

**Vice President of Human Care Report
Council of Lutheran Women Fall General Meeting
September 26, 2022**

The Human Care Committee shall educate and promote opportunities to serve and contribute to the betterment of those in need. The Committee serving CLW is:

Vice President of Human Care: Barbara Hoffmeier, St Paul, Northville	248.756.3035
Food Bank Coordinator: Ivy Thompson, St John, Detroit	313.300.4269
Operation Layette Coordinator: Pam Stasko, St Paul, Royal Oak	248.418.1152
Issues and Action Coordinator: Glory Drum, Huntington Woods Lutheran	248.763.7495
Mission Support Coordinator: Andrea Anderson, St Paul, St Claire Shores	619.708.9018

I. Food Banks of Metro-Detroit: Ivy Thompson

Food banks are a non-profit charitable organization that distributes food to those who have difficulty purchasing enough to avoid hunger. Some food banks operate on the front-line model giving out food directly to the hungry. Others operate on the warehouse model, supplying food to intermediaries like food pantries, soup kitchens and other front-line organizations. The world's first food bank was established in the US in 1967 but at Peace Lutheran, it began in the late 1980's and early 1990's. St. John Lutheran food bank began in 2009. At Peace, the outreach grew and is still growing.

Peace Lutheran Detroit Food Pantry

Good morning, Council of Lutheran Women: Over many years your generosity, care and kindness for people in the Morningside neighborhood, of Peace Lutheran Church, amazes me! We have been blessed to have you work with us for many years, as sponsors and supporters in our ministry, here at Peace. You have changed the lives of so many. Young people, teenagers, their families, (and strangers.) Our food pantry is small, but we manage every week to have food for forty families. Over the years you have provided, clothing for our Peace Clothing Closet, food for our Peace Food Pantry, toiletries, towels, hygiene items, money and more.

Thanks, CLW, may the grace and peace of our Lord be with each of you and your families...

Peace Lutheran Church, Food Pantry Coordinator

Birdia F. Hambright

Peace Lutheran Food Pantry (15700 E. Warren Ave., Detroit 48215) #313.882.3030

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church Food Bank

Driven by our core beliefs of sharing God's love, hunger is unacceptable. Meals can change lives and no family should be left to face food insecurity. The St. John Food Bank continues its effort of feeding the unemployed, working poor, elderly and challenged members of the St. John community. The St. John Food Bank serves an average of 50 – 60 families per distribution. Our numbers fluctuate based on the Headstart's school sessions and weather conditions on the day of our distribution. We provide recipients with healthy meal choices such as non-perishable goods, meat, fresh vegetables, fruits, breakfast items and a variety of snacks. Personal hygiene and care items are also provided when available. The next distribution is on Thursday, _____ from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Thank you for your continued support and partnering with our food ministry over the years.
 Editha D. Barnes, Chairperson
 St. John Lutheran Food Pantry - 4950 Oakman Blvd., Detroit, MI 48204

II. Operation Layette Coordinator: Pam Stasko

On June 2nd our faithful volunteers assembled 21 layettes which were donated to Image Clear Ultrasound and Luke Project 52 Clinic in Flint. Thank you to everyone who has supported Operation Layette with donations and assembly.

The fall assembly evening occurred Thursday evening, September 15, 2022. We met at 7:00 pm at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Royal Oak (202 E. 5th Street). Anyone with questions can email Pam Stasko at pam.stasko@gmail.com or call at 313- 418-1152.

Our supply of donations is currently very low. We are in need of the following: crib blankets; receiving blankets; cloth diapers; sleepers/gowns; wash cloths; socks; bottles (8 ounce and 4 ounce); We are happy to distribute both gently used and new items. Gender-neutral items offer the most flexibility to the programs who receive layettes. For clothing items, sizes 3 months thru 9 months are the most useful.

III. Issues and Action Coordinator: Glory Drum

ROE v. WADE OVERTURNED: The biggest news since our last meeting has been the historic overturning of Roe v. Wade. This has led to protests throughout the country, uncertainty of states' rights regarding abortions, and uncertainty for women who face this very private and difficult decision. Whatever you believe to be right, vote your beliefs in November as this will be a major issue on the candidates' platforms.

2022 ELECTIONS: Pray and Vote on November 8! Prior to elections you can provide non-partisan voter guides in your church. These will educate parishioners regarding the positions taken by candidates for various offices (in their own words and voting records) as well as certain ballot proposals. Voter guides provided by traditional values organizations such as Michigan Family Forum (michiganfamily.org), Citizens for Traditional Values (ctvmichigan.org) and various Right-to-Life organizations are helpful in educating your congregation. Voter registration drives can be held in churches too.

PRAY REGULARLY: Issues & Action urges all CLW churches to set up regular prayer times, Sunday mornings after church each week or monthly or biweekly. Timothy 2:1-3 says to pray for all those who are in authority over us. Pray for our nation, President, local government, military, pastors and staff, educators, and our churches.

THE LUTHERAN CENTER FOR RELIGIOUS LIBERTY (LCRL): Gregory Seltz, Executive Director, presents Champions for Religious Liberty Events. Go to <https://www.lcrlfreedom.org> to receive the LCRL "Word from the Center". Like the Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty on Facebook. LCRL provides input, education, advice, advocacy, and resources in the areas of life, marriage

and religious liberty and seeks to engage in discussions in Washington D.C., to establish partnerships and resources for the sake of our churches, schools, universities, and seminaries.

- They are in D.C. to be an ENCOURAGING support to those who are already working very hard on the Hill to protect our religious Liberty, to protect and promote the sanctity of life, to guard the basic protections for traditional marriage, to promote the value of private and parochial education.
- They are in D.C. to be an EDUCATIONAL resource for our Churches, Schools, Universities, pastors, and laypeople – Why? Because Christians more and more need to be prepared to engage public issues for the sake of the community and the Gospel
- They are in D.C. to be an ADVOCATE for our Churches, Schools, and Universities.... Why?

Because the government is encroaching more and more into the arena of the Church and its work, and Gods' people have a role not only in sharing the Gospel, but in helping society/culture in being humane, civil, and temporally justice. (Jeremiah 29:11ff)

CELEBRATE LIFE: hold a baby bottle drive, a diaper drive or baby shower for a Crisis Pregnancy Center in your area or for Lutherans for Life of Michigan. Baby Bottles can be distributed on one Sunday and collected on a Sunday about a month later.. Parishioners fill the bottles with cash or checks which support these worthy ministries, saving the lives of many babies.

IV. Mission Support Coordinator: Andrea Anderson

CLW supports these local ministries. Please visit our website for “Opportunities for Participation” where our mission partners and their requested needs are listed. www.clwmichigan.com

- **Camp Restore Detroit** (at Mt. Calvary Church) – Selected needs: gift cards (Lowe's, Menards, Home Depot, Sam's Club, Kroger. #586.764.2285 [www.detroit@camprestore.org](mailto:detroit@camprestore.org)
- **Elli's House** – Selected needs: travel size hygiene products for street outreach. See website for Amazon Wish List. #586.242.9280 www.ellishouse313.org
- **Family of God** – Selected needs: cleaning supplies, toilet paper, paper products for serving meals, plastic grocery bags. www.fogdetroit.com
- **Gift For All God's Children** – Selected needs: new warm clothing for all sizes of boys & girls, children's books, school supplies. #248.933.7472 www.giftsforallgodschildren.org
- **Lutheran Heritage Foundation** – See website to adopt projects. #800.554.0723 or #586.781.4286. www.lhfmissions.org
- **Lutheran Special Education Ministries** – See website for donations and Amazon Wish List for Teachers. #248.419.3390 www.luthsped.org
- **Lutheran Women's Missionary League Michigan District** – Collects MITES for mission grants. Donations can be made at www.lwmlmichigan.org
- **Lutheran World Relief** – Collects quilts and Kits of Care. See website for shipping to LWR Warehouse. www.lwr.org MI District collects items in October at different locations.
- **MOST Ministries** – Selected needs: eyeglasses, Ziploc bags (any size), and office supplies. #734.994.7909 www.mostministries.org

- **POBLO** – Selected needs: gas gift cards for missionaries and volunteers; gift cards from Walmart for supplies for their sewing centers. Call Cynthia or Joy #586.477.1530 www.poblo.org
- **St Martin Lutheran School for the Deaf** -
Contact: Pastor Brant Engel baecoach@comcast.net #248.980.5741
- **The Luke Clinic** – Selected needs: items for the clinic, Diaper bags & baby baths. See website for Amazon Wish List. #866.458.5352 www.lukeclinic.org
- **Wellspring Lutheran Services** – Selected needs: Disposable diapers, baby wipes, new backpacks. #844.467.3356 or #989.545.2947. www.wellspringlutheran.com **Lutheran Child and Family Auxiliaries** Chapters #2 and #18 contact Willie Marie Henry #313.418.2159.

IN-GATHERING AT CLW EVENTS:

Non-perishable food, eyeglasses, sunglasses, office supplies, paper products, towels, men's & women's underwear and socks, personal care items, and infant layette items are requested for CLW Operation Layette, supported food banks and affiliated auxiliaries. Financial contributions are welcome with a donation form available <http://www.clwmichigan.com/support-us/>

V. Vice President's Comments – Barbara Hoffmeier

- ORPHAN GRAIN TRAIN is our guest at today's meeting. Contact Rev. David Reed if you would like more information. #989.600.2264 pastordavereed@gmail.com They ship materials internationally from their warehouse in Sebawaing, Michigan and could use volunteers on Tuesday or Thursday's. Current needs: Medical Equipment and clothing.
- At the Executive Committee Meeting Monday, April 4, 2022, it was decided to split the donations between the two Food Banks proportionately as to their current activities. Peace Lutheran will receive 80% and St John will receive 20% due to the fact Peace serves 4 times a month and St John only once per month.
- A CLW Donation Form has been developed by Judy Sheperd to include designated funds to go to specific needs within the organization. That will now include Operation Layette and Detroit Food Banks in addition to the Seminarian / Deaconess Scholarships. Forms are available at the CLW website under "Support Us." It states...

If you would like to make a monetary contribution to support our Scholarship Program which provides assistance to seminarian and deaconess students or to support our Food Banks which supplies food to the Detroit area or Operation Layette which supports pregnant and new mothers in need, please use this form to make a donation. All gifts are deeply appreciated in any amount and all year round. Please use this form and return the form and your donation as indicated below: 1) Checks – Checks are to be made payable to Council of Lutheran Women. 2) Mail check to Treasurer Karen McClelland, 15450 18 Mile Road, Apt. 218, Clinton Township, MI 48038. 3) QUESTIONS – Contact Lucie Witte 586-775-4636 or wittedL50@yahoo.com.

The Council of Lutheran Women is a 501(C)(3) tax-exempt organization as recognized by the US Internal Revenue Service. No goods or services, in whole or part, were received in exchange for this contribution; therefore, the full value of your contribution is deductible for income tax purposes. A letter will be provided by the Council of Lutheran Women to the email address noted in order to express our gratitude and to comply with the rules and regulations promulgated by the Internal Revenue Service.