

GOD'S WORK OUR HANDS

God's Work Our Hands = A Summer of Service

This year our **God's Work Our Hands** service will take place all summer with one service opportunity each month. Our Noisy Offering recipients will benefit from our noisy offering collection and also from our participation in the service opportunity your Mission and Outreach Committee has planned.

The Noisy Offering Recipients for the remainder of 2023 are:

July/August: Wings of Mercy

September/October: Benjamin's Hope

November/December: Samaritas

The 3 remaining service opportunities are:

July 15: Samaritas' Grand Ravine Senior Housing BBQ lunch/games

August 19: Wings of Mercy, Care Affaire pancake breakfast, 7:00 - 12:00

September 30: Benjamin's Hope Harvest Festival, 3:00 - 6:00

October 1, 2023 will be our Celebration of Service with a luncheon after worship.

Each of these service opportunities will have more information available before the event along with sign up sheets indicating time slots and locations.

The Grand Ravine Picnic sign-up sheet is now available.

We hope everyone will find one or more service opportunities that fit in their summer plans as we show that Good Shepherd participates in God's Work in the community.

For more information see your Mission and Outreach Committee: Branden Bacon, Vicki Russell, Carolyn Willaman, Julie Wolff or Pastor Jessica.



SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

Summer Office Hours

Memorial Day - Labor Day,
May 29, 2023 - September 4, 2023

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
9:00 am - 2:00 pm



BESTPALS PARTY - GWOH

A Special Thank You to ALL our Volunteers

L-R Bill House, Kris Norvell, Suzanne House, Carolyn Willaman, Karrie Foster & Vicki Russell

Bill & Suzanne House



Dennis Willaman

L-R Vicki Russell, Bill Foster, Carolyn & Dennis Willaman. Behind Vicki - Karrie Foster & Branden Bacon



Julie Wolff & Branden Bacon

Bill Foster & Dennis Willaman

BESTPALS PARTY - GWOH

BestPals 10 Year Anniversary Celebration



We had a great turnout at our 10th anniversary event for BestPals. The weather cooperated; we only had a little rain in the afternoon. Our God's Work Our Hands volunteers helped our sponsors and vendors set up first thing in the morning and played games with local kids throughout the day. Several other shelters brought cats and kittens, and many people showed interest in adoptions. We had tours of the BestPals shelter, and our cat loving volunteers helped introduce the cats BestPals has available for adoption.

BestPals also honored a wonderful person, Janice Rysdyk, at a special unveiling of our Welcome Center named in her honor. Janice had a pet sanctuary for years, saving many cats and dogs in Grand Rapids. When Janice went into hospice 3 years ago, she asked that BestPals help her find homes for the 31 pets in her shelter. We were able to find loving homes for every one of them. Janice bequeathed her legacy to BestPals to help us renovate an area on our property into a dog shelter. Additionally, we were able to repurpose an unused space into a Welcome Center for volunteers and potential adopters. It also includes a quarantine room for incoming sick pets until they are well and ready to be adopted from our shelter. Janice's family came from California to attend our unveiling ceremony. We were blessed to be able to share our love and gratitude for Janice with them in this moving tribute.

Thank you, Good Shepherd Congregation, for being there in body and spirit to help us make our special celebration a happy and fun event for our community. The generous gifts of your time and sponsorship are greatly appreciated!

L-R
Dennis Willaman
& Bill Foster



L-R Jacob Bacon, Bill House, Suzanne House



A happy attendee being chauffeured around.

NOISY OFFERING

Wings of Mercy - July/August Noisy Offering



What is Wings of Mercy? For patients who can't travel commercially, Wings of Mercy is a unique nonprofit organization providing free air transportation to distant medical centers. As a faith-based organization, they seek to honor God by serving and sustaining life for those in need. Founded in 1991 by Peter VandenBosch, Wings has flown over 8,000 missions.



Serious or rare illnesses are not always treatable at local or even regional medical centers. The best treatment can be hundreds of miles away. Even when insurance will cover treatment, it rarely covers transportation. Wings of Mercy connects people in need with volunteer pilots who can fly them to their destination.

Wings ensures that 80% of all donations go directly toward sustaining the cost of the flights. Pilots donate their time and often their aircraft but it is the generosity of donors that pays for the fuel needed for these trips. For more information or to read testimonials visit their website wingsofmercy.org



For our third **Summer of Service** opportunity we will be manning the pancake breakfast at the 2023 Care Affaire Event being held at the West Michigan Regional Airport on August 19. More information and a sign up sheet will be available as the date approaches or see any member of your Mission and Outreach Team.

PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

The Measure of our Love

Computers connected via internet = Families

Total Sunday Attendance: 152

Families: 5

Average Sunday Attendance: 38

