

APRIL 2018 SERVE DAY OPPORTUNITIES

 Indicates Child Friendly

COLLECTIONS

COLLEGE & CAREERS CARE PACKAGES - YOUTH ROOM 115

Collection of granola bars, chocolates, small office supplies, etc. for our recent high school graduates. Take time to send some love to recent (in the last 4 years) high school graduates of Fairmount. We'll be creating care packages to encourage and support them as they study at college or start out in a career. Everyone is invited to bring items to send. These can include small, prepackaged food items like granola bars, fruit snacks, or candy, or other small items (pens, post-its, etc.) that will ship well.

Collecting through April 29; Ages: all ages; Max. number of participants: no limit

MEDWISH COLLECTION - CHILCOTE ROOM 103

MedWish was created by a student, after returning from Nigeria, where he served as a medical assistant. There, he found that doctors were unable to help patients because they lacked basic supplies and equipment. Lee Ponsky gathered medical items from hospitals, nursing homes, and other donors, and repurposed them for use in developing countries. SOS is sponsoring a collection of items that can be used by MedWish. The collection is limited to eight basic items listed below. Please be sure donated items are clean and in workable order.

Items for collection: blood pressure cuffs – all sizes (please make sure they work and are placed in a clear plastic bag); canes, crutches, diapers - infant and adult (unopened), over the bed tray tables, walkers, infant wash basins, wheelchairs.

Collecting through April 29; Ages: all ages; Max number of participants: no limit

FOOD DRIVE: CLEVELAND FOODBANK - ANDERSEN HALL STAGE

Fairmount youth, Morgan Fowler, will receive non-perishable items for the Cleveland Foodbank throughout April, including Serve Sunday. The food items most needed are: peanut butter, canned tuna, cereal, canned vegetables, beef stew, and canned soup. If you prefer to donate non-food, the Foodbank requests: deodorant, laundry detergent, shampoo, toilet paper, soap, toothbrushes and toothpaste. The Cleveland Foodbank provides food and other items to 127 hot meals sites, 224 pantries and 147 mobile pantries.

Collecting through April 29; Ages: all ages; Max. number of participants: no limit

ON SITE SERVE ACTIVITIES

1. POVERTY SIMULATION

Begin to understand the decisions, fears and frustrations facing families living in poverty. During a 1-hour simulation using assigned roles, participants will experience a month living in the circumstances of a family living in poverty. The simulation is followed by a 90-minute discussion and debriefing.

Timing: 9:30am – 12:30pm; Ages: 16+; Max. number of participants: 88

2. COLLEGE & CAREERS CARE PACKAGES PREPARATION

Assembly of care packages for our recent high school graduates. Take time to send some love to recent (last 4 years) high school graduates of Fairmount. We'll be creating care packages to encourage and support them as they study at college or start out in a career. Participants in this activity will assemble the care packages, decorate cards from the congregation, as well as address the boxes to send.

Timing: 9:30am-10:30am; Ages: All Ages; Max. number of participants: 20

3. FPC CLEANING

Help us be good stewards of our church. Focusing primarily on the sanctuary, participants will assist Building Manager, Toby Pogue, with a spring-cleaning.

Timing: 9:30am-11:30am; Ages: 12+; Max. number of participants: 6; Suggested attire: work clothes; rubber gloves recommended

4. BRAILLE BOOKS

An intergenerational activity making braille number books for preschoolers. Participants will create braille number books for the preschoolers who attend The Cleveland Sight Center. Put all of your cut-and-paste talents to work as we make learning fun for children who are visually challenged. Any age can put tactile stickers on a page with the right guidance, and we have Braille Book veteran Hedy Westra to lead us.

Timing: drop-in/drop-out 9:30am - 11:30am; Ages: all ages; Max. number of participants: no limit

5. REFUGEE 101 PRESENTATION

An overview of the refugee situation worldwide and resettlement by Andrew Mathay, the Volunteer Coordinator at Catholic Charities Diocese of Cleveland Migration & Refugee Services. He will review the refugee crisis worldwide, nationally, and locally - narrowing down to the direct work that resettlement agencies perform as a response. Questions will be taken after the presentation.

Timing: 9:30am to 11:00am; Ages: 12+; Max. number of participants: no limit

6. PRISON MINISTRY

Ben Sperry will be joined by Kathy Farkas from Church of the Covenant to discuss various ongoing projects as well as some ideas for new projects within the ministry, including a literacy course, a library project, a book-discussion group, and the Good Neighbor Project connecting volunteers with inmates. The discussion will aim to raise awareness of some of the challenges inmates face and opportunities to help.

Timing: 9:30am-10:30am; Ages: 12+; Max. number of participants: 15

7. LISTENING PROJECT

Participate in Serve Council's Listening Project! Join a small group get-together to help Serve Council's effort to align our mission priorities with your passions and interests. Each group will consist of 6-8 members and friends of Fairmount, and a Volunteer Trained Listener, as we explore the issues in our local/national/international community that energize you and/or keep you up at night. This is not the only opportunity to participate in a Listening Project meeting. Additional opportunities for small group and one-on-one gatherings will be offered.

Timing: 9:30am-10:30am and 11:00am to 12:00pm; Ages: all ages; Max. number of participants: 6-8 per group

OFF-SITE SERVE ACTIVITIES

8. GREATER CLEVELAND CONGREGATIONS (GCC), NOBLE HOUSING TOUR

Tour the Noble area with the Cleveland Heights Housing Task Force of Greater Cleveland Congregations (GCC). Do you know what is happening to some of the houses in the Noble neighborhood? Join this tour, guided by three residents who are on the Task Force. You'll hear their stories about living in the neighborhood and why they got involved in this justice work. They will share the two years of work making absentee ownership (specifically, one bank) accountable to the same standards of home ownership as others. Learn about the extensive research needed and steps taken to bring people to the table to accept responsibility, commit, and contribute to the work necessary to change the neighborhood dynamic to owner occupied houses.

Timing: 9:30am-11:00am (9:30am carpool from FPC); Ages: 18+; Max.number of participants: 12

9. SERVE AT NORTH CHURCH

Preparing and serving a meal and worshipping with North Church. Fairmount is one of several Presbyterian churches that support the ministries of North Presbyterian Church, which serves downtown Cleveland. Helpers will prepare and serve a meal under the direction of the seasoned kitchen staff. We bring dessert and our labor.

Timing: 9:30 am-1:30pm; Ages: 10+; Max. number of participants: up to 15; Attire: no open-toed shoes

10. PROJECT GREEN THUMB-LOUIS STOKES VA HOSPITAL 😊

Visiting with patients and delivering plants. Fairmounters Ray and Tyson McKinney asked the VA Hospital, "How can we help?" They were asked to bring plants, gardening knowledge and time to visit with vets. Project Green Thumb was born. Let our vets know we value their service by taking time for a brief visit, and bring one of the provided plants to share under the direction of Ray McKinney. Meet at FPC at 9:30 am to carpool.

Timing: 9:30am to 12:00pm (carpool); Ages: 6+; Max. number of participants: up to 10

11. JUDSON SINGING 😊

Join in singing familiar hymns for and with residents at Judson Park Retirement Community at the Health Center (5th floor) and Ambler Court (4th floor). Park in the garage at 2181 Ambleside Drive and go up to the Health Center, or meet at church and carpool. All levels of proficiency are welcome. Hymn sheets provided; piano accompaniment.

Timing: 9:30am-12:00pm; Ages: 6+; Max. number of participants: 15

12. HEIGHTS YOUTH CLUB (HYC)

HYC is looking for volunteers to help with landscaping projects. We'll need people to dig up an existing garden and re-seed to grass, rake, trim bushes, remove ivy and cut down some bushes.

Timing: 9:30am to 12:30pm; Ages: 10+; Max. number of participants: 20

13. DOAN BROOK CLEANUP 😊

Help clean up a local treasure, Doan Brook. Participants will clean up a portion of the nearby Doan Brook that runs from the Shaker Lakes into University Circe, collecting trash and removing large items from the stream and trail. Come ready to get dirty! Spend the day walking in a beautiful patch of creek side woods hidden a few blocks from the church!

Timing: 9:30am-11:30am; Ages: 6+; Max. number of participants: no limit;

Attire: work boots, gloves, long pants.

14. COMMUNITY WALK 😊

All are invited to join our families with young children on a walk through the neighborhood. During the walk the children will be encouraged to take notice of what they see. Upon their return they will share what they saw. The walk will be one mile. Participants are encouraged to wear their Serve day t-shirts.

Timing: 9:30am to 10:30am; Ages: all ages; Max number of participants: no limit

FELLOWSHIP

SISTERHOOD OF SERVICE (SOS) LUNCHEON

SOS is having its quarterly Fellowship Luncheon at 12:00pm in the dining room. All single women and any other women wishing this fellowship are welcome. If you would like to attend the SOS Luncheon or join this group committed to serving the community and one another, email Nancy Gillombardo at ngillombardo@gmail.com.