



OUTREACH MINISTRY at St. Paul's

St. Paul's is a wonderful congregation with a heart for reaching out to those who are in need of God's love, care and grace. Through a variety of efforts, many hands have given service in many ways. Our newly formed Outreach Ministry met recently to discuss how we might strengthen the good work that is currently being done as well as consider new, or renewed, efforts.

Here is a look at the picture of outreach at St. Paul's. Many of you know of this work, and some of you may not. Each of these ministries always need more help and support. Perhaps you will discover one that you might want to be a part of.

Just Soup: Just Soup is a ministry of food and fellowship, offering a simple soup lunch each week in the Parish Hall for anyone who would like to come. Help is needed on Tuesday for the chopping of the vegetables, and on Wednesday for serving, setting up and cleaning up. Through your generosity, St. Paul's, includes Just Soup in its annual budget, but we may, from time to time, offer the opportunity to donate particular food items which are best used by the ministry. If you would like to know more about Just Soup, please contact Elizabeth Bindschandler by email at egordon123@aol.com or by phone at (369) 775-5867.

Homeless Shelter: St. Paul's participates once each year in the homeless shelter,, held at the American Legion Hall, through the gift of meals and overnight presence. In 2018, we are responsible for the week of January 14-20. The biggest challenge is getting volunteers for the overnight shift. Joanne Rittmueller will be calling for volunteers to support this wonderful ministry. If you would like more information about the Shelter, please contact Joanne by email at ritt22@msn.com or by phone at (208) 989-8122.

Food Bank: The Jefferson County Food Bank in Port Townsend provides perishable and non-perishable food, as well as other needed personal items, in our community. We have contacted the Food Bank and learned that their greatest need at this time is women's personal hygiene products, specifically tampons. In the near future, we will be having a special invitation for you to bring those products to St. Paul's so we can provide them to the Food Bank. Look for more information soon! Please contact Lani Hubbard by email at deaconlani@me.com or by phone at (865)621-4809 for more information about the Food Bank ministry.

ECHHO: ECHHO is a non-profit organization that works in partnership with volunteers and community organizations of Jefferson County to provide transportation, chores, social support and medical equipment services to persons who are elderly, disabled or of limited means so that they may continue to live independently. There is always a need for volunteers at ECHHO. Please contact Lani by email at deaconlani@me.com or by phone at (865)621-4809 for more information about ECHHO.

Blessings in a Bag: This is an opportunity to provide small bags of snacks, etc. to give to the homeless who solicit in the parking lots or on the street corners. Following the Sunday service on a designated Sunday, members of the congregation come together to fill small paper bags with non-perishable food to give to those who need a little blessing. The food can include a bottle of water, granola bar, fruit and vegetables in an easy open can, spoon, etc. along with a note of love and care from St. Paul's. Members then take a bag or two and have the bag ready to give to someone who needs a blessing. This ministry is in its formative stage. You will hear more but it in the near future. Val Johnsone has offered to organize Blessings in a Bag. She can be reached by email at valjohnstone@aol.com or by phone at (360) 385-2830.

YMCA Summer Program: Peggy St. Clair will advertise and coordinate the opportunity to volunteer to prepare meals and provide other volunteer support services for children this summer in the community through the YMCA. The activities begin on June 26th. For more information about this opportunity, please contact Peggy by email at peginpt@hotmail.com or by phone at (360) 379-1455.

The Outreach Ministry also discussed ways in which we can survey members of the congregation to understand the gifts and skills that may be offered for ministry as a part of our stewardship. We hope to have a Ministry Fair to provide information about and invitation to the many ministries of our wonderful St. Paul's Church.