

Circuit *Writer*

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE ERLANGER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
FEBRUARY 2016



FROM THE PASTOR'S PEN

February always turns our thoughts toward love – for a couple of reasons. Valentines, of course, is a big part of life for the month. But often times Lent starts during February, too – and there is no greater reminder of God's love than Lent. This year it starts pretty early, too. February 10 will be our Ash Wednesday Service; I hope you will all plan on being there.

I get reminded a lot of how love gets crossways and mixed up. We are not very good about showing love to others in many ways. Words get said that either come out wrong or are taken wrong. People make assumptions about the motives of others or the actions of others, and instead of asking for clarification we often just get mad, do our assuming, and stew about things. It's so easy to get mixed up and misunderstood.

We get mixed up in our relationship with God, too. My heart breaks when I think about the number of people who think God hates them. They get that idea sometimes because misguided church people tell them that. It shows an unbelievable lack of understanding about grace and forgiveness. And God may hate certain behaviors or actions (like acting unlovingly!), but God always loves PEOPLE. And no one is so far gone that God's love and grace isn't available to them or can't redeem them.

I hope during this month of love and this season of Lent, we can reshape our lives and our faith to represent an outlook of love and grace and forgiveness.

Sometimes we do things without thinking (and of course, sometimes we overthink things too), but we need to search our thoughts and actions and ask God to cleanse our human tendencies and replace them with Godly grace, love and forgiveness.

We are reminded every year about the tradition of giving up something for Lent. I hope instead of giving up chocolate or soda pop we can think about giving up grudges, hard feelings, bitterness and the things that come between us and others. Those things get love all mixed up. Of course, giving up these things is harder than giving up chocolate, but it's more productive for our hearts. And the

Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is begotten of God, and knoweth God.

1 John 4:7



less cluttered our lives are with bitterness and grudges; the more God's love comes alive to us. The more it shines through to others as well.

Paul writes in Colossians 3:14, "Above all these, put on love which binds everything together in perfect harmony." What a good verse to live by.

Pastor Mark



For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth on him should not perish, but have eternal life.

John 3:16



Greetings from the Children's Ministry at EUMC!

We have lots of exciting events planned this year. On Wednesday, February 10th at 6pm we will gather upstairs at EUMC to decorate and fill Easter Baskets for our shut-ins. This is our second year to deliver goodies to our members and friends who can't always worship with us, or just need a little extra TLC this Easter season. Please join us for an "egg-cellent" evening! Our cute little bunnies (kids) will personally deliver the baskets closer to Easter.

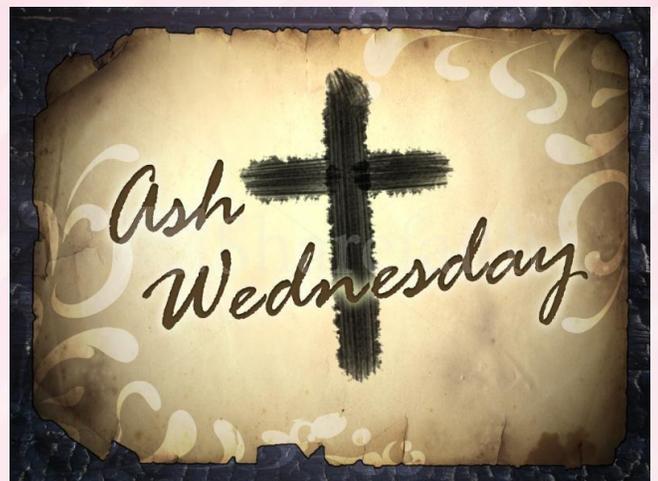
Other upcoming events include trips to the Cincinnati Museum Center IMAX theatre (to swim with dolphins) and to see the LEGO Exhibit this spring. We will have our annual Easter Egg Hunt and VBS later this year too! Looking forward to learning more about Jesus and serving others in 2016!

("EUMC Easter Baskets 2015" Photo courtesy of Cherri McMahon.)

February 2016

Mon	1 st	Mission City Barbeque Fundraiser 7:00 pm	SPRC Meeting
Tue	2 nd	Mountain Mission Pickup Day 7:00 pm	Disciple Bible Study
Wed	3 rd	12:00 pm	Caring Team 5:45 pm Sunday School Meeting 7:00 pm Choir Practice 7:00 pm Manna Mission Meeting
Thur	4 th	11:00 am	Women In Mission
Sat	6 th	9:00 am	Methodist Men Meeting
Sun	7 th	9:00 am	Communion / Chapel 9:15am Sunday School 9:15am Tone Chyme 10:30 am Worship 12:00 pm Youth Bible Study 4:30 pm Confirmation Class 4:30 pm Devotions 5:30 pm Youth
Mon	8 th	7:00 pm	Council on Ministries
Tue	9 th	7:00 pm	Disciple Bible Study
Wed	10 th	Ash Wednesday 10:30 am	Children's Chapel 6:00 pm Children's – Baskets for Shut-in. 7:00 pm Ash Wednesday Service
Thur	11 th	6:00 pm	Prayer Group
Sun	14 th	Valentine's Day 9:00 am	Communion / Chapel 9:15am Sunday School 9:15am Tone Chyme 10:30 am Worship 12:00pm Youth Bible Study 4:30 pm Confirmation Class 4:30 pm Devotions 5:30 pm Youth
Mon	15 th	Presidents' Day	

		5:30 pm	Youth
Mon	15 th	Presidents' Day	
Tue	16 th	7:00 pm	Disciple Bible Study
Wed	17 th	10:30 am	UMM LaRosa's Day 7:00 pm Choir Practice
Fri	19 th	6:00 pm	Winter Jam
Sun	21 st	9:00 am	Communion / Chapel 9:15am Sunday School 9:15am Tone Chyme 10:30 am Worship 12:00pm Youth Bible Study 4:30 pm Devotions 5:30 pm Youth
Tue	23 rd	7:00 pm	Disciple Bible Study
Wed	24 th	10:30 am	Children's Chapel 7:00 pm Choir Practice
Sat	27 th	5:00 pm	Manna Mission
Sun	28 th	Have a Heart for Seniors Offering 9:00 am	Communion / Chapel 9:15am Sunday School 9:15am Tone Chyme 10:30 am Worship 12:00pm Youth Bible Study 4:30 pm Devotions 5:30 pm Youth



Thank you

A grateful thank you to all who participated in making this past Advent Season very meaningful and special. The sanctuary Christmas decorations set the atmosphere. We appreciate those who were involved in the Children's Christmas pageant, the special music and musicians, and the advent wreath candle lighting / message by those portraying biblical characters. Let us strive to keep this warm, loving and caring feeling going throughout the year.

Evangelism Caring Team

WOMEN IN MISSION REPORT

We are collecting children's socks and gloves for both boys and girls at Ida Spence Mission. Please place donations in the green tub next to the desk in the Home Street Vestibule. They will be delivered the week of February 21st.

Old Christmas cards can be placed in Mission drawer #6-7. These cards will be sent to St. Jude's Children's Hospital.

Containers to collect Labels for Education and Box Tops for Education found on Campbell Soups and many other food and household items, clip and place labels in Mission drawer #1. Red Bird Mission can make many purchases because of these labels. Thank you

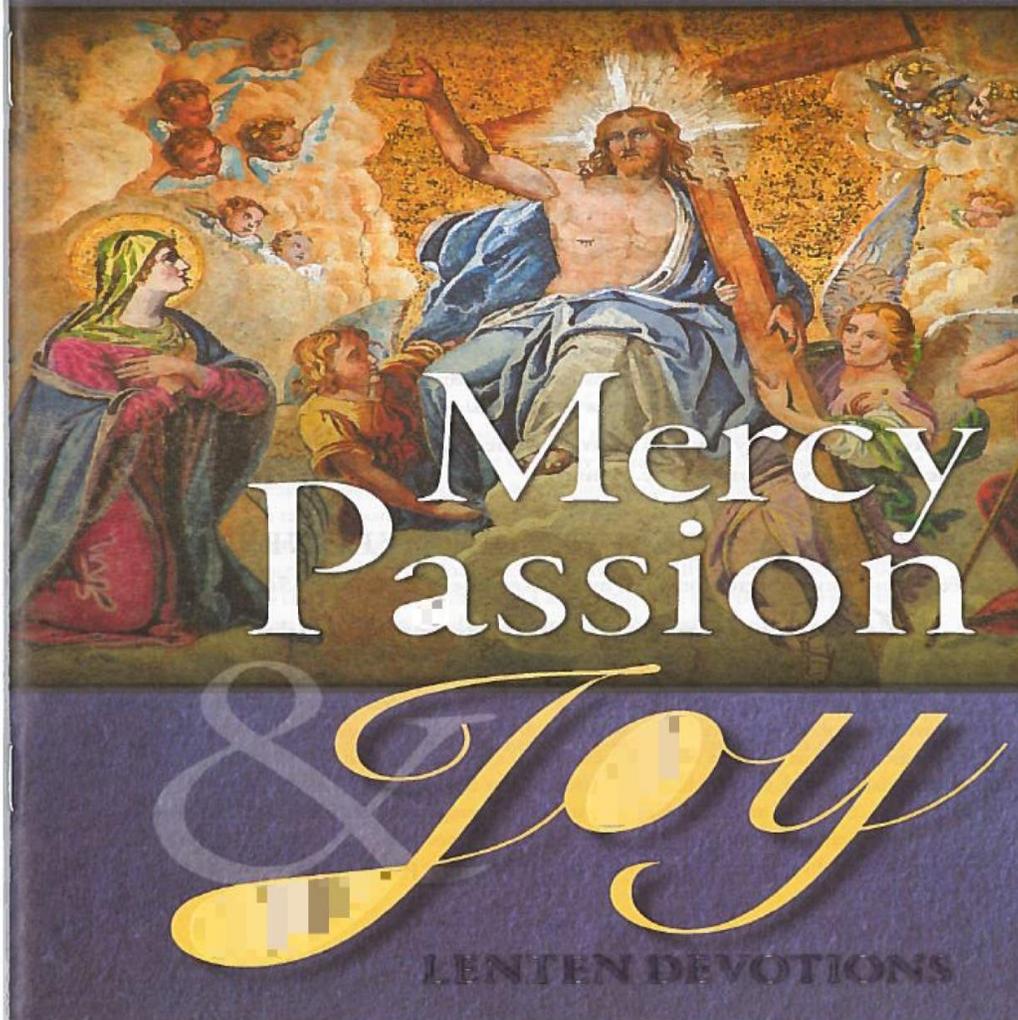


1 Corinthians 13 American Standard Version

1 If I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am become sounding brass, or a clanging cymbal. 2 And if I have the gift of prophecy, and know all mysteries and all knowledge; and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. 3 And if I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and if I give my body to be burned, but have not love, it profiteth me nothing. 4 Love suffereth long, and is kind; love envieth not; love vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, 5 doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not its own, is not provoked, taketh not account of evil; 6 rejoiceth not in unrighteousness, but rejoiceth with the truth; 7 beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things. 8 Love never faileth: but whether there be prophecies, they shall be done away; whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall be done away. 9 For we know in part, and we prophesy in part; 10 but when that which is perfect is come, that which is in part shall be done away. 11 When I was a child, I spake as a child, I felt as a child, I thought as a child: now that I am become a man, I have put away childish things. 12 For now we see in a mirror, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know fully even as also I was fully known. 13 But now abideth faith, hope, love, these three; and the greatest of these is love.



REFLECTIONS ON THE WRITINGS OF
C. S. LEWIS



MERCY PASSION & JOY

LET THE WRITINGS OF C. S. LEWIS LEAD YOU THROUGH LENT WITH THIS BOOKLET OF DAILY QUOTES FROM ARGUABLY THE GREATEST CHRISTIAN APOLOGIST OF THE 20TH CENTURY, FOLLOWED BY REFLECTIONS BY C.S. LEWIS SCHOLAR DR. JOEL HECK. THE DAILY QUOTES, SCRIPTURE, REFLECTIONS AND PRAYERS LEAD THE READER FROM CONTEMPLATIONS ON THE MERCY OF CHRIST, THE PASSION HE SUFFERED ON OUR BEHALF, TO THE ASTOUNDING JOY THAT IS OURS BECAUSE OF HIS GREAT SACRIFICE FOR US.



From the Erlanger United Methodist Men
Hi Folks.

Thank you for your participation in the Soup-Grilled Cheese Lunch after church on January 24, 2016. The UMM netted \$290.39 that will go towards missions.



Our next fundraiser of 2016 will be the Spaghetti Dinner on Saturday, March 12, 2016 from 5:00 pm until 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Tickets are \$8.00 for adults and \$4.00 for children. Children under 6 are free. Thank you for participating.



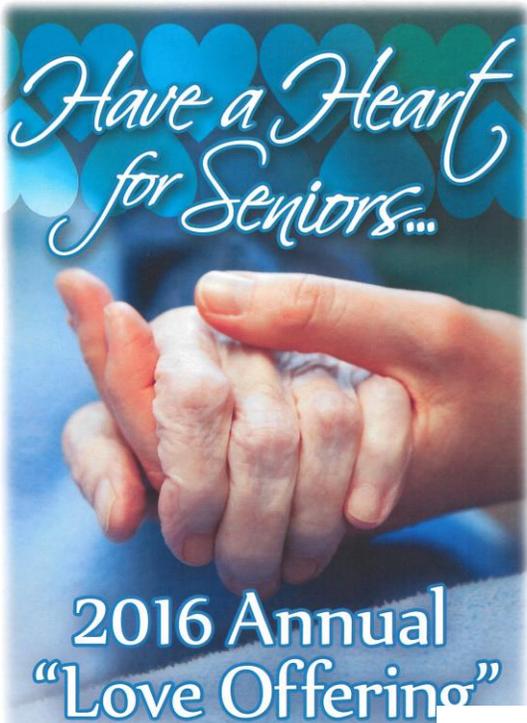
We will also have a fundraiser at LaRosa's in Crescent Springs on Wednesday, February 17, 2016. Lunch & dinner. The UMM receive a portion of their proceeds for their mission work.

Canned goods update for the United Christian Volunteers. Thru January 25, 2016, 521 food items have been delivered. Emphasis in February 2016 is on "Tuna, Tuna Helper & Crackers". Our goal for 2016 is 6,000 food items. There are many folks in the local area that can't afford enough food for their families. Your support has gone a long way in helping this cause. Thank you. Whatever you bring will be greatly appreciated.

We would like to invite all men to join the Erlanger United Methodist Men. Our next meeting is February 6, 2016, Saturday, at 9:00 am at Erlanger UMC in the Asbury Room.

Thank you and GOD Bless you all.

The mission of the General Commission on United Methodist Men is to assist men to know Jesus Christ, to serve Him, to grow spiritually and seek daily to do His will.



 BENEFITING SENIOR CARE MINIS
Wesley Manor, Louisville • Wesley Village, Wilmore • Lewis Memorial H

*Have a Heart for seniors
"Love Offering"
Sunday, February 28, 2016*

"A Blessing for Mother and Me!"

"Mom's health began to decline... she became weak and suffered a fall... she was disoriented most of the time and couldn't get out of bed. I began staying with her, but still had to work, leaving her alone for long periods of time. Was it time for mother to move into the Village's healthcare where she could get more care?"

Allen's dilemma is typical these days at Wesley Village as many residents live longer lives. His mother had moved to the Village 20 years earlier after a long career in education in which she was much beloved as a teacher and principal. And she loved living in the Village where she was always so active in community life, serving as a Resident Association president, leading a Bible study and conducting exercises classes for those already in healthcare.

"What was I going to do? Mom couldn't afford the additional cost of health care without some assistance. She said she knew of residents who benefited from "Benevolent Care" but I doubted that was for her. Mom told me the staff had promised it though if ever needed, and that I should check into it. So as a dutiful son, I did what I was told! Before I knew it the Village fulfilled their promise to help with finances and mom soon moved into Hahn Manor."

At 86 years of age Allen's mother is now stronger physically and mentally than she has been in years. She is benefiting greatly from the Village's warm salt water therapy pool and enjoying both the peace of mind and security that comes from the Village's Benevolent Care Fund.

"Mom and I are so blessed by all the love, care and prayers of the Village staff and residents. And we are very thankful for each and every person who has made the Benevolent Care Fund possible! Your donations have so blessed my mother and me. May God bless you all!"

Please give generously so more residents and families like Allen and his mother will experience the blessings of peace of mind and security that only you can provide through our Wesley Village Benevolent Care Fund.

***Make checks payable to your local church with a memo,
"Wesley Village." Your donation is 100% tax deductible.
Secure donations via credit card may be made at wvillage.org.***

For more information contact: Wesley Village • 1125 Lexington Rd.
Wilmore, KY 40390 • (859) 858-3865 • wvillage.org





Methodist Mountain Mission Urgent Needs List

We are in need of several items to be used in our Processing Plant:

Bath tissue for the restrooms	Creamer	Hand soap for the restrooms
Brooms	Dust mops	Paper towels
Coffee	Garbage bags - 13 gallon and up (we even have a can that uses 40 gallon)	Regular mops
Coffee cups	Good rubber bands (to put pairs of shoes together)	Safety pins
Coffee cups		

AND WE NEED LOTS OF BANANA BOXES

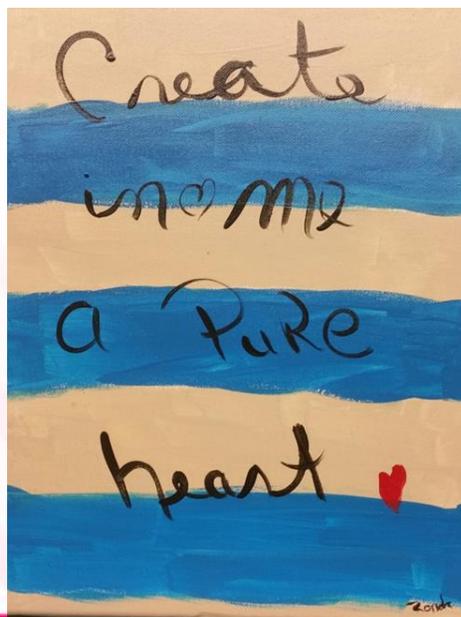
(these stack so well in the Warehouse -- and we have run very low on them)

AND Men's and Children's Clothing - both summer and winter

Thank you so much for responding to our pleas for financial help due to weather-related problems. Your generosity simply overwhelms me! We still, of course, take all those other wonderful items you give. What is listed above is in short supply here at the Mission.

Thank you!





Buy your Valentine Card's here, and support a wonderful cause!!

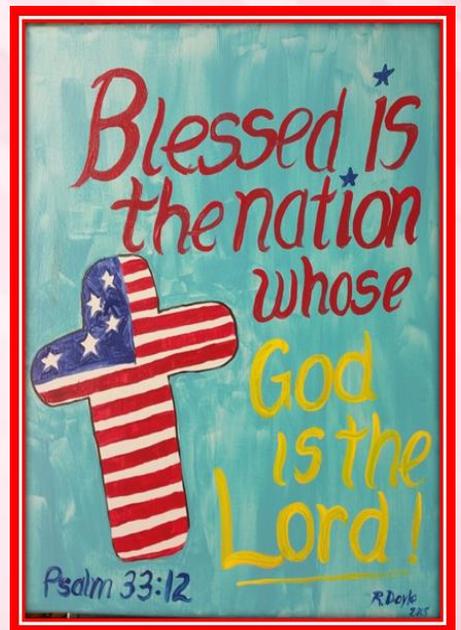
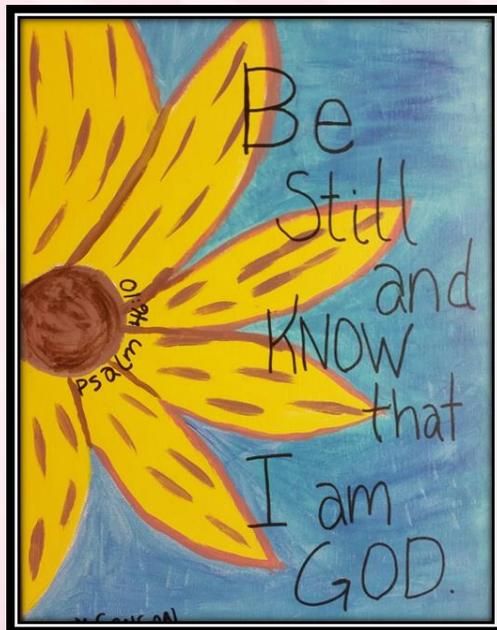
Fundraiser for Mission Trips in 2016

12 Faith Inspired Notecards

6 Designs

Blank Inside

\$10.00

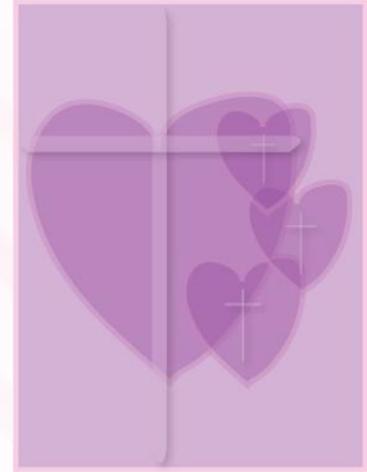


January 2016

Tithes	\$16,360.52
Sunday School	\$68.00
Loose Plate	\$239.51
GECDC	\$6,459.79
Interest/Dividends	\$58.75
Upper Room	\$3.00
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$23,189.57

Special Giving

Emmaus Emergency	\$54.00
Emmaus Various Proj.	\$77.00
Emmaus Zimmerman	\$59.75
Good Samaritan Fund	\$68.00
Ida Spence	\$10.00
Laws	\$20.00
Manna Mission	\$155.00
Methodist Men	\$65.00
Memorials	\$135.00
Methodist Home	\$157.00
Missions	\$573.98



Miscellaneous	\$125.00
Reimbursements	\$259.05
UCV	\$10.00
Women in Mission	\$250.00
Youth	\$95.00
Zimmerman's	\$20.00
Building Fund	\$717.75
SPECIAL GIFTS TOTAL	\$2,851.53

GRAND TOTAL **\$26,041.10**

BRING YE THE WHOLE TITHE INTO THE STORE-HOUSE,
 THAT THERE MAY BE FOOD IN MY HOUSE, AND PROVE
 ME NOW HEREWITH, SAITH JEHOVAH OF HOSTS, IF I
 WILL NOT OPEN YOU THE WINDOWS OF HEAVEN, AND
 POUR YOU OUT A BLESSING, THAT THERE SHALL NOT
 BE ROOM ENOUGH TO RECEIVE IT.

MALACHI 3:10





The Youth's Trip to Christmas Town!

W
E



2 BE TOGETHER!!

Looking Ahead: We will be going to the Winter Jam, Friday, February 19th be on the lookout for more information!!

Linda Martin	02/01
Bill McCarty	02/04
Chuck Lambert	02/11
Mike Fletcher	02/12
Martha Ashcraft	02/13
Clancy Barnes	02/13
John Palmer	02/14
Vivian Frazier	02/16

Jackie McPeters	02/16
Dennis Hoffrogge	02/19
Cindy Slaven	02/19
Ginny Allgeyer	02/20
Andrew Buck	02/26
Eloise Mulligan	02/28
Jim Johnson	02/29

February

Birthdays & Anniversaries



Bill & Sue Shumate	2/16
Greg & Kathy Sandel	2/19



Eat at City Barbeque and raise money for our group!

Please join us for a special fundraising event.
25% of your purchase will be donated back to EUMC

Sale Amount
\$ _____

Name of group: Erlanger United Methodist Church
Date of fundraiser: Monday Feb. 1st, 2016
Participating Location: 8026 Burlington Pike Florence, Ky. 41042

Good all day on Dine in & Carry out Orders

Note: If ordering carry out for large groups, please use our Pig Up 'n Go Menu.

Flyer must be presented at time of order to receive credit for the sale.

Flyers cannot be passed out on City Barbeque property. Fundraiser cannot be combined with other promotions or offers. Not valid on gift card purchases.

Check out our menus and Order Online at www.citybbq.com

We look forward to serving you to help raise money for your organization!

Flyers can be picked up at the church or in the bulletin the week before the event!



The Asbury Class of Erlanger United Methodist Church made contributions from their Sunshine Fund to the Following in 2015:

St. Jude Childrens Research Hospital	\$50.00
Emergency Shelter of Northern Kentucky	\$50.00
Family Promise	\$50.00
Master Provision	\$50.00

