

# Presbyterian Church of Seffner



*A Community at Work*

*Mission Opportunities*

## **WELCOME**

We hope you will join us in the efforts of helping make better our community and communities impacted by the ministries listed in this brochure, our hope for you is that you will find renewed life, health and strength in God. We are glad that you have heard God's call to come and help, and that you have chosen to do so with this congregation. If you do not have a church home in this area, we invite you to join with us as we seek to serve Christ and live as His disciples. For more information about how you may assist in any of the enclosed ministries, our in joining with this congregation in membership, please contact the church office.

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## ONGOING MINISTRIES THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

### MEALS ON WHEELS

This weekly ministry gathers every Wednesday to cook and provide a healthy, well rounded meal for people who have signed up on the program who may be disabled or elderly. The volunteers who make the food give consideration to needs for those whom they serve, such as diabetics. The drivers, volunteer their time, car, and gas to make the deliveries around the community. This special ministry provided more than just a meal, it provided a connection to the outside world for many of the recipients.

For more information about this ministry and how you may help, contact Anne Wheeler, 813-689-3044 or Janet Holzman, 813-681-2548, or the church office.

### BLOOD DRIVE

On the months with a 5th Sunday, the congregation is given the opportunity to donate blood. This gift of life will help in the efforts to maintain the supply of blood and plasma for the local blood bank.

### 3 CENTS-A-MEAL

This special offering is received on a quarterly basis. One third of the offering goes to local mission, one third goes to national missions and one third goes to international mission outreach to help fight hunger.

### THORNWELL HOME FOR CHILDREN

A special offering is received quarterly to help support Thornwell.

Located in Clinton, S.C., this Presbyterian home relies on private funding rather than government grants to provide housing for abused, ignored or traumatized children.

This ministry to children was established by Dr. Jacob over 125 years ago.

## HEIFER INTERNATIONAL

On a quarterly basis this special offering is received for Heifer International.

Since 1944, Heifer and its supporters have helped millions of people in more than 128 countries move toward greater self-reliance through livestock, training and "Passing of the Gift". Hungry families from Appalachia to Zambia use Heifer livestock and training to alleviate hunger and poverty, which help them become more self-reliant for food and income. Each recipient promised to pass on offspring of their gift animal to another in the community.

## LOCAL MISSION OUTREACH

This monthly outreach assists T.H.O.R.N., Thankfully Helping Others' Real Needs ministry, with providing meals and life necessities for the homeless in the Tampa Bay area.

Adults, youth and young people of our congregation to serve once a month with providing a meal to about 200-300 homeless people. Other items provided during these visits with them are collected by the congregation: Prescription bottles and film cases, plastic grocery bags, good usable clothing, shoes, jackets, hats, gloves, and blankets. We also have underwear/sock Sunday during the month of January to collect new items. In addition to the socks and underwear, we ask people to purchase and donate items such as shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrushes, washcloths, hand soap, disposable razors and other hygiene products. For information contact Janet Holzman at 813-2548 or the church office at 813-689-4412.

## I AM HOPE CAFÉ

This is a monthly outreach ministry that gives everyone in our congregation an opportunity to serve the needy and homeless in the local area. Meals prepared and provided through Metropolitan Ministries are served by church volunteers every fourth Monday of the month. Volunteers are needed to pick up the food by 3:00 pm and delivered to the Mango Baptist Church.

Donations of cans of fruit, desserts and breads are needed each time we

serve. About 5-6 volunteers are needed to serve the meals, clean up and provided a warm welcome to those who come for a meal.

Serving hours are from 5 pm until 7pm. For additional information contact Nancy Mason at 813-681-4717 or 813-390-2448 .

## **KAIROS PRISON MINISTRY**

The purpose of Kairos is to build a Christian community within the confines of the prisons that participate. Their mission is to bring Christ's love and forgiveness to all incarcerated individuals, their families, those who work with them, and to assist the incarcerated in becoming productive citizens. The Florida Dept. of Corrections found recidivism dropped by 57% in those who participated in a Kairos weekend and remained active in the program.

Kairos Prison Ministries International began in the 1940s, and was officially established under the name Kairos in 1979. It is an outgrowth of Cursillo, Walk to Emmaus, and Tres Dias. The ministry is ecumenical. Volunteers come from many denominations, but share only the principles that all share in common. Kairos leadership is drawn from both lay persons and clergy. 100% of the work is done by over 30,000 volunteers all over the world.

How can you participate?

1. Become a volunteer who goes inside the prison for a 4 day mission.
2. Be a part of the outside team. Assist by cooking meals for the inmates, inside team and guards, or delivering food to the prison. Come for the whole weekend, a day, or for a few hours.
3. Prepare meals for the weekly team training meetings that precede the inside mission.
4. Donate store bought cookies, snack packs of chips, nuts, granola bar or candy bars that are served to the inmates during the 4 day mission. Sugar free items are always welcomed by diabetic inmates.
5. Prayer Support. The goal is 24 hour coverage. First names of prayer warriors are written on links of a paper chain that is displayed in the Chapel. Many hearts are touched when inmates see how many people are praying for them.
6. Monetary support.

For more information , please contact Greg Uebel 813-653-0628.

## **ANNUAL MINISTRIES**

### **E.C.H.O.**

E.C.H.O., Emergency Care Help Organization, is a local volunteer supported organization that provides food, clothing, and some household items for families in Brandon and the surrounding area.

In January, during "Souper Bowl," this church collects cans of soup and donates them to E.C.H.O.

On a Saturday in May, volunteers help for several hours in sorting of food items donated by the community and collected by Postal workers. In 2007, volunteers from this church helped sort over 100,000 lbs. of food.

### **ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING**

This yearly offering is received in the spring and helps support the work of the Presbyterian Committee for the Self-Development of People, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance and the Presbyterian Hunger Program.

These gifts are divided among the three programs as follows:

36% goes to Disaster Assistance for disaster response and ministries with refugees and ministries addressing homelessness and affordable housing. 32% goes to the Hunger Program for ministries working to alleviate hunger and eliminate its causes, responding with compassion and justice to poor and hungry people in local communities, in the nation and throughout the world. 32% goes to Self-Development of People or social systems who want to take charge of their own lives, who have organized to do something about their own condition, and who have decided what they need to do to produce long-term benefits for themselves.

### **PEACEMAKING OFFERING**

During the month of October we celebrate World Communion Sunday and receive the Peacemaking Offering.

This offering supports the peacemaking efforts of the church at every governing body level and provides an opportunity to witness to God's gifts of

peace in the world. 25% of this offering is retained by our congregation to support a local peacemaking effort. Every year the Session, congregation, and Mission Team decide what local group will be the recipient. 25% is used to support the presbytery and synod peacemaking efforts. 50% of the offering is forwarded to the Presbyterian Peacemaking Program of the General Assembly Council which provides assistance and resources for congregations and other bodies of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

### **JOY GIFT OFFERING**

During Advent, we receive the Joy Gift Offering. This special offering provides the following:

50% of the offering is distributed to the Board of Pensions to assist programs that provide support to retired and active church workers and their spouses and families. 50% supports the eight Presbyterian-related racial-ethnic schools and colleges through the National Ministries Division of the General assembly Council.

### **PENTECOST OFFERING**

This offering is received once a year on the birthday of the Christian Church. The offering provides ministries for kids at risk, Youth and young adults. The congregation keeps 40% for programs that benefit children at risk. The General assembly divides the remaining 60% between ministries with youth and young adults (50%) and children at risk (10%). For more information visit [www.pcusa.org/pentecost](http://www.pcusa.org/pentecost)

### **BETHEL MISSION**

Each year, the Christmas Eve offering is donated to this Presbyterian mission in Wimauma, Florida that provides support to migrant workers in our community. We also provide new bicycles through the Bikes for Jesus' Birthday ministry.

### **BIKES FOR JESUS' BIRTHDAY**

This program provides a brand new bicycle, helmet and Bible for needy children throughout the community. Pledges are taken all year round and donations are collected by the middle of November to purchase these items. School counselors review the need in their school and provide the number of bikes needed as well as bike sizes they will need.

Volunteers gather on the first Sunday of December to assemble the bikes and the following Monday, the bikes are delivered to the schools and other groups like Beth-El Farm Workers Ministry in Wimauma and Everyday Blessings in Seffner. The bikes are given to the parents to give to their children on Christmas morning. For a donation of \$75.00, you can help make a child's Christmas special and bring The Word and love of God into the home of another child of God.

### **FEED THE BAY**

This annual event is held in the Spring. Churches from all around the community come together as one to provide food for the local food banks. Members and friends of the different congregations go grocery shopping after the worship service on a chosen Sunday. From a list, provided by Feed the Bay organization, groceries are bought at selected grocery stores around the community and dropped off at trucks waiting in the parking lots. This ministry has provided tons of food for many food banks like E.C.H.O., Metropolitan Ministries, Good Samaritan, Beth-El Farm Worker's Ministry, just to name a few.

### **LADIES' SPRING TEA**

This annual event benefits The Spring of Tampa Bay, a battered women and children's shelter. Ladies from the congregation and friends from the community will gather to host and decorate tables for guests who have purchased tickets for the event. All the food is donated by the Fellowship Committee of the church. A program is always planned to inform the guests of the work the Spring of Tampa Bay does for the women and children in the community. Proceeds from the sale of the tickets and other program proceeds, go to benefit the Spring.

For more information, please contact Sara High at 813-685-4981.