



ST. ANDREW'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

6118 CRAWFORDSVILLE RD
SPEEDWAY, INDIANA
(317) 243-6684

Guided by the Spirit, we share the love of Jesus
and walk with our community.

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost Sunday, July 12, 2020

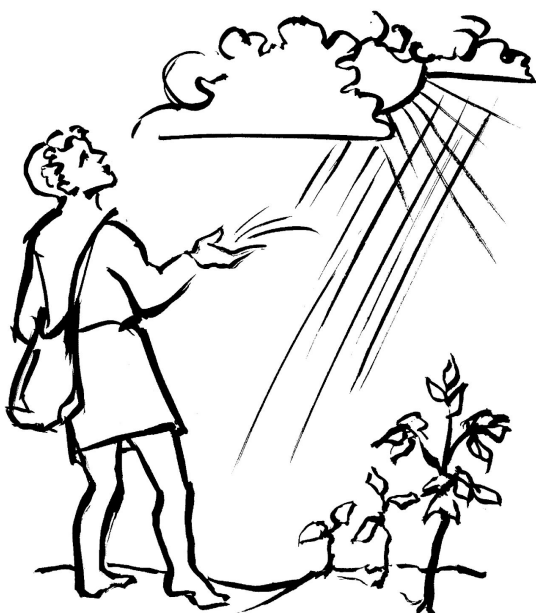
This has been a difficult week, my brothers and sisters of St. Andrews Lutheran church. The sudden passing of Pr. Dan Strobel sent shock waves out among us and those who loved him. In addition, the Memorial service for Pr. Dick Hunt has also been held.

On top of that the Covid virus has us also shocked and stuck, and we don't understand and there are questions and where do we go for relief. On this 6th Sunday of Pentecost (also called "Ordinary time" in some circles) finds us with much that is heavy on our hearts.

And in our second reading today the Bible says "There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus," and we are in Christ in the waters of our baptism and the food at the Table we are one with the Lord. We are called, then, to love one another as the Bible also says today: "the Spirit of God who raised Jesus to life dwells in us!" Good News!

In the parable today, Jesus uses the seed and the sower analogy. Let us make sure our hearts are open, and have fertile ground for the seeds of Faith, Hope and Love to take root. Then, we go one at a time to share that with everyone we meet.

Pastor Doug



Introduction

God's word is like the rain that waters the earth and brings forth vegetation. It is also like the sower who scatters seed indiscriminately. Our lives are like seeds sown in the earth. Even from what appears to be little, dormant, or dead, God promises a harvest. At the Lord's table we are fed with the bread of life, that we may bear fruit in the world.

Prelude

Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil



Lord, let my heart be good soil, o-pen to the seed of your word.



Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is un-der-stood.



When my heart is hard, break the stone a - way. When my heart is cold,



warm it with the day. When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.



Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

Text: Handt Hanson, b. 1950

Music: GOOD SOIL, Handt Hanson

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Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✙ one God, whose steadfast love is everlasting, whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation. **Amen.**

Trusting in the mercy of God, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Reconciling God, **we confess that we do not trust your abundance, and we deny your presence in our lives. We place our hope in ourselves and rely on our own efforts. We fail to believe that you provide enough for all. We abuse your good creation for our own benefit. We fear difference and do not welcome others as you have welcomed us. We sin in thought, word, and deed. By your grace, forgive us; through your love, renew us; and in your Spirit, lead us; so that we may live and serve you in newness of life. Amen.**

Beloved of God, by the radical abundance of divine mercy we have peace with God through ✙ Christ Jesus, through whom we have obtained grace upon grace. Our sins are forgiven. Let us live now in hope. For hope does not disappoint, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word. By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy, live according to it, and grow in faith and hope and love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Word

First Reading: Isaiah 55:10-13

God's word to Israel's exiles is as sure and effective as never-failing precipitation. Their return to the Holy Land in a new exodus is cheered on by singing mountains and by trees that clap their hands.

10For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven,
and do not return there until they have watered the earth,
making it bring forth and sprout,
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,
11so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty,
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,
and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

12For you shall go out in joy,
and be led back in peace;
the mountains and the hills before you
shall burst into song,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

13Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle;
and it shall be to the Lord for a memorial,
for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

Psalm: Psalm 65:[1-8] 9-13

Your paths overflow with plenty. (Ps. 65:11)

[1You are to be praised, O God, in Zion;
to you shall vows be fulfilled.

2To you, the one who answers prayer,
to you all flesh shall come.

3Our sins are stronger than we are,
but you blot out our transgressions.

4Happy are they whom you choose and draw to your courts to dwell there!
They will be satisfied by the beauty of your house, by the holiness of your temple.

5Awesome things will you show us in your righteousness, O God of our salvation,
O hope of all the ends of the earth and of the oceans far away.

6You make firm the mountains by your power;
you are girded about with might.

7You still the roaring of the seas,
the roaring of their waves, and the clamor of the peoples.

8Those who dwell at the ends of the earth will tremble at your marvelous signs;
you make the dawn and the dusk to | sing for joy.]

9You visit the earth and water it abundantly; you make it very plenteous; the river of God is full of water.

You prepare the grain, for so you provide for the earth.

10You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges;
with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.

11You crown the year with your goodness,
and your paths overflow with plenty.

12May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing,
and the hills be clothed with joy.

13May the meadows cover themselves with flocks, and the valleys cloak themselves with grain;
let them shout for joy and sing.

Second Reading: Romans 8:1-11

There is no condemnation for those who live in Christ. God sent Christ to accomplish what the law was unable to do: condemn sin and free us from its death-dealing ways. The Spirit now empowers proper actions and values in our lives and gives us the promise of resurrected life.

1There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. 2For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. 3For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, 4so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. 5For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. 6To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. 7For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, 8and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

9But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. 10But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. 11If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

Gospel: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

In Matthew's gospel, both Jesus and his disciples "sow the seed" of God's word by proclaiming the good news that "the kingdom of heaven is near." Now, in a memorable parable, Jesus explains why this good news produces different results in those who hear.

1That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. 2Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. 3And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. 4And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. 5Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. 6But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. 7Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. 8Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. 9Let anyone with ears listen!"

18"Hear then the parable of the sower. 19When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. 20As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; 21yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. 22As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. 23But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

Meditation

Let me tell you about Dr. Chang! She was the surgeon who operated on my father this past Sunday. She just happened to be on duty last Sunday as my Dad needed abdominal surgery.

He was brought over in the early morning hours and she was consulting on the case. She and I had two conversations that morning on all of the related issues concerning the surgery. She gave me all the options, the things that could go wrong and what could go right.

She did something that almost never happens as she expressed compassion and concern for my dad! Saying at one point in the second phone call, "I'm just concerned about your father!"

I told her that I appreciated her skills and talents, but also her heart! She had compassion and cared about my dad, let me tell you about Dr. Chang. On a busy day, when she had other commitments and surgeries this doctor took the time to comfort and connect to one person: me!

This was my experience of Pastor Dan Strobel. He loved Nancy and the family, all of you, he loved me and all of God's people, One person at a time, Pr. Strobel loved and lived his life in that same way. I recall having lunch at MCL there in Speedway several years ago and Dan had gotten to know one of the servers in the line. He greeted her by name, asked how she was doing and offered a word of

encouragement. He reached this one lady in the line at MCL. Pr. Strobel reached out to me in 2005 and became a mentor for me as I changed congregations. He was a good friend after a health issue and divorce back in 2012; he continued to love me. In fact, out of shame I hadn't told him of the divorce and when he found out he gave me his pointy finger and said "I love you, Doug, and want to be here for you." Compassion, care, and concern for each person he knew or met. That is the legacy of Pr. Strobel and it will be for us as well. Caring for one another and our Speedway/Avon communities.....as you have been doing and will continue to do.

I am aware this has been a difficult week for us here at St. Andrews in light of Pr. Dan's passing and the memorial service for Pr. Dick Hunt. I didn't know Pastor Hunt but heard good things and knew that Dan had a great deal of love and respect for Pr. Hunt who served the Lord here reaching out one at a time to love on another.

I am aware this is a difficult time and has been for months as it relates to the virus. Just look around as we sit here 6 feet apart, masks, and everything has changed.

Well, everything may have changed outside but not inside, not here! I love the Hebrews verse that says "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever!" (Hebrews 13:8).

God never changes, loving every single one of His people with grace and love beyond our wildest imagination.

Today the Apostle Paul writes in our Romans passage "There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. Paul writes "The Spirit of the living God who raised Jesus from the dead, resides in you." Wow, what a gift, for each one of us the Spirit of the Living God resides in each one of us. How simple, how loving, how easy to understand?

My brother Dave stopped over last week to help me with some odd projects. One of those was a towel bar that had broken! I have had that towel bar sitting in the bathroom for months. I even ordered a new towel rod from Amazon to replace it. That arrived and sat in my closet until I was ready to install it. But my brother has all these skills and is very handy so I thought this would be a big job. My towel bar. It only took him 2 minutes and he used a small, small screwdriver to tighten the nut that holds the towel rod in place. Simple. Easy. This is how God's love is for us, we don't want to over analyze or over do this. It is simple and it is for you and for me.

God has planted seeds of love and grace and hope and faith to grow in our hearts and touch others with the Gospel Good News of Jesus Christ! It is our calling.

I am also aware this is our first time together as Pastor and people. I am thrilled to have been called by both congregations and I pledge to love you, one at a time, with the care and compassion and love for everyone. There is never, ever going to be any person we look in the eyes who isn't loved by God!! No condemnation as we are all called by the Lord to rise up above our circumstances and love one another.

We are all called, and it was not your "Call Committee" that got us together necessarily. And it was not your Church Councils necessarily either.....it wasn't me saying yes to each step but GOD who has called. All of us are called to various servings of the Lord to be sure, but we are all called by God's love to go and share that with everyone we meet. I saw this great example of calling one day while at Seminary. As I was going to class I saw this group of people around this sewer grate near one of my

Seminary buildings. A few people had gathered around and were watching down into the sewer the chirping of baby ducks. And, sure enough, there was a mother duck over about 100 feet quacking and quacking and very upset. Clearly she had walked over the sewer grate and her baby ducklings fell down into the sewer. Sure enough the maintenance guy had been called and he put on gloves, used a crowbar to lift the grate and he reached down into that sewer and pulled out 8 baby ducklings!

So somehow I am in between the ducklings and the mother and I am trying to help by calling the little ducks, quacking, pointing the way they need to go. And the maintenance guy said something to me that I have always remembered! He said “get out of the way!!” And sure enough, after I moved the mother called out and the ducklings went to her and followed her into the woods. A really beautiful scene.

Isn't that the same for us?? God (just like Psalm 40) reaches down into the miry pit of our sin with the love of Christ, lifts us up and out. God sits us down on solid ground and gives us a new song to sing! As we “get out of the way” of God's work let us take on the call of God to follow our “mother duck” Jesus into this new normal, this new world and let us love one another and (as the Gospel says today) plant seeds in the heart of others. Seeds of love, grace, and healing hope in the God of love. The virus does not get the last word. Pastor's Strobel and Hunt understood this and now it's up to us to take on the mantle of their witness. The last word belongs to God who raised Jesus from the dead on that Easter and has now sent the Spirit among us in this Pentecost season.

As missionaries in this mission field let's go to love and serve others, one at a time, with the same compassion and care we get from Jesus Christ!

Amen,
Pastor Doug Givan

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.*
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

Called into unity with one another and the whole creation, let us pray for our shared world.

A brief silence.

Gracious God, your word has been sown in many ways and places. We pray for missionaries and newly planted congregations around the world. Inspire us by their witness to the faith we share. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Creating God, the mountains and hills burst into song and the trees and fields clap their hands in praise. We pray for the birds and animals who make their home in the trees, and for lands stripped bare by deforestation. Empower us to sustainably use what you have given. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Reigning God, we pray for our nation's leaders. Increase their desire for justice and equality. We pray for our enemies. Bridge the chasms that divide us and guide authorities to a deep and lasting peace. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Abiding God, care for all who are in need (especially). For those who are doubting, renew faith. For those who are worrying, provide release. For those who are struggling, ease burdens. For those in fear, give hope. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Renewing God, revive your church in this place. Nourish and nurture the seeds you have planted, that we might grow as disciples. Replace what has been depleted. Sustain our ministries (especially) and deepen relationships with the wider community. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Eternal God, we give thanks for all who have died (especially Nathan Söderblom, Bishop of Uppsala, whom we commemorate today). Comfort us in the sure and certain hope of the resurrection. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Receive these prayers, O God, and those too deep for words; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Joined together by the Holy Spirit, let us pray the prayer that Jesus taught:

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.

Offering Prayer

God of goodness and growth, all creation is yours, and your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens. Water and word, wine and bread: these are signs of your abundant grace. Nourish us through these gifts, that we might proclaim your steadfast love in our communities and in the world, through Jesus Christ, our strength and our song. **Amen.**

Blessing

Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. God, the creator, ✙ Jesus, the Christ, and the Holy Spirit, the comforter, bless you and keep you in eternal love. **Amen.**

Dismissal

Go in peace. Christ is with you.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

On What Has Now Been Sown



1 On what has now been sown your bless-ing Lord, be - stow; the
2 To you our wants are known, from you are all our pow'rs; ac -
3 Oh, grant that each of us, now met be - fore you here, may



pow'r is yours a - lone to make it sprout and grow. O Lord, in
cept what is your own and par-don what is ours. Our prais - es,
meet to - geth - er thus when you and yours ap - pear, and fol - low



grace the har - vest raise, and yours a - lone shall be the praise!
Lord, and prayers re - ceive and to your word a bless - ing give.
you to heav'n, our home. E'en so, A - men! Lord Je - sus, come!

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt.

Music: DARWALL'S 148TH, John Darwall, 1731–1789

Families on the Prayer List

Mr. and Mrs. Brian White (Gayla)
Mr. & Mrs. Dale Willman (Christine)
Mr. Kurt Wolfe
Mr. Michael Wolfe and Holly

Additional Prayers for Recent, Current, or Upcoming Medical Care:

Vicki Alleman, daughter of Bonnie Parker	David, friend of Ed & Bev Bailey
Christine Claprodt, daughter of Norma Sweeney	Patrick Frepan, friend of the Hills
Fred and Darlene Fairchild, parents of Erin Browning's friend	Jeannie Hermerding
David Tryon, son of Mary	Marlon, brother of Ellen Shupe
John Racek, brother-in-law of Jamie Shake	Denise Hollman
Janet Walsh, friend of Susan Hahn Johnson	Keith Johnson, husband of Susan
Angel Kaulfers, the wife of Rose Jones' coworker	Pat Tumey
Tom Givan, father of Pastor Doug Givan	Jeanne Wall

Those with Ongoing Special Need of Prayer:

Jerid Edwards, great nephew of MJ Lynch Ruth Tingle

Remember to Pray for Nursing Home Residents and Shut-Ins:

Lynn Bigelow	Alton Dahl	Thelma Jones	Penny Kalk	Martha Larson
Norma Petraits	David Royer	David Schmalz	The Harrison	

Remember to Pray for those Serving in our Armed Forces:

Michael Joseph Jerry Shake



We share our Christian sympathy with Nancy Strobel and the family of Pastor Dan Strobel as they mourn his untimely death on Monday July 6, 2020.

His funeral was Saturday July 11, 2020 at Messiah Lutheran Church, Brownsburg, IN.

"Rest eternal grant him O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon him."

For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. --Romans 8:38-39

Please continue to pray for Nancy and the entire Strobel family.

Sending cards is always appreciated.

Mrs. Nancy Strobel
8368 Chapel Pines Drive
Indianapolis, IN 46234-2137

Pastor & Mrs Ron Strobel
2112 Cummings
Berkley, MI 48072-1078

Mr. & Mrs. Eric Strobel
3289 Bristoe Lane
Fort Wayne, IN 46814

Calendar

- **Sunday July 12** Re-gathering in person worship 11am
- **Sunday, July 12** Zoom Holy Communion in the Home 6:45pm
- **Sunday, July 12** Zoom Adult Faith Formation 7pm
- **Monday, July 13** Zoom Staff Meeting 10am
- **Wednesday, July 15** Newsletter items due to Kelli
- **Thursday, July 16** Zoom Council Meeting 6pm
- **Sunday July 19** Re-gathering in person worship 11am
- **Sunday, July 19** Zoom Holy Communion in the Home 6:45pm
- **Sunday, July 19** Zoom Adult Faith Formation 7pm
- **Monday, July 20** Zoom Staff Meeting 10am



Announcements

REGISTER NOW FOR THE IK SYNOD'S AT-HOME/VIRTUAL VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL!

Compassion Camp is an at-home/virtual Vacation Bible School experience offered by the Indiana-Kentucky Synod. Materials will be emailed to parents. A lively video presentation created by people from across the synod will premiere on YouTube Live at 6 pm each day Monday through Friday, July 20 - 24, 2020 but will be available after the premiere for families to engage with whenever is convenient. The video presentation will include the Bible Story for the day, music, prayer, and some fun! Parents will receive an email with materials that include suggestions for crafts, games, movement, and ideas for putting compassion into action.

Join us for Compassion Camp! Be Loved. Be Kind. Be You.

Register at: <https://bit.ly/ikvbs2020>

Should you have questions or concerns, please contact Pastor Dan Fugate at dfugate@iksynod.org.

FOOD PANTRY

Due to the Coronavirus and for everyone's safety the St. Andrew's Food Pantry has been curtailed. We will turn our support to the food pantry ministry (The Storehouse) at the former St. John's Episcopal Church (30th St.). If you wish to help this ministry please send monetary contributions to Speedway Christian Church. Make checks payable to Speedway Christian Church. Also indicate with a note or memo "Speedway Food Pantry."

Here's the address you will need:

5110 W. 14th Street
Speedway, IN 46224

SUBSCRIBE TO NEWSLETTER

Now that our new website is up and running we have some new features that we can utilize! One of them is sending newsletters using this platform. For now this will be our Announcements, Calendar, and Prayers that are sent each week. Please take the time this week to go to our website and subscribe! Tip: Scroll to the bottom of the homepage to where it says "Subscribe to the Newsletter." Enter your email there! We will begin transitioning to this starting July 1. **Please take the time to subscribe today!**

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Our monthly newsletter is starting back up, it will be an electronic format. Please send all items to Kelli by **July 15**. We are in need of news items and resources that you would like to share with our members and friends!

FACE MASKS

Are you interested in sewing masks for others? Paula Cardoza-Jones would love to start a team of sewers! Can't sew? No worries, we need people to cut fabric, donate supplies, and much more! Reach out to Paula for more info! We also have an offer from Jeanette Burbrink to provide masks for our members at no charge, these are hand-made by her stepdaughters in San Diego. Let Jeanette, MJ or Kelli know if you need a mask.

OFFERING

Though we are social distancing, our mission continues on. If you feel so moved and do not wish to use Tithe.ly, please mail your offering to the church. Please do not drop off your envelopes.

Here is the church address:

6118 Crawfordsville Rd
Speedway, IN 46224

AN UPDATE ON SAVING PLASTIC BAGS FROM JAN SMITH

Please continue to save your plastic grocery bags for the Mats for Homeless project. After several days they will be safe to use and when we are able to work with them again we will use the oldest ones first. Perhaps gather them in a paper bag to save for bringing to the church. Jan asks that you do not wade them up and if at all possible smooth out flat. To process the bags they must be flat and smooth for cutting into strips which is difficult if they have been waded into balls. If you're not able to flatten them just keep as flat as possible.

SPEEDWAY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH BLESSING BOX

The church is putting up a Blessing Box which can be accessed by the church sign on 16th Street. The idea is to serve the community by putting nonperishable food items in the box from donations. Anyone in the community can take what they need or leave donations.