

Beyond These Walls

Opportunities for Outreach at ST. JOHN'S



We at St. John's reach out to our brothers and sisters in Christ with emphasis on the hungry, the homeless, and those in poverty.

St. John's has a rich history of service. For over 60 years we have served the poor and needy in the community of Charlotte, the state of North Carolina, other states hit by hurricanes and floods, Costa Rica and Africa. The ever-changing opportunities at St. John's allow the parishioners to respond to crises and needs.

There are many opportunities to serve. You are invited to get involved and help support these ministries at Saint John's.

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Charlotte Family Housing

Ministry Focus: Families Experiencing Homelessness

Charlotte Family Housing (CFH) is a shelter-to-housing program for families experiencing homelessness. Their mission is to empower working families to achieve long-term self-sufficiency through shelter, housing, supportive services, and advocacy. They help families achieve measurable and lasting change with a focus on dignity, self-esteem, and long term stability.

Charlotte Family Housing's Three Key Strategies:

1. **Housing** - CFH addresses the immediate need by sheltering working families experiencing homelessness in one of two facilities in Charlotte. From there, they help families forge a path back to stability by providing wraparound support, housing coordination, and short-term rental assistance. Families move from shelter into housing where they receive 1-3 years of rental assistance of supportive services.
2. **Partnership & Counseling** - CFH partners with their families on the path to upward economic mobility by helping them identify and overcome the barriers they face. Through a network of over 30 nonprofit and corporate partnerships, they equip families with the tools and skills they need to meet their goals. Through CFH's signature groups called Hope Teams, volunteers partner with client families, providing social capital, friendship, and encouragement.
3. **Empowering Tools** - CFH offers matched savings accounts, educational scholarships, access to discounted holiday shopping through their Jubilee store, and assistance with transportation needs. They also implement a Two-Generational (2Gen) Approach to equip their parents and children with needed skills to achieve upward economic mobility. They provide youth enrichment programs and access to resources that build academic and life skills. With a focus on creating a cycle of generational success, their goal is to provide opportunity and inspiration to youth of all ages.

Opportunity to Serve: St. John's Parishioners can serve in a variety of ways:

1. **Serve on a Hope Team:** Hope Teams partner with a CFH family to provide love, encouragement and hope on their path to long-term success and self-sufficiency.
2. **Shelter beautification activities,** including painting, landscaping, and deep cleaning.
3. **Happy Home Bucket Collection and Assembly:** Volunteers can collect and assemble buckets filled with cleaning supplies and items to help families maintain and settle into their new home.
4. **Welcome Home Basket Collection and Assembly:** Volunteers can collect and assemble baskets filled with linens, pillows, towels, and more to help give families entering CFH shelter facilities a new start.
5. **Share professional talents** like graphic design assistance, creating calendars, preparing reports, writing press releases, taking photos, or helping with special events.,
6. **Be a volunteer resident adviser:** CFH's resident advisers meet every other Monday as a team, 6:30-8:15 PM. Volunteers are invited to serve as volunteer resident advisers at Hawthorne Place while the RA staff meets. This is a great opportunity to serve as a welcoming face in our shelter and get to know our families. Training is provided on site.
7. **Provide onsite childcare** during a parent workshop. Throughout the year, CFH parents participate in workshops that help prepare them for their lives after graduating from CFH programs. Providing childcare allows more CFH families to participate in these important opportunities. Opportunities to serve take place on Tuesday evenings and Saturday and Sunday afternoons.

Primary Contact Person: Ryan Shine

Crisis Assistance Ministries

Ministry Focus: Families in Need



Crisis Assistance Ministries aids people in need including emergency help with household items, clothing, utilities, rent, medical treatment, and food, as well as job placement assistance. Volunteers from St. John's meet at the church parking lot the second Tuesday of each month and carpool to the headquarters. There donations of clothing, home goods, books, electronics, school supplies and furniture are sorted. St. Johns provides donation barrels throughout the church. Additionally, volunteers can conduct client interviews to prepare for assistance reviews.

Agencies we support in this Ministry: Crisis Assistance

Opportunity to Serve: Parishioners can serve in a variety of ways:

- Participate in twice monthly sorting activities at St. John's
- Organize church sponsored donation drive of needed items
- Provide volunteer hours to the Crisis Assistance organization

Primary Contact Person: Kay Norwood

Galilee Ministries of East Charlotte

Ministry Focus: Families in Need



Galilee Ministries of East Charlotte is a venture of the Diocese of North Carolina that provides a welcoming place of learning, service and fellowship on the east side of Charlotte. The Galilee Center serves as a meeting place for refugees, immigrants, and other residents of the community, and hosts a variety of non-profit agencies. Services provided include:

- Classes, including English, citizenship, and life skills
- After-school programs
- Loaves and Fishes food pantry and gleaned vegetables
- Cross-cultural counseling
- A free community lunch every Wednesday
- Several prayer groups and a multi-faith spirituality center

St. Johns parishioners volunteer in all capacities. Additionally, the ECW women host a quarterly Ladies Tea for the refugee community with a program of topics designed to help the refugee women understand their new home in the Charlotte area.

Agencies we support in this ministry: Galilee Ministries of East Charlotte, Refugee Support Services, Central Piedmont Community College (ESL and Citizenship classes), Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry, Catholic Charities, Charlotte Community Kitchen, St. Andrews Gleaners, Cross Cultural Counseling Center.

Opportunities to Serve: Hospitality hosts, cleaning and general maintenance opportunities, volunteer with Loaves and Fishes food pantry, volunteer as helper/problem solver with Refugee Support Services help center, food prep, serving and clean-up at Charlotte Community Kitchen's weekly lunch.

Primary Contact Person: Margaret Errington

Hagar's Basket

Ministry Focus: Families in Need



Hagar's Basket was originally conceived as a way to help reduce absenteeism in our local schools by affording families access to basic hygiene supplies. Many of our families are referred to us by their schools, primarily Billingsville and Rama Road Elementary Schools and McClintock Middle Schools. The pantry stocks laundry detergent, toilet tissue, deodorant, shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste, toothbrushes, shaving supplies, lotion, soap, feminine hygiene pads, diapers and wipes. Hagar's Basket welcomes families of all ages on the third Wednesday of each month between 1:00 and 5:00.

Donated items are collected in bins located at entrances to the church. Throughout the month communications are sent to the congregation identifying specific needs for donations. Additionally, monetary donations are welcome.

Opportunities to serve:

- Provide donations of supplies or funds
- Help find corporate sponsors
- Volunteers to help collect, sort and stock the shelves throughout the month
- Volunteers to staff the pantry from 1 to 5 p.m. during distribution days

Primary Contact Person: Laura McGinley

Kanuga Kids at Camp Bob

Ministry Focus: Families in Need



For 24 years children from Charlotte who face challenges, obstacles and despair in their daily lives are transported, through our generosity, to a safe and holy place of Christian love, fun and growth. Camp Bob and the Kanuga Kids program is square in the middle of our outreach focus on Children, Poverty and Hunger and the longevity and success of the program is a testament to our parish's ongoing commitment to its mission.

Outreach at St. John's not only transforms the lives of those that we serve but in so doing, it transforms us as well. We see firsthand the power of faith, the power of God's love and the transformative power of nature. We sponsor 100 to 120 children each summer.

Agencies we support in this Ministry: Greater Enrichment Program, Charlotte Family Housing

Opportunity to Serve: St. John's Parishioners can serve in a variety of ways:

- Serve as a Camp Volunteer during a week in July from Monday at 12 noon until Friday at 12 Noon at Camp Bob in Hendersonville, NC on the grounds of the Kanuga Conference Center.
- Serve as a "relief pitcher" during the week and support the volunteers for an hour a day or for a full day or two. Camp volunteers and relief pitchers must be college age or above. (Rare exceptions are granted with interview.)
- Work on the lunch prep crew on the Sunday before camp to prepare lunches for the campers
- Prayer and Financial support

Primary Contact Person: Ken Loeber

Loaves & Fishes

Ministry Focus: Hunger and Homelessness



Loaves & Fishes is a non-profit emergency food program which provides a week's worth of nutritionally-balanced groceries as well as hygiene products to individuals and families in short-term crisis. Its mission is to provide a "hand-up" in a crisis, not a "hand-out" which fosters dependency as a regular food source. Loaves & Fishes responds to the needs of the community via a system of 35 pantries located throughout Mecklenburg County.

Agencies we support in the Ministry: Loaves & Fishes

Opportunity to Serve: Parishioners can serve in a variety of ways:

- Weekly Donations of Food - Assist in the collection/transportation of the weekly-donated food to the pantry at Galilee Ministries
- Pantry Staffing – Volunteer staff the pantry at Galilee Ministries from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, and from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm on Tuesdays. St. Johns is primarily responsible on the 4th Thursday of each month. Volunteers stock the pantry shelves, accompany clients shopping for their choice of food, assist the clients in loading their cars as needed, and provide comfort and prayer support if requested.

Primary Contact Person: Debbie Stoudenmire

The Lunch Project/ Fill the Bowl

Ministry Focus: Hunger & Empathy



The Lunch Project (TLP) is a Charlotte based non-profit dedicated to providing lunch to children in five primary schools in Arusha, Tanzania. TLP has created and manages a grass-roots, sustainable program which employs mothers and fathers to prepare corn porridge for the children's lunch, contracts with local farmers to grow the corn and a local mill to grind the corn. The founders of TLP worked with local officials to solve a simple problem: keeping children alert and studying to advance to High School. Over 4,000 children receive lunch each school day at 5 Arusha area primary schools and graduation rates have more than doubled. TLP has also pioneered an education program for children in the U.S. teaching Empathy Education to elementary children in schools and churches in order to share the values of caring and service.

The Lunch Project partners with the youth of St. John's by sponsoring Fill the Bowl, an annual youth event to raise funds for The Lunch Project. For this event, middle and high school youth raise funds, fast for 30 or 40 hours and camp out in a cardboard tent city on church grounds.

The Lunch Project also hosts an 11-day trip to Tanzania every other year, open to high school youth and parishioners to visit the Arusha Schools and go on memorable safaris.

Opportunity to Serve: Parishioners can serve in a variety of ways:

- Participate in fund raising events including Giving Tuesday and Fill the Bowl
- Host a TLP ambassador to present the Empathy Education program in your school or place of business
- Volunteer during the Fill the Bowl event as a youth chaperone

Primary Contact Person: Sarah Brock Rhodes

Men's Shelter of Charlotte

(Merging with Urban Ministries Room in the Inn in 2019)

Ministry Focus: Hunger & Homelessness



Serving Dinner at the Men's Shelter: For over 25 years, members of St. John's have served dinner to up to 225 men on the second Saturday of every other month.

St. John's provides the dinner's main course, which is food set aside from the Wednesday night suppers, plus salad and vegetables. The Ministry Team prepares the remainder of the dinner at the Men's Shelter the afternoon of the dinner. Team members start food preparation at 4:15 pm at the Men's Shelter, serve dinner at 6:00 pm and leave around 7:00 pm (with men from the Men's Shelter taking care of clean up).

Souper Bowl Party at St. John's: For the last 5 years, St. John's has hosted a Souper Bowl Party for men from the Men's Shelter. The men are transported to the church, judge a Chili Contest from parishioner's homemade chili, have dinner, and watch the Super Bowl. Parishioners have a chance to eat dinner and chat with the men while the football game is being played.

Agencies we support in this Ministry: None other than the Men's Shelter of Charlotte

Opportunity to Serve: St. John's Parishioners can serve in a variety of ways:

- Dinner at the Men's Shelter
 - Complete preparation/serve dinner at the Men's Shelter
 - Drive food from SJE to the Men's Shelter before the Saturday night dinner
 - Pick up food supplies at BJ's (paid for by SJE) before the Saturday night dinner
- Souper Bowl Party
 - Parishioner can participate in any or all of the following--transport men from the Men's Shelter to SJE by driving the St. John's bus, set up tables, prepare food, serve food/eat/watch Super Bowl with the men and clean up

Primary Contact Person: Men's Shelter Dinners: Tim Comin
Souper Bowl Party: John Patrick

Merry Oaks Elementary School/ Win Robinson Giving Tree

Ministry Focus: Hunger & Homelessness, Families in Need



St. John's partners with Communities in Schools (CIS), an agency of Children & Family Services which is a 501c3 organization that provides critical assistance to Title 1 schools. St. John's supports Merry Oaks Elementary School in East Charlotte by providing new backpacks and school supplies, preparing a back to school supper, the Christmas giving tree, and clothing drives. They also support teachers with Teacher Appreciation breakfasts.

The congregation is especially supportive of the annual Win Robinson Giving Tree. For many years, Win Robinson managed and coordinated the Salvation Army Angel Tree Program at St. John's. Following his passing in 2018, St. John's parishioners turned the focus of their generosity to the children of Merry Oaks Elementary School. Parishioners select a child's tag from the Christmas tree, purchase gifts, wrap them and put them under the tree. Parishioners carry the presents to Merry Oaks for delivery to the children at a Christmas party, complete with snacks, music and a visit from Santa Claus.

Opportunity to Serve: St. John's Parishioners can serve in a variety of ways:

- Contribute baked goods to teacher breakfasts
- Donate back-to-school items in the fall
- Donate Christmas gifts, help sort, wrap and deliver them, assist at the Christmas party
- Donate clothing
- Volunteer as a Lunch Buddy or reading mentor

Primary Contacts: Melissa Conway and Margaret Errington

Urban Ministries/ Room in the Inn

(Merging with Men's Shelter of Charlotte in 2019)

Ministry Focus: Hunger & Homelessness



Housing the Homeless: For many years, St. John's has provided housing to 12 homeless neighbors from the Urban Ministry Center (UMC). As part of the Room in the Inn program, St. John's hosts homeless guests every Thursday night December through March.

The guests are provided overnight lodging, laundry service, dinner, a bag lunch for the next day and transportation back to the main Central Bus Terminal on Friday morning. Teams of adult volunteers from St. John's provide the transportation, food, and serve as overnight hosts. The youth from EYC assist the ministry by taking the guests' laundry to a local Laundromat and washing their clothes while the guests are having dinner. (merging with Charlotte Men's Shelter in 2019)

Agencies we support in this Ministry: Urban Ministry Center

Opportunity to Serve: St. John's Parishioners can serve in a variety of ways:

- **Van Drivers** - Transport our guests from UMC to St. John's Thursday afternoon and to the Transit Center uptown Friday morning. Drivers leave the church Thursday afternoon between 4:30pm and 4:45pm and Friday morning between 6:00am and 6:15am.
- **Room Set-Up** – Teams of 2 set up the beds for our guests Thursday afternoon 2:00pm to 5:00pm.
- **Meal Servers** – In teams of 2, St. John's families plan, provide, prepare and serve a hot meal to our guests to ensure they are well fed while in our care. Those serving dinner arrive at the church between 5:15pm and 5:30pm, serve dinner between 6:15pm and 6:30pm, and then clean up.
- **Lunch Preparers** – 12 individually bagged lunches are prepared and given to our guests Friday morning. The lunches are brought to the church on Thursday afternoon 4:00pm to 7:00pm.
- **Overnight Hosts** – Spend the night hosting our guests to make sure they have a safe and restful evening. Hosts arrive Thursday afternoon by 5:30 in time to greet our guests, coordinate getting the guests' laundry to the youth and escort the guests to dinner. Hosts wake up the guests Friday morning at 5:30 and coordinate guests' breakfast and departure.
- **Laundry for guests** – During dinner, St. John's EYC takes guests' laundry to a local Laundromat.
- **Linen Laundry** – Friday morning between 7:30am and 11:30am, a volunteer picks up the linens and towels used by our guests. Clean laundry is returned to Room 125 by the following Tuesday.

Primary Contact Person: Carol Fortenberry and Janice Stafford

ST. JOHN'S OUTREACH CONTACTS

<u>St. Johns Outreach Ministries</u>	<u>Primary Contact</u>	<u>Secondary Contact</u>
<p>Charlotte Family Housing CFH is a shelter-to-housing program for homeless families. Members of St. John's, in partnership with other churches and organizations, provide meals, overnight hosts, childcare, and Hope Teams for families transitioning to permanent housing.</p>	Ryan Shine	Scott Sanniota
<p>Crisis Assistance Ministries Parishioners volunteer at CAM to aid people in need of emergency help with household items, clothing, utilities, rent, medical treatment, and food, as well as job placement assistance.</p>	Kay Norwood	tbd
<p>Galilee Ministries of East Charlotte Parishioners volunteer at Galilee Ministries, a venture of the Diocese of NC that hosts several non-profit agencies to provide a welcoming place of learning, service and fellowship for refugees, immigrants, and other residents of the community.</p>	Margaret Errington	Rhett Leake
<p>Hagar's Basket A ministry of St. John's that offers hygiene products to families in need. Items collected from parishioners include household and personal hygiene items which are then distributed monthly from the pantry.</p>	Laura McGinley	Michelle Sellers
<p>Kanuga Kids at Camp Bob Every summer St. John's sponsors 100-120 children to attend Camp Bob and the Kanuga Kids program. In addition to providing financial sponsorship, volunteers serve for the full week as a counselor or as a relief-pitcher during the week.</p>	Ken Loeber	tbd
<p>Loaves & Fishes Loaves & Fishes is a non-profit emergency food program which provides groceries and hygiene products to individuals and families in short-term crisis. Parishioners volunteer at the pantries and provide donations via collection barrels.</p>	Debbie Stoudenmire	tbd
<p>Men's Shelter of Charlotte Members of St. John's cook and serve dinner for to up to 225 men on the second Saturday of every other month. Additionally, St. John's hosts an annual Super Bowl Chili party for the men.</p>	Tim Comin	Stew McGough
<p>Merry Oaks Elementary School The ECW partners with Communities in Schools (CIS), an agency of Children & Family Services, to support Merry Oaks in numerous ways, including a backpack and school supplies drive, a Back to School supper, the Win Robinson Christmas giving tree, and clothing drives.</p>	Melissa Conway	Margaret Errington
<p>The Lunch Project TLP is a Charlotte based non-profit dedicated to providing lunch to children in five primary schools in Arusha, Tanzania. The youth of St. John's support TLP by sponsoring Fill The Bowl, an annual fund-raising event where they fast for 36 hours and camp out in a cardboard tent city on church grounds.</p>	Sarah Brock Rhodes	Rebecca Wofford
<p>Urban Ministries (Room in the Inn) St. John's hosts 12 homeless guests every Thursday night December through March, providing overnight lodging, laundry service, dinner, a bag lunch for the next day and transportation back to the main Central Bus Terminal on Friday morning. The EYC youth participate by taking guests laundry to a local Laundromat and wash their clothes during dinner.</p>	Carol Fortenberry	Janice Stafford