



Love Chapel Volunteer Newsletter

Ecumenical Assembly of Bartholomew County Churches, Inc.— November, 2020



Love Chapel

▶ Note From The Executive Director

It is hard to believe that 2020 is quickly coming to a close—and I think all of us would agree that 2020 has been one of the most unusual years in history. I am so proud of our organization and its volunteers for being right there on the front lines making a difference in the lives of others.

Please take time to read through this issue—we have so much going on—there are many good stories of new programs and upcoming events. Highlighted in this issue is our Christmas Pantry which will be held in December, a featured story on our new outreach through the school system called Love Chapel Care Packs, and information about the new 60-Day program and Winter Contingency Plans at Brighter Days.

Wishing you a great Thanksgiving—please stay safe!!!

Kelly Daugherty

October 2020 – Clients Served

Number of Households at Food Pantry	1061
Number of Individuals at Food Pantry	3,979
Total Number Served at Brighter Days	40
Average Number Served at Brighter Days	8.13
Number Receiving Financial Assistance	37
Dollars Committed to Financial Assistance	\$9,029
Dollars Committed to Direct Assistance	\$8,050
VIM Care	\$500
Average Number of Volunteers for Mo.	128
Hot Meals Served on Tuesdays/Weds	241
Pounds of Food Distributed (lbs.)	92,282 lbs.

Upcoming Volunteer Orientation Sessions

All volunteer orientation sessions will be held via Zoom. To register, please call 812.372.9421 and ask for Kathy Thompson, Volunteer Coordinastor.

**Monday, November 23rd—1:30 PM Monday, December 7th—1:30 PM
Monday, December 21st—1:30 PM**

Christ's Love in Action

LOVE CHAPEL

Food Pantry

292 Center Street

Columbus, IN 47201

LOVE CHAPEL

Emergency Assistance

311 Center Street

Columbus, IN 47201

812.372.9421

BRIGHTER DAYS

Homeless Shelter

421 S Mapleton Street

Columbus, IN 47201

812.344.4512



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Christmas Pantry Update

Love Chapel will once again be the primary food basket provider for the community. We are estimating 1,300 baskets of food will be distributed during the Christmas Pantry, which will be held as a drive through event at Fair Oaks Mall.

Each basket will contain the following: Ham, Stuffing, Potatoes, Fruit (2), Corn (3), Green Beans (3), Soups (3), Mac-n-Cheese, Brownie Mix, Muffin Mix, Gravy, Cereal, Hot Chocolate, Peanut Butter, Granola Bars, Jelly, and Applesauce. All told, it will be enough, not only for a nice Christmas Dinner, but a chance to have food for a few days!

The pantry will be run out of the old Hibbett's Sporting Goods Store—using the back door. Traffic lanes will be set up and registration will be occurring outside, when getting in line. In addition to the food, several other items will be available to be given away, our volunteers will have an ample supply of Bibles to distribute, and a drive through prayer station will be manned by our Worship Committee.

Pantry Hours are as follows:

Monday, December 7th 10 AM to 1 PM

Tuesday, December 8th 10 AM to 1 PM and 4PM to 7 PM

Wednesday, December 9th 10 AM to 1 PM

Thursday, December 10th 10 AM to 1 PM and 4PM to 7 PM

To register for the pantry, please call 812.375.2216 by December 4th.

To volunteer or donate, please call 812.372.9421 and ask for Janice.

Hot Meal Service

All hot meal sites are still operational—for an up to date listing—please see our website. All sites in operation are grab and go meals, meaning the meals are pre-boxed and then passed out to those in need who can take them home to eat.

Mobile Pantry Update

2020 was our first year our mobile pantry is sponsored solely by Love Chapel. This will continue in 2021 as well.

Each month, food is distributed to prepare 3 to 4 meals. Items will include the ingredients to make these meals, along with other miscellaneous items.

For a listing of our 2021 dates, please see our website.



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Love Chapel Care Packages to our School Children

and

Help the Hungry—One Meal at a Time

There are children in our school system who get almost all of their nutrition through the schools. Parents lacking resources, lacking oversight, or not being present all put many of our school kids at risk. Often times, kids come to school on Monday with stomach aches because they haven't had anything to eat over the weekend.

Love Chapel has teamed up with our local schools to provide Love Chapel Cares Packages for our most vulnerable school children. Love Chapel will order the food for these packages, sort them by school and deliver them to the schools each Thursday they are in session. The schools will package them in plastic bags and slip them into the kid's backpacks to take home over the weekend.

Each school updates a list of needs (no names provided, just numbers) on Monday and Love Chapel prepares the food items for that many children. While the number will change each week, our first week of deliveries had products assembled to serve 465 children at our 11 elementary schools and Busy Bees Pre-school.

Love Chapel continues to find ways to meet needs in the community, whether it is these school care packages, or serving families through monthly pantry visits, weekly Love Chapel Cares packs, mobile pantries, daily hot meals, or meals for the homeless. The demand is increasing and we are seeing many new families who have no where else to turn. Many families will go unfed without your help.

Would you consider a gift to Help Feed the Hungry. We need your help to continue this vital mission. The need is growing and we may see record numbers of hungry families over the next year. Please click on the Donate Button on our website and select "Help the Hungry." Your gift is tax deductible and will be used to provide food resources to the many who are struggling in our community. There is even a line to designate the funds to go to a specific project—just put on the line where you want your funds used. If you prefer, Send checks to LOVE CHAPEL, 311 Center Street, Columbus, IN 47201

Or go to :<https://lovechapel-bartholomew.org/> to donate!

Love Chapel—helping families one at a time! Together we can make a difference!

Brighter Days

Brighter Days, our homeless shelter, successfully re-opened on June 15th. The shelter had temporarily ceased operations on March 23rd, due to the COVID 19 crisis. Operations are quite a bit different, with many measures implemented to protect staff, volunteers, and

The capacity at the shelter has been reduced to 50% - allowing guests to have six feet of distance between themselves and others. Our current occupancy limit is 25 beds—14 for men and 11 for women. Guests wear masks while in the shelter and many measures have been implemented to maintain physical distancing, such as intake for one person at a time, no use of the common areas, breakfast to go with no congregating in the dining room. For more details, please feel free to visit our website. Also—please read the article on the back page about our new focus!



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What Is the Love Chapel Foundation?

A faith-based foundation dedicated to ensuring Love Chapel continues to provide help for those in need – both now and into the future

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- Foundation funds are managed for long-term sustainability of the organization, focusing on the ability to help for future generations.

- Foundation resources are used in support of Love Chapel; by enabling the launch of new services or to expand the capacity of existing services.

- The Love Chapel Foundation helps to ensure the sustainability of Love Chapel's outreach ministry.

Brighter Days 60-Day Process

One of the biggest differences as Brighter Days re-opened, has been in our focus. Brighter Days staff have developed a 60 day program to re-integrate our clients back into permanent residency within 60 days. The expectation and resources have been devoted to push for achieving this goal within 60 days.

Prior to this change, our guests could stay indefinitely , and many had stayed at Brighter Days for six months or more. The 60 day requirement will help to place urgency on our case managers and on our clients to meet goals to achieve a place of their own.

The goal is to make homelessness as brief as possible. In addition, we hope to be able to continue case management up to six months after permanent residency is achieved—to reduce the chance for recurrence! And it is working. Just since August, we have helped 30 people find permanent housing solutions.

During the winter months (from November 21st—March 21st) we will open the shelter up to those who do not wish to participate in the 60-day program, with the only limitation being space. We will prioritize those working the 60 day program, then fill the rest of our beds with those not wanting to find permanent placement—a way for everyone to stay warm during the winter!