

# Missions

## at North Congregational Church

Our Benevolences and Volunteers at work **Locally**

### **In Farmington/Farmington Hills:**

- **Adopt a Family** - We support several families for the Christmas holiday providing much more than the required one new toy and one new outfit for each child in the family as well as a special Christmas dinner for the family.
- **Camp Restore, Detroit** - Camp Restore Detroit partners with community groups and families in Detroit's Ninth Precinct to improve their homes and living situations, remove blight and environmental hazards, and provide human care for those in need.
- **C.A.R.E.S of Farmington Hills** – Community. Action. Resources. Empowerment. Services. = C.A.R.E.S., these important principles and ideals are the cornerstones of sustainable, workable and healthy. From birth to death, every Human Being deserves the right to access all that Life can provide. Food. Shelter. Education. Safety. Stability. Encouragement. Resources. Guidance. Love. Respect. Kindness. And Care.
- **Farmington/Farmington Hills Foundation for Youth and Families** – Provides financial support as well as backpacks for kids filled with food for the entire family for the weekend.
- **Farmington/Farmington Hills Meals on Wheels** – Operates out of the Costick Center serving meals to the elderly, infirm and others in their homes.
- **Farmington Area Support Team (FAST)** – Works to create a resource network for the Farmington Public Schools staff to use in meeting the needs of its homeless students and their families.
- **Farmington YMCA** – Provides financial assistance for summer camp, sports and wellness programs for all ages, and social interaction for seniors.
- **Minister's Discretionary Fund** – Provides financial assistance for special and confidential needs for church members and people of the community.
- **Multi-Cultural and Multi-Racial Community Council of Farmington and Farmington Hills** - Works to assure that all residents of our communities enjoy an harmonious, healthy environment and that they feel welcome and comfortable in their cities, schools, and neighborhoods. The Council is dedicated to promoting community awareness and acceptance of diversity among its citizens.
- **Neighborhood House** – Assists clients by connecting them to available aid.
- **Source of Universal Love (SOUL)** – Provides food, clothing, education, resource research, household goods, furniture, care counseling, transportation, comfort and compassion to enable clients to return to self-sustaining status.

### **In Metropolitan Detroit:**

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- **Capuchin Community Center** – Assists with pantry packs, clothing, furniture and appliances.
- **Cass Corridor Community Services** - The Detroit-based agency works across the City in areas of concentrated poverty providing programs for food, health, housing and jobs.
- **Common Ground** – Provides a lifeline for individuals and families in crisis.
- **Crossroads** – A social outreach agency that partners with other agencies to meet immediate emergency needs as well as assess individual situations to lessen the likelihood of future problems. North Church volunteers two Sundays per year, purchasing and preparing the soup kitchen's meal for several hundred clients.
- **Ecumenical Theological Seminary** – Provides education for ministry that integrates theology with practice and faith with social responsibility.
- **Focus Hope** – Local branch of a nationally recognized civil and human rights organization which provides food and job training in their quest to fight racism, poverty and injustice.
- **Haven** – Provides innovative programs promoting violence-free homes and communities through treatment and prevention services.
- **Lighthouse of Oakland County** - Lighthouse is the single largest nonprofit provider of emergency food and housing to low-income families in Oakland County.
- **Meals for Shut-ins, Detroit** – Operating from First Congregational Church in Detroit, this program delivers lunch to the elderly and handicapped.
- **Michigan Roundtable for Diversity & Inclusion** – Strives to build relationships that create social justice and build sustainable inclusive communities. Addresses inequity throughout our region through a process of recognition, reconciliation and renewal.
- **Salvation Army** - Its mission is to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ and to meet human needs in His name without discrimination.
- **Samaritan Counseling Center** – Operating out of North Church, and several other locations, provides professional therapeutic counseling and educational services to anyone seeking emotional and spiritual wholeness.
- **South Oakland Shelter** - Works with a diverse range of people struggling with homelessness, including first-time homeless individuals and families, the chronically homeless, veterans, domestic violence victims, and people battling substance abuse, mental health issues, and frequently both.

#### Our Benevolences and Volunteers at work **Nationally**

- **Congregational Library** – Located on Beacon Hill in Boston, it serves all Congregational churches, ministers and members. It has the most complete collection of materials on Congregationalism to be found anywhere in the world.
- **Methodist Theological School in Ohio** – Provides a vibrant learning environment for the preparation of skilled, passionate transformational leaders

for churches, religious institutions, emerging faith communities and the wider world.

- **National Association of Congregational Christian Churches (NACCC) Congregational Leadership training, education, development and support, including:**
  - Branching Out Campaign
  - Congregational Church Development
  - Congregational Foundation for Theological Studies
  - Christmas Fund
  - Center for Congregational Leadership
- **NACCC Missionary Society** - The Missionary Society strives to select projects that are distinctively Christian and distinctively Congregational.
- **NACCC National Missions** - NACCC domestic missions are holistic, ministering to the needs of the whole person – spiritual, physical and relational. These goals are met by providing education and training as a means to improving impoverished lifestyles, thrift stores, school supplies, vacation Bible school, scholarships, literacy classes, medical and spiritual care by boat, personal hygiene items, food, clothing, financial help with utility bills, and home repairs.
  - Indian Trails Mission, Arizona
  - Bread of Life Christian Mission, Florida
  - Piney Woods School, Mississippi
  - Seafarer’s Friend, Massachusetts
  - Morgan Scott Project, Tennessee
- **NACCC One Great Hour of Sharing** -- an ecumenical effort to provide for emergency needs of people struck by disasters – floods, earthquakes, hurricanes, fires, and terrorism.
- **Olivet College** – Founded in 1844, believing that the “future of humanity rests in the hands, hearts and minds of those who will accept responsibility for themselves and others in an increasingly diverse society. Students are involved in an active academic community that cherishes diversity of thought and expression. In so doing, they will help students discover ways they can most effectively contribute to the common good.”
- **SBP (St. Bernard Project)** – Direct assistance to our members who travel on the Southeast Michigan Association of Congregational Churches annual mission trip to Louisiana to help rebuild areas devastated by hurricanes and flooding.
- **Starr Commonwealth** - Internationally recognized as a leader in transformational programs for children, families, schools and communities. Starr’s philosophy is rooted in seeing something good in every child. Starr offers a full spectrum of early intervention and prevention services along with specialized residential programs. Starr centers in Michigan are located in Albion, Battle Creek and Detroit.

Our Benevolences and Volunteers at work **Internationally**

- **Casa Colibri** - Committed to helping the Mayan people of northwest Guatemala improve their lives through programs in health, education, and related infrastructure.
- **Days for Girls** - Dedicated to creating a more free, dignified, and educated world, through providing lasting access to feminine hygiene solutions and health education.
- **Habitat for Humanity International** – A “Christian housing ministry”, Habitat provides economically-built and funded housing so that everyone has a decent place to live. Habitat homeowners gain self-respect as they work alongside volunteers to construct their homes.
- **Mission Mazahua (Mexico)**: Ministers to the Mazahua Indians, an indigenous people who have historically been subservient to and dependent upon other groups. The goal of the mission is to “address the needs of the whole person by seeking to touch the social, physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual aspects of a person’s life.”
- **NACCC International Missions** - NACCC Missions are holistic, ministering to the needs of the whole person – spiritual, physical and relational. All are led by natives to the area, giving them an advantage in knowing the language and culture, saving money in specialized training and travel. Native missionaries work side-by-side with the people, giving them the skills and tools for self-sufficiency.
  - Asociacion Civil Cristiana Congregational, Argentina
  - Word Alive, Ghana
  - Ministerio Vida Hospital, Honduras
  - Travancore Church Council, India
  - Pilgrim's Presence, Kenya
  - Mission Mazahua, Mexico
  - Panamerican Institute, Mexico
  - Congregational Church of Myanmar, Myanmar
  - Christ to the Villages, Nigeria
  - Christian Mission in the Far East (CMFEI), Philippines
- **National Association of Congregational Churches Missionary Society**  
The Missionary Society strives to select projects that are distinctively Christian and distinctively Congregational. Currently, missionaries in ten countries are receiving our support.