**Stewardship Article for November Newsletter**

Thanks to the generosity of  members of the congregation, we were able to deliver 231 pounds of food to accompany a Thanksgiving meal for families being served by ACTS, along with funds to provide those families with vouchers to purchase turkeys. What a wonderful testimony to the love of God and the power and impact of generous and grateful hearts! We still have an opportunity to make Thanksgiving time a blessing to others as we collect more dinner items and help provide those and funds for turkeys to several families at Neabsco Elementary. Daniel Owusu and I had a chance to visit with counselor Jennifer Brooks at the school recently and she noted how much our partnership and ministry with the school has meant to them, and how much our prayers are appreciated as well. These ministries are part of what God is doing as we open our hearts and lives to connecting with others and showing gracious hospitality and will be part of what we celebrate at the **LCOC Gratitude Brunch on November 18th** between services. We do indeed have so much to be thankful for and the Action team that is planning this event is looking forward to seeing ALL of you along with friends and guests that day. We have a Thrivent Action Team grant for the main entrees and set up, and are looking forward to sharing all the delicious side dishes that you will bring-no better food around than that of the LCOC family. **Please sign up in the narthex** and join in this time of gratitude and celebration. For every effort you make and every service you provide and every connection you make, the Lord will bless many-fold.

 As we give thanks for an awesome time at Octoberfest where a great time was had by all who attended and $2000 was raised towards our Rise Against Hunger meal packing March 23, 2019 and mission trip to a storm damaged area in July, 2019, let's keep the momentum of service to God and all our neighbors. We will have the names, ages, and holiday wishes of area children for un-trim-a-tree very shortly and be preparing to welcome local families for Breakfast with Santa. The excitement will continue with holiday worship and celebration and move on into 2019-our 50th anniversary year! Please check your bulletins and enews regularly and join in as you are able. All of these are marvelous ways to share with others and grow in our talents, faith, and fellowship while providing opportunities to make new connections towards our goal of 50 new, actively engaged people at LCOC. People want to be part of something bigger and are often just waiting to be asked. Please be part of this! **Feel free to contact me or other council members about joining in a project-no one has to do it all, but as the old saying goes, “Many hands make light work.”**

 Please continue to share your gifts and talents as the Spirit leads in the variety of ministries provided through LCOC. Thank you also for your generosity in your financial commitment and consider using the Vanco option which can be accessed online at: <https://www.eservicepayments.com/cgi-bin/Vanco> if you haven’t already done so. Please consider becoming a Thrivent member as well and if you already are a member and use Thrivent products, make use of the Action Team funds that are available to help fund LCOC’s ministry projects. Even if you do not have Thrivent products such as insurance or investments, you can set up an Associate Membership for just $20 per year and become eligible for one Action Team. This seed money really makes a difference and helps us increase the scope of our service projects.

 

Let us continue to share our love and gifts and make new connections through the Holy Spirit every day, and everywhere we go.

With love,

Patti Beattie