's @ 1:00-2:00m
- **Love You to Pieces Quilters** – 2nd & 4th Thursday @ 10:00am-3:00pm
- **Capture Your Journey** - six-week camera basics class. Contact Carla @ carla.g@carlaq-photography.com

OUR SPOTLIGHT SHINES ON....

THE DONATIONS TEAM

Our Donations Team acts as the point of contact for all material donations and arranges for pick-up or drop-off services. They contact other organizations or community resources, such as the Salvation Army and The Outreach Center as well as churches to arrange for drop-off boxes, ensure drop boxes are in place or in need of emptying. They are led by Tom Ochocki. Other members of the team include: Sue Butkiewicz and Mary Medich. If you would like to volunteer your time or resources to this team, please contact Tom @ donations@communityofhope216.org.



DINNER SCHEDULE - OCTOBER

- October 6 St. Paul's Church**
Ham, crockpot potatoes,
salad, fruit, dessert
- October 13 Good Hope**
Chili, salad, fruit, dessert
- October 20 Our Redeemer Church**
Roast Beef, salad, fruit,
dessert
- October 27 Our Savior's Church**
Chicken with Broccoli,
salad, fruit, dessert

THANKS for all you do!

We could really use more volunteers to help with this service. If you are willing to help out, please contact Charity @ (218) 409-2606 or Kathy @ 262-617-6270



THANK YOU'S

We are so thankful to all those that are willing to give their time and talents to helping us provide necessary programs. A BIG THANKS also to the churches that allow us to utilize their facility. Much Thanks!



We are in need of more volunteers to make the work easier. Please consider offering an hour or two to help those less fortunate. Visit our Volunteer page on our website or contact one of our board members.

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!

Community of Hope 2:16
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