News from the Northwest Suburban Interfaith Council

By Joanne Dicker, President

I hope and pray that you and your loved ones are safe and healthy. We wish all those celebrating the holidays of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur a "Shanah Tovah," a good year and may everyone in our community be blessed with health and happiness.

This year, we find ourselves put through many tests and trials. So many things that we would have taken for granted months ago are now memories: shaking hands, hugging or even being in the same room! A virtual world of contact has now become the norm. However, for many of us, our neighbors and our friends, a virtual world is simply not enough. They cannot survive without some assistance. Our traditions tell us that we should feed the hungry. Please help us feed the hungry. Drop off food at our food pantries or donate to the Interfaith Council. The locations of the food pantries for food donations and food and toiletry assistance are listed on the attached flier.

We are working on **a book drive** for pre-school children. Help us to open their world and their imaginations through reading! We are collecting gently used or new books. This initiative seeks to support and encourage parents to read to their children. We also endeavor to help pre-school children gain confidence in their reading ability, in English, Spanish or both. These books would be made available for free in a variety of community facilities such as laundromats, food pantries, preschools, churches and synagogues. Did you know that 70% or people in jail or in juvenile court can't read past the third grade and 80% of school drop-outs can't read past the third grade? If you have books to donate call us at 224-699-0386.

Lift your spirits. Join the interfaith community and strengthen interfaith dialogue between Muslim, Jewish and Christian communities through music and laughter. Attend the **Potluck for Peace: Thursday, September 10, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.** (Sponsored by the Children of Abraham Coalition.) See the attached flyer.

May we see improvement in our lives, joy in our souls and a commitment to make the world a better place for our families, friends, neighbors and those we have yet to meet.

For more information on any of our programs, please contact us by e-mail or telephone: <u>nwsinterfaith@gmail.com</u>, 224-699-0386 or visit our website at: <u>http://www.northwestsuburbaninterfaith.org</u>

Donations may be made directly to: Northwest Suburban Interfaith Council PO Box 5301 Buffalo Grove, IL 60089 **Our food pantries and many of your neighbors desperately need your help!** Due to the continued issues with the Corona virus, many more of our neighbors are in need of food and every day supplies. Please help us support our local food pantries either through monetary donations or purchasing of needed supplies. If you are in need, see the list below of our food pantries and the township food pantries.

If you are able, **please purchase and donate** any of the following items:

Canned Soup	Canned Chili	Crackers	Shampoo
Canned Fruit	Cereals	Ramen Noodles	Toilet Paper
Canned Vegetables	Peanut Butter	Pasta Sauce	Paper Towels
Grape Jelly	Oatmeal	Soap	Flour
Boxed Pasta	Mac & Cheese	Spaghetti O's	Snacks
Canned Tuna	Canned Chicken	Bagged Rice	Tooth Paste
Baby Diapers	Vegetable Oil	Laundry detergent	

Locations of our food pantries, pick up and drop of hours: (Please note that many food pantries have geographical restrictions for food distribution:)

- 1. St. Mary Parish: 10 N. Buffalo Grove Road, Buffalo Grove. Food is distributed on the third Saturday of the month. (ID and current utility bill required) Food Donations will be collected on the first weekend of the month: Saturdays from 3:30 to 5:00 p.m. and Sunday from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. If you cannot donate at these times, please contact the parish office at 847-541-1450 ext. 131 to make arrangements.
- Kingswood Methodist Church: 401 W. Dundee Road, Buffalo Grove, IL. Food is distributed on Thursdays from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon. (ID and proof of residency in Wheeling Township required.) Food donations are collected 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Please leave food donations inside the church on the east side entrance on the tables provided.
- **3.** St. Alphonsus 411 N. Wheeling Road, Prospect Heights. Food is distributed on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of the month from 10:00 a.m. to Noon. (ID, proof of residency in Prospect Heights, Wheeling or Mt. Prospect and current utility bill required) Food donations are collected between 9:00 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday near the school entrance facing Wheeling Road.
- 4. Beth Am: 1377 Abbot Court, Buffalo Grove Food is distributed on the last Sunday of the month or call: 847-383-5017. (ID required.)

Township pantries:

- Vernon Township: 3050 N. Main Street, Buffalo Grove: Drive through pantry hours 1st and 3rd Wednesday 9:00-12:00, families at 8:00 (847) 634-4600, ID required. Donations of non-perishable foods are accepted 9am to 1pm.
- 2. Wheeling Township: 1616 N Arlington Heights Rd, Arlington Heights, IL 60004. (847) 259-7730 Pre-packed bags are available on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays between 9 a.m. and noon, and again between 1 p.m. – 4 p.m. Residents will need to provide a picture ID and proof of residency. Donations of food are accepted Monday – Friday from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Thank you so much for your help! Stay healthy and safe!

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