

Week of September 3, 2023



From Woody: These can be very tough times for people, especially younger couples with children. The church just helped a lady whose husband apparently left. She has three children of ages 4, 6 and 8. Our Helping Hand Fund enabled her to keep the power on. Her cell phone has been shut off and she has no money for school supplies. With the help of Selectwoman Donna Monbouquette, I got the name and number of the acting Welfare Officer of the town. It is usually the Town Manager but since we don't have one of those at the moment we currently have an acting welfare agent.

I can remember the days when we, as a family, were in strict budget conditions but got through it together, while we had our first child during my Seminary years. We didn't have rent since we lived in a church manse and were paid \$50 a week by the Immanuel United Methodist Church in Waltham where I was the Youth Director. Barbi would also go out to work during any time I had a week off from school and her typing prowess enable her to bring in some cash during those weeks. We were very fortunate to have the support of both of our families, which was a big help. I can't imagine situations like the lady we are trying help through this very difficult situation with three kids and an absent (and not contributing) husband.

One of the reasons for the high numbers of homeless people is the sky-high costs of rent. If anyone knows of apartments available in town for less than \$1900 per month please let me know. This situation reminds me of Jesus words in Matthew 25 which task us with feeding the hungry and caring for the poor. Thanks to all of you for supporting our Helping Hand Fund which does provide some short term help in the midst of a difficult time for many people.



TEAMWORK

Meeting: Session will meet Thursday, September 8 at 7:00 pm. Church Life Committee will meet beforehand at 6:30 pm.



Celebration of Pets: We will hold our annual celebration of pets on Sunday, Sept. 10 on the lawn, so please get your pets ready. All kinds of pets are welcome and their people are too!



Church School to Resume: Church School will resume on September 17 with Rally Day. Everyone is welcome!

Lynn is looking for helpers. If you would like to help, contact Lynn at lwawrzyniak@comcast.net



Sanctuary Flowers: Volunteers are needed to provide flowers for the altar on Sunday. There is a signup list outside the office door at church, or you can email Ellen at andersel@njms.rutgers.edu

It is a wonderful way to contribute to the service; one can give in memory of someone or some event as well. Just let Ellen know. Flowers can be from your garden, the roadside, or the store. Vases are available in the kitchen if you need one



Church Library: The Church Library up and running in the church parlor. We are just getting started but if anyone wants to borrow a book it will be on the honor system. Borrow whatever book you want to read and return it when you're done. Also, if you have a book that you'd like to donate to the church library just leave it on the shelf. We want only books by Christian authors.



Peace Quote: Hate the sin. Love the sinner...*Mahatma Gandhi*