

Nourishing the Hungers of Life: Ways to Reach Out – May 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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3	4	5	6 “Every Family Needs a Home” -Solid Ground’s 15th annual Fundraiser starts today (virtually) at 8am. Learn more and make a donation of any amount at https://www.solidgroundmn.org	7	8 Reminder: “Every Family Needs a Home” – donate today!	9
10 Mother’s Day Honor the mom you love by donating personal care items to moms and babies of Solid Ground. Drop off at WBLUMC. Details on back of calendar.	11 1pm-5pm Drop off donations for Solid Ground at WBLUMC South doors	12 10am-2pm Drop off donations for Solid Ground at WBLUMC South doors	13 Final Reminder: “Every Family Needs a Home” virtual fundraiser ends today. Make a donation of any size – all are deeply appreciated!	14	15	16 Armed Forces Day Pay tribute to your family & friends currently serving in the U.S. military.
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25 Memorial Day Take time to remember and honor the men and women who died while in the military service of the U.S.A.	26	27 Learn more about the UMCOR COVID-19 special fund by going online to https://advance.umcmision.org/ Details back of calendar. Donate online in honor of someone you love using COVID-19 Response Fund Advance #3022612	28	29 Sign up to take a “Home at Last” Tour @ Solid Ground, East Metro Place, WBL, on Tuesday, June 9 5:30 pm. Details back of calendar.	30
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SOLID GROUND

Preventing and ending homelessness for families with children through housing, resources and opportunity is the mission of Solid Ground. Here are three ideas you can consider for supporting Solid Ground:

- “EVERY FAMILY NEEDS A HOME” Fundraiser: this virtual event begins on Wednesday, May 6, 2020 starting at 8 am and continues until May 13. This online event (www.solidgroundmn.org/every-family-needs-a-home/) will feature testimonials, fun videos of programming and a chance for giving.
- MOTHER’S DAY DONATIONS: families currently living at East Metro Place in White Bear Lake need personal care items such as shampoo, conditioner, tampons and sanitary napkins, as well as diapers (sizes 3,4,5) and wipes for children. On May 11 & 12 a collection bin will be outside the south doors of White Bear Lake UMC waiting anxiously for any donations you are able to drop off on that date. **PLEASE – don’t make a special trip to a store to obtain these items, just grab something if you are able the next time you do grocery or household goods shopping for your family.** We will see to delivering the items to Solid Ground.
- “HOME AT LAST” Tour: The second Tuesday of every month Solid Ground offers an opportunity for anyone interested to learn more about the organization and tour the East Metro home where families live. The evening takes just one hour. Send an email to lori.mcbride@wblumc.org if you’d like to attend. If the event is cancelled for June 9, we will let you know.

ARMED FORCES DAY AND MEMORIAL DAY

Armed Forces Day 2020 will be celebrated on May 16 and is an opportunity for us to pay tribute to the men and women who serve the United States Armed Forces of the United State of America: Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps and Coast Guard. Say “thank you” to all for their service and sacrifices.

History: The first Armed Forces Day was celebrated May 20, 1950. The theme for that day was “Teamed for Defense”, which expressed the unification of all military forces under one government department. According to the U.S. Department of Defense, the day was designed to expand public understanding of what type of job was performed and the role of the military in civilian life; it was a day for the military to show "state-of-the-art" equipment to Americans. It was also a day to honor and acknowledge Americans in the armed forces. Parades, open houses, receptions and air shows were held at the inaugural Armed Forces Day.

Memorial Day commemorates the men and women who died while in the military service of their country, particularly those who died in battle or as a result of wounds sustained in battle. In other words, the purpose of Memorial Day is to memorialize the veterans who made the ultimate sacrifice for their country. We spend time remembering those who lost their lives and could not come home, reflecting on their service and why we have the luxury and freedom that we enjoy today. We might consider how we can support and safeguard their grieving families and loved ones who are left behind.

UMCOR

Since the start of the novel coronavirus outbreak, UMCOR has been working with health boards, medical professionals, disaster management coordinators and faith leaders to prevent the further spread of this disease. Through the UMCOR COVID-19 Response fund, grants will be rapidly released to equip partners to assist vulnerable populations around the world impacted by COVID-19, including racial/ethnic and indigenous communities in the United States. Grants will address health concerns, food insecurity, water and hygiene limitations and other pressing needs. Even as you shelter in place, you can be there for others. When you say "yes" to supporting the UMCOR COVID-19 Response, you will help bring God’s love to life for those who need it most.

Nourishing the Hungers of Life: Ways to Reach Out – June 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 HELP THE FOOD SHELF Donate 2 much needed food items to the White Bear Lake Emergency Food Shelf. Drop off at WBLUMC south doors. Details back of calendar.	2	3 Food Shelf Donation drop off at WBLUMC 10-5 – south doors.	4 Sign up to help with food packing at Second Harvest Heartland Maplewood warehouse, 6/17/20, 5:30-7:30pm. Details back of calendar.	5	6
7	8	9 Solid Ground “Home at Last” Tour @ East Metro Place, WBL, 5:30 pm	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17 Food Packing @ Second Harvest Heartland – Maplewood, 5:30-7:30pm.	18	19	20
21	22 Stay Informed, Be Inspired, Act on stopping and preventing human rights abuses around the world through Amnesty, International. Go to https://www.amnesty.org/ to learn more. Details back of calendar.	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

WHITE BEAR LAKE EMERGENCY FOOD SHELF

A huge thank you to all who contributed to the WBLUMC Easter Offering. Through your generosity we have been able to send \$731 to the WBL Emergency Food Shelf which is currently offering food support to “ANYONE from ANYWHERE” by making prepacked To-Go bags available for drive-up style pick up weekly or as needed (no appointment needed). If you know of anyone in need of food support, pass on that the Food Shelf shopping hours are Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.; Tuesday and Thursday from 4:30 – 7:30 p.m.

MOST WANTED ITEMS: Cereal, Flour & Sugar, Hearty Soups, Peanut Butter, Canned Fruits, Healthy Snacks, Juice

SECOND HARVEST HEARTLAND FOOD PACKING

Hunger is an urgent and growing problem in our local communities: food shelves and other hunger-relief programs who partner with Second Harvest Heartland say the demand for assistance is growing exponentially during this COVID-19 pandemic. Second Harvest Heartland is taking extraordinary measures to provide emergency food, including fresh produce, to those who need it most, through large produce drops (“free farmer’s markets”), retail food rescue and pre-packed produce boxes distributed to food shelves and more.

Local Second Harvest warehouses are slowly opening opportunities for volunteers to help with food packing. If you are interested, please email lori.mcbride@wblumc.org and you’ll be put on the volunteer list. If the June 17 packing date is cancelled for any reason, we will let you know.

NEW Guidelines for Volunteers:

1. Volunteers must be age 18 and older.
2. Temperature must be 100 degrees or less, and you must be illness-free including COVID19 or Influenza A or B. You will be screened prior to your volunteer shift.
3. Arrive about 10-15 minutes before your shift and wear closed-toe shoes.
4. Use a printed or electronic version of your volunteer shift confirmation for a Stay at Home exception credential to assist us as an Essential Worker.

Second Harvest is implementing extra safety measures such as increased facility cleaning, social distancing and limited contact protocols. For the safety of volunteers and employees, they are following CDC recommendations that people age 65 and older stay safe at home and refrain from volunteering currently. If you are 65 and over, it is your personal choice if you would like to volunteer. If you do have questions, contact SH at volunteer@2harvest.org or 651-282-0901.

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

“Socially Distant, But Together in Solidarity”: as the COVID-19 pandemic tears across the world we are all worried about the future. Life may feel like it is on hold right now - but the fight for human rights never stops. Since 1961 Amnesty International has been helping people claim their rights across the world by investigating and exposing the facts, whenever and wherever abuses happen; lobbying governments, and other powerful groups such as companies to make sure they keep their promises and respect international law; by telling the powerful stories of people they work with inspiring millions of supporters around the world to campaign for change and to stand in defense of activists on the frontline; and supporting people to claim their rights through education and training.

Details about current worldwide issues are available on the Amnesty website, www.amnesty.org, including ways vulnerable people around the world are being ravaged by COVID-19. You can take action to change the world by signing petitions, writing letters, sending emails, and becoming a member of Amnesty International. Whatever you want to do, you can act today and be part of a global movement standing together for human rights across the world.