

Description of Outreach Activities

Food Pantry: Provides nutritious food for families and individuals in need. Supported by volunteers, individual donations, fund raising, grants, and other churches.

Men's Homeless Shelter: Provides shelter, warmth, meals, showers, and laundry facilities to homeless men on a drop in basis. Shelter staff refers participants to needed services and transitional housing. Supported through Porchlight, volunteers, individual donations, and organizations.

First Monday Meal/Tuesday Breakfast: On the first Monday and following morning Grace Church volunteers prepare and serve hot meals for shelter residents.

Meals on Wheels: Volunteers deliver hot meals to elderly people and shut-ins several months each year. Meals are prepared by Meals on Wheels and delivered on east and west side established routes.

Jail Tutoring: Space in the Guild Hall is used to train volunteer tutors who work with inmates of the Dane County Jail and as a site for continued lessons for people who have been released before accomplishing their goals.

Winter Coat and Hat Drive: Volunteers gather warm winter clothing for individuals who have an urgent need when released from jail in the winter months. Church volunteers transport the clothing to the jail where they are inspected and cleaned prior to distribution.

Christmas Cards for Inmates: Volunteers gather Christmas cards and address them to inmates in preparation for the Christmas season. Cards are generally addressed after Sunday service or during coffee hour.

The Haiti Project: A project of the Diocese of Milwaukee with active leadership and participation from Grace Church. The project has built and oversees the operation of an elementary and secondary school, economic development through coffee cultivation and sale, supplies for a medical clinic and is beginning a micro loan program. Church members participate by sponsoring children in the school, direct donations, and purchasing Haiti products.

MOSES: A collaboration of Madison churches working with others in the state to advocate reform in the criminal justice process. Members receive education in the issues, contact legislators, and select priorities for action. Groups are working on issues including parole revocation procedures, solitary confinement, and criteria for parole.

Faithful Citizenship Campaign: (Reducing Child Poverty) Wisconsin Council of Churches and the Council on Children and Families are leading a response to the high numbers of children living in poverty. The goal is a 50% reduction in the child poverty rate over 5 years.

Church Women United: Collaboration among people of faith to address community needs. An initiative to resettle Syrian refugees is now temporarily on hold because of changes in immigration policy.

Musical Events: Opening Grace Church for performances by local musical groups. Volunteers arranged the Grace Presents program and are needed for future programs

Social Issues Education: Events planned to raise awareness and understanding of community needs and current issues. Lecture series on racism, adult forums on prison issues are examples. Volunteers planned and staffed events.

Note: This list does not include funds requested by occasional appeals for specific needs.