



Who We Are & What We Do

Luther Memorial's Social Ministry Committee oversees the Social Ministry Funding Plan, organizes Change for Change, approves requests for the Good Shepherd Fund, and informs the congregation of ways to minister to those in need in our community.

Stock the Pantry - October



Blacksburg Interfaith Food Pantry

Instant Mashed Potatoes – Filling and a great addition to recipes.



Donate!

You can donate to Change for Change or any Social Ministry charities LMLC supports by scanning one of the codes with your smart phone and designating where you want your money to go.



PayPal Scan Code



Venmo Scan Code

Changes to the Social Ministry Funding Budget



For 2026, the Social Ministry Committee is changing the way we request funds for our outreach projects. We are discontinuing the monthly Change for Change requests and instead we are focusing on four areas that the congregation strongly supports.

These ministries include: (1) the Valley Interfaith Childcare Center (VICCC) holiday payment of one month's tuition, (2) the Blacksburg Interfaith Food Pantry provision of bar soap and items for the Holiday Bags in November, (3) To Our House funding food gift cards for a month for all clients, and (4) Micah's Closet where we purchase new clothing for students at Eastern Montgomery Elementary School in the Fall and Spring.

We are not abandoning our long-term social ministry funding budget, but we feel it is best to focus on one of these core ministries each quarter. You may not be aware but in 2023, we collected for all social ministry funding including Change for Change and Benevolence to the Virginia Synod of the ELCA a total of \$89,565.27 and in 2024 the amount was \$90,227.82. Our congregation is very supportive of community outreach initiatives.

Sandy Hagman will be speaking about the new funding budget on Sunday, October 2nd. We will also be sharing data about our strong support for community ministry outreach at the annual congregational meeting.

Change for Change – To Our House



Luther Memorial continues to collect donations to supply To Our House with two weeks' worth of restaurant gift cards (e.g., Wendy's, Subway, McDonalds) to be used for lunches. These gift cards not only offer a warm meal, but also a warm and dry place to stay on a cold winter day. The cost is about \$3,000.

Individuals in our area who find themselves without housing often include those: Experiencing long-term unemployment due to the economy, waiting approval for government homeless-intervention programs or a disability determination. Many guests who have found shelter through TOH have previously lived in the woods, caves, storm culverts, a friend's pickup truck, or a cardboard box.