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 too early 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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity Sets</th>
<th>Cards</th>
<th>Hygiene Sets</th>
<th>Other Items</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adult Coloring Books</td>
<td>Playing Cards</td>
<td>(No aerosols)</td>
<td>Calendars</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sketch Books</td>
<td>Uno Cards</td>
<td>Old Spice (male)</td>
<td>Slippers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interactive Journals</td>
<td>Phase 10 Cards</td>
<td>Axe (male and female)</td>
<td>Robes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pencils/ Colored Pencils</td>
<td></td>
<td>Bath and Body Works (female)</td>
<td>Fuzzy Socks</td>
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**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 (pmy@lutheranfamily.org).
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!