

It's never too early to plan for Christmas!

It's never too early to start thinking about Christmas, especially when tasked with making Christmas bright for many of our most vulnerable neighbors. The annual Christmas Store at Gethsemane Lutheran Church will take place from Dec. 9th through the 12th. The Christmas store is one of the only client-choice Christmas assistance programs in Central Indiana which serves the whole family. Here are three ways you can help!



- **Monetary Donation** - A monetary donation allows us the flexibility to allocate resources where they're needed most. LCFS accepts cash, checks, credit cards and ACH contributions.
- **Volunteer** - Sort gifts, stock shelves, unload vans and trailers, shop with clients and many other jobs. We welcome volunteer groups and individuals volunteers.
- **Hold a Drive** - Popular items are listed below! Your family, church or corporate group is invited to hold a gift drive to stock the shelves at the Christmas Store.

Good Items to Collect:

Grocery Gift Cards - Restaurant/Movie Gift Cards - Socks - Hats/Gloves - Toys - Family Board Games - Diapers/wipes - Baby items (no clothes, please) - Personal hygiene kits (male and female) - Stocking stuffers (kids and teens) - movie theater sized candy - playing cards - small appliances/cookware/dishes/household items

For more information on the Christmas Store, or to inquire about volunteer shifts, please send an email to events@lutheranfamily.org

Christmas at Lutherwood

It's not easy to be away from home during the holiday season. Each Christmas, we ask the community to help us make Christmas bright for the children of Lutherwood. Individuals may "adopt" a Lutherwood resident and donate gifts for the child to open Christmas morning. Church groups throw Christmas parties for each residential center at Lutherwood. This year, we will need the community's help! We will have more children than ever in our care, due to an upcoming Emergency Shelter program for kids aged 7-11.

Though specific wishlists haven't yet been compiled, we have a pretty good idea of what the kids will ask for. Popular items include:

Activity Sets	Cards	Hygiene Sets	Other Items
Adult Coloring Books	Playing Cards	(No aerosols)	Calendars
Sketch Books	Uno Cards	Old Spice (male)	Slippers
Interactive Journals	Phase 10 Cards	Axe (male and female)	Robes
Pencils/ Colored Pencils		Bath and Body Works (female)	Fuzzy Socks
			Stationary Set

Crystal Wilmot Joins The Exchange Leadership Fellows Program

Last year, Sharing Place and Volunteer Coordinator, Crystal Wilmot, was selected to participate in The Exchange Leadership Fellows Program through the Indianapolis Urban League. This fellowship provides young professionals with a unique opportunity to engage in intergenerational conversations with leaders in many fields and receive skill development training from the School for Public and Environmental Affairs at IUPUI, the Kelley School of Business, and the Tobias Center for Leadership Excellence. Fellows learned skills and were equipped with tools to succeed in both the workplace and the community.

On July 24th, the fellowship culminated with a service project at the MLK Park and kicked off the National Urban League Conference in Indianapolis, where

participants networked with other young professionals, attended various breakout sessions discussing social justice and diversity in the work place, and listened to speeches from 12 presidential candidates. Crystal said the fellowship was fun, informative, and that she plans to continue her membership in The Exchange. Through the Leadership Fellows program, she was also selected to be a part of the Marion County Commission on Youth board.

The Indianapolis Urban League's Mission is to assist African Americans, minorities, and disadvantaged individuals achieve social and economic equality. The Exchange, the young professionals branch of the Indianapolis Urban League was honored as Emerging Chapter of the Year.

Understanding Outcomes, Preparing for the Future

In our quest to prepare for the future, LCFS is looking to study the data we produce to better understand our operations. For more than a year, Trina Bird has forged a new role here at the Foundation for LCFS. As Outcomes and Data Specialist, Trina collects, codifies and maintains data produced by our programs and administrative and fundraising activities. She has also worked to integrate data from our Home-based and Community-based programs into the Efforts to Outcomes database, which tracks the effectiveness of our programs and provides insight into which aspect of treatment are working well and which may provide opportunities for growth.

We also use the collected data to improve our administrative and fundraising efficiency; Trina is tasked with the maintenance of our donor database to keep contact information up to date and has co-written a user manual for our donor database to provide standards of data entry. This user manual will help us to retain accurate,

uniform information and make our fundraising efforts more efficient. Additionally, Trina's expertise will allow for improvement in reporting techniques so that we can closely study our fundraising practices and become better informed about trends in giving.

Aside from data collection, Trina is working on other projects, such as supporting in HIPAA compliance and cyber-safety training and assisting as need with Council on Accreditation reaccreditation efforts.

Having spent nearly ten years working within the medical research environment at Indiana University School of Medicine, Trina is uniquely qualified to handle both medical and personal data of our clients. For her, she says, entering the world of social services and fundraising has opened her eyes to the efforts and challenges organizations like LCFS experience to positively impact the Indianapolis community.

LCFS at the State Fair

On August 7th, a perfectly sunny day, Foundation for LCFS staff manned a booth to spread the word about LCFS and recruit volunteers for the Sharing Place. Across the fairgrounds, Foundation CEO, Sven Schumacher and Community Health Network - MSA Executive Director, Rachael Fisher held a small gathering of LCFS' close friends to reboot the Lutherwood Society, a circle of faithful donors who have committed to serve as a consistent, stabilizing force for the services and programs of LCFS through ongoing philanthropic support.

The Lutherwood Society members are invited to occasional, exclusive and intimate events. If you desire to leave a legacy of love and generosity and strengthen unique and essential programs, we invite you to join us to set the stage for the future. For more information on the Lutherwood Society, send an email to Susan (sryan@lutheranfamily.org) or Phil (pmay@lutheranfamily.org).



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Our Mission:
Engaging and Empowering Children and Families with Love, Compassion, Faith and Support

THE VOICE

Lutheran Child and Family Services

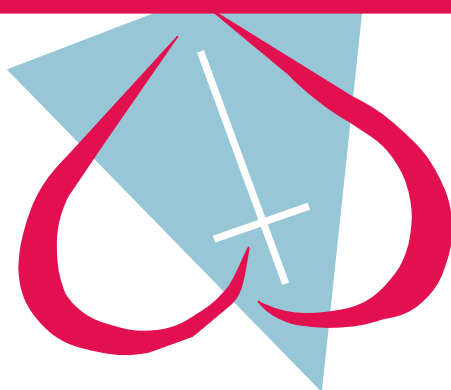
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The Voice is published three times a year to share information about our ministries and programs with our friends, volunteers, donors and partners who make our work possible and impossibly enjoyable. Questions or comments? Email develop@lutheranfamily.org, or call (317) 359.5467

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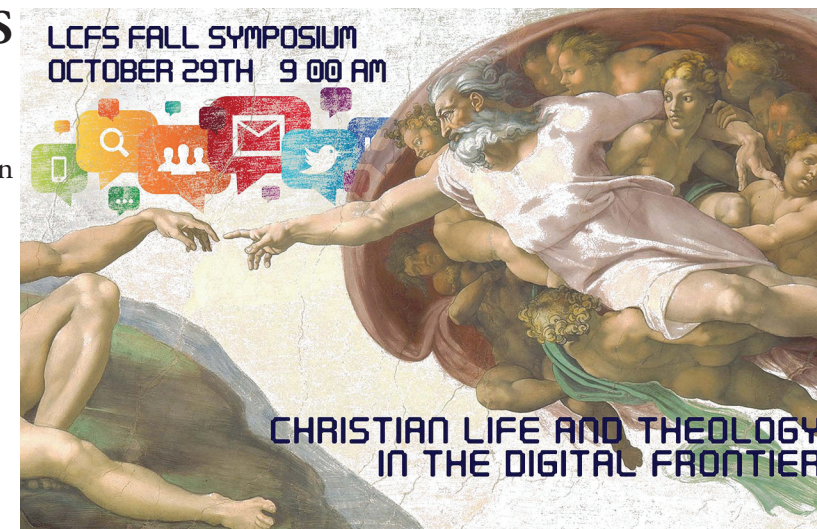
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Fall 2019

THE VOICE

Mark your Calendar for the LCFS Fall Symposium!

As the Digital Age leaves its indelible mark on our culture, Dr. Joel Oesch of Concordia University Irvine is here to make sense of it. Oesch, author of *More Than a Pretty Face: Using Embodied Lutheran Theology to Evaluate Community-Building in Online Social Networks*, will deliver a lecture on Christian Life and Theology on the Digital Frontier at the Annual Fall Symposium at LCFS. Dr. Oesch will lead discussion as we explore the consequences (both good and bad) of a technology driven culture, the difference between connectivity and community, and the importance of spiritual discernment.



This Fall Symposium takes place on Oct. 29th at 9:00 am. Light breakfast fare will be provided. Please register to attend at lcfsfallsymposium.eventbrite.com

God's Work, Our Hands 2019

After church on Sunday, September 8th, Members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America left the sanctuary and poured into the community for God's Work, Our Hands. Members of Cross & Crown, Christ the Savior and Cross of Grace Lutheran Churches gathered at our campus to help us renovate the old Trinity House, which is being repurposed for new programming. Together, they planted flowers, weeded around flower beds, and spruced up the interior and exterior of our campus.



Across town, a group from King of Glory Lutheran Church led by Dick Otto swarmed to the Sharing Place Food Pantry to apply some elbow grease to the nooks, crannies and other places easily missed by brooms and mops. They even shampooed the waiting room carpet! We are so grateful for the work these churches do for the everyone we serve!

We are grateful to these grantors for supporting our programs!

ADM (Archer Daniels Midland) Foundation
Allen Whitehill Clowes Charitable Foundation
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CICF/Indianapolis Fund - SYPF
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