

# Covenant Community Missions

HIGHLIGHTING WAYS THAT OUR COVENANT COMMUNITY REACHES OUT TO THE LARGER COMMUNITY AROUND US

Welcome to the second edition of our new mission oriented Covenant communication. This monthly newsletter will highlight ways that our Covenant community reaches out to the larger community around us. This issue describes current activities at CAMT (Covenant Adult Mission Team) and the People's Pantry. We'd also like to highlight what missions individuals are passionate about and how they participate in them. We would love to learn about and feature your favorite mission. Please contact Milly Elrod at mtelrod@comcast.net to share your favorite mission.

## The People's Pantry at Church Road update

Our friends at the pantry are in the process of collecting school supplies & backpacks for 440 students in the Great Valley district, an increase of 220 students from last year. Two of the biggest needs are backpacks for Kindergarten and 1st graders (need 120) and backpacks for 6th, 9th and 11th grade students (need 97). Details on the needed items and drop off times can be found at <http://www.churchroadpantry.org> and on the flyer to left (click to print!) The highlighted weekly food items can also always be found at the pantry website. Help will be needed for the school supply distribution on Fri., Aug 14th from 4-7 p.m. and Sat., Aug 15th from 9 a.m. - noon. Watch for an email from the church office to sign up to help.

PEOPLE'S PANTRY AT CHURCH ROAD  
(a 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable organization)

HELP SUPPORT GREAT VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT STUDENTS

### SCHOOL SUPPLIES DRIVE

2020 BACKPACK & SCHOOL SUPPLIES COLLECTION

- Backpacks (middle & high school)
- colored pencils
- small glue sticks
- broadline washable markers
- highlighters
- pencil sharpeners, hand-held
- #2 Ticonderoga pencils
- pink pearl erasers (2-3")
- graph paper
- scissors, blunt and pointed
- index cards
- post it notes
- spiral notebooks, college & wide ruled
- plastic rulers

Our goal is to supply over 400 students with school supplies! Your help is appreciated!

DROP-OFF AT THE PEOPLE'S PANTRY  
384 LANCASTER AVE, MALVERN, PA  
TUESDAYS 10 AM - NOON  
AND  
SATURDAY, AUG. 15TH, 10 AM - NOON

## CAMT Updates

**Broad Street Ministry** – BSM has contacted us with a need for men's sturdy shoes and clothes especially jeans size 32-40. Anyone wishing to donate these may drop them at the People's Pantry on Tuesdays from 10-12. BSM has currently suspended having volunteers assist with the meals until at least August 31st. They are hoping that they will be able to include volunteers in the fall. Watch upcoming newsletters for updates.

**Rise Against Hunger event** – the Rise Against Hunger staff have reworked their protocols for meal packaging events so that the number of masked and gloved people in a unit is 10 and so that the workers can maintain distance from each other. We have begun looking into holding an event in our CCLC with less than 25 people on a Saturday this fall. We would ask that vulnerable populations and symptomatic people not attend. Anyone interested in attending please contact Barbara Rhinehart at [brhinehart@gmail.com](mailto:brhinehart@gmail.com). More information about Rise Against Hunger’s safety protocols can be found at <https://www.riseagainsthunger.org/eventsafety>. The event would also meet safety protocols put in place by Session and approved by Presbytery.

**Faith Ministry** – Our friends at Faith Ministry have sadly announced the death of beloved staff member and leader, Angel. In addition, Angel’s mother and grandmother have died and we pray for Luis (Angel’s family member and staff member) who is infected with the virus but feeling physically better. Several other staff members, Marisela, Ismael, and Emmanuel are doing well with virus recovery. FM reports that the medical system in the border region of Mexico is overwhelmed by its high number of coronavirus cases. Hospitals and private clinics are at capacity and tests are extremely limited. It is very difficult for anyone to receive medical attention right now in both Reynosa and Miguel Alemán. The medical clinic in Reynosa does not have access to



tests or to equipment like ventilators and remains closed, though Dr. Joaquin has been seeing some patients, including FM staff when needed. On the Texas side of the border, they are in a similar position with very little space at local hospitals and miles-long lines to get access to the limited tests.

FM reports “the saturation of the hospitals and lack of access to medical care in Mexico deeply concerns us, and we are doing what we can – we are helping financially for families that need it, we are urging everyone we know to take all the recommended precautions, and we are praying for our staff, our volunteers, and our community. We are asking God to watch over us all and guide us through this extremely difficult time. We will keep everyone posted, and we thank all of you for the support, prayers, and love.”

Because of the need for the training of additional people since Angel's passing and because the virus is not under control in Mexico, Faith Ministry has cancelled our tentatively scheduled visit in September. They are hoping by early spring that groups will be able to visit again. Please keep Faith Ministry and the people of Mexico in your prayers.

