

JULY 2026

the Handup

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF HELPING HANDS COMMUNITY SERVICE GROUP

Back to School Shopping Days at Asbury Resource Centers Aug 8th and 12th

Volunteer Opportunities and Ministry Updates

Click on the text box for details and contact information about each ministry.

The Advocate Mission supports families and encourages you to: Meet a Need, Explore becoming a Foster Family and Get your Church Involved in this service. [Click here](#) for more about the Advocate Mission.

Amy's Closet sells like-new clothing to support Amy's House. They are open Tues-Sat, 10:00 am with stores in Denver and Lincoln offering 25% off your purchase the week of 7/6. Volunteer applications are available in the stores.

Amy's House Domestic Violence Shelter has a Domestic Violence Advocate position available. [Click here](#) for more information about this position and information about Amy's House.

The Asbury Resource Center (ARC) will hold Back to School shopping days on 8/8 at West Lincoln Middle School and on 8/12 at the ARC in Lincolnton. Volunteers are needed to assist during those events and every Tuesday from 10:00 am-3:00 pm to sort clothing.

Backpacks for Kids program is starting to stock up for the school year and are in need of supplies. Second Harvest Food bank supplies are limited so see the list of needs at the end of the newsletter and please consider a donation.

Bridge of Love launched their first Youth Group meeting on June 25th. The next meeting will be July 13. Parents and their teens from 10-17 will bring board games and gather for activities, building friendships and a community support network. This new ministry will also be taking donations and assisting families on Tues and Thurs from 12:00 - 5:00 pm at Boger City UMC. Stop by and say hello to Alexandra and the team. Click the box to email for details.

The Building and Repair Team completed 1 project in June partly due to the extreme heat. Their next project will be July 15th. To help, click here to email Wally Mlynarski.

The Denver Community Garden harvested 334 lbs. of potatoes that will be distributed through local food pantries. We're grateful for the many groups supporting the garden. outreach@denverumc.org.

Lincoln County Foster Care Program currently has 90 children in care and 27 foster homes. if you are interested in learning more about what it means to be a Foster Parent, email amber.mayo@lincolncountync.gov for additional details

Fostering Grace provides essential supplies, encouragement, and support to foster families. They are in need of storage space for their growing inventory, diapers size 4-6 and Walmart and Fast Food gift cards. They also need host churches to sponsor Support Group and Respite events. Click here for details. Be sure to watch the video on the home page to hear a beautiful story of renewal that tells the Fostering Grace story so well.

Furnish a Future has logged 113 volunteer hours in June, serving 7 families with deliveries, including 5 beds, bringing the year to date total to 55 beds to neighbors just in 2026! Washers and dryers and delivery volunteers are needed. Mission Depot is open summer hours, Tues 9:00-11:00 am or by appointment only. Click this box for contact information.

Gaston Community Action connects clients to local resources that help them secure and maintain employment. Applications are being accepted to assist struggling families. Click here to email Cynthia Vinson for details.

Upcoming Events

- Every Tues - Sort donations for Furnish a Future, 9:00-11:00 am
- Every Tues - Sort clothing donations at the ARC, 10:00 am-3:00 pm
- Every Tues 10 am Caregiver support at Salem United Methodist Church
- Every Tues Noon - 5:00 pm, Drop off donations for Latino community, Bridge of Love at Boger City UMC
- 2nd Monday- Historical Society Mtg, Hills Chapel Food Pantry: Sun & Tues, 6 -8pm Thursday 2-4pm
- Lake Norman Food Mission M W F Sa
Contact: emalielevine@gmail.com
- 2nd Sat Caregiver Support Group, 10-12:00 pm Pursuit Church, St James Rd
- July 10 - Aug 7 Missional Network Fabulous Fridays, 9-2:30
- July 13 Bridge of Love Youth Group Meeting
- July 15 Building & Repair project, 9:00 am
- July 17 Summer RITI begins, text RITI to: 980-389-7674 for more info
- July 18 Missional Network Community Work Day, 8:00 am, Hill's Chapel UMC
- July 26 Respite Program Launch -Salem UMC, begins at 3:00 pm
- July 30 Soul to Soul Golf Tournament, Rocky River Golf Course in Concord.
- Aug 2 GriefShare Loss of Spouse at Pursuit
- Aug 3 Helping Hands Meeting, 10:30 am
- Aug 6 Last day to donate school supplies to United Way Stuff the Bus campaign
- Aug 7 Sort Stuff the Bus donations at Asbury Resource Center
- Aug 8 Back to School Shopping Day at West Lincoln ARC, 8:00 am - noon
- Aug 12 Back to School Shopping Day at Lincolnton ARC, 8:00 am - noon

TP Rolls are no longer needed! Thank you for participating.



Harbour Health's Upcoming Walk for Life - September 13

Open my eyes
that I may see
wonderful
things in Your
Law!

Psalm 119:18

Volunteer Opportunities and Ministry Updates (continued)

Click on the text box for details and contact information about each ministry.

Harbour Health has a Medical Mobile Unit offering medical excellence at convenient locations in the area. [Click here](#) to check the website for locations. The annual Walk for Life is happening on September 13th from 4-6 pm. **SAVE THE DATE!**

MENTORING is crucial to children unable to read by the end of 3rd grade who may be on the path toward incarceration as adults. One hour a week to read with a child can make a difference! Consider mentoring a student. [Click here](#) to email Mary Repko to mentor at Rock Springs, and [here](#) to email Bob Smith for Battleground's opportunities.

The Mission Response Center (MRC) in Terrell receives and distributes humanitarian aid items, serves as a depot for UMCOR, and offers staging for Disaster Response. [Click this box](#) to contact Reed Thomas.

The Denver Area Missional Network is hosting a "Fabulous Fridays" summer camp for K-8th graders at Hill's Chapel UMC from 9:00 am - 2:30 pm July 10 - Aug 7. They're also hosting a Community Work Day July 18, to complete home repair projects and yard work for those unable to complete the tasks themselves. [Click to email](#) for details.

Moms & Munchkins and Sunrise Resource Center welcomed 200 people to their Community Cookout and Wellness Fair. 80 children received vision tests from the local Lions Club and 25% were referred for additional testing. Summer Camp is underway. Food items are needed to replenish the local food pantry. [Click here](#) to contact Lea for details on needs and volunteering.

The Lincoln County Room in the Inn ministry is offering a cool summer respite for our unhoused neighbors. If you and/or your church are interested in being a part of this ministry to the unhoused, [click here](#) to contact Denise.

Sipe's Orchard Home provides a home for 16-21 year old unhoused youth and guides them into becoming self-sufficient, contributing adults. Day Camp for school-age children is well under way from 7 am - 6 pm daily. [Click](#) for details on how to support this work.

Soul to Soul Outreach annual Golf Tournament is July 30th with a 9:30 am, shotgun start at Rocky River Golf Club. There is still room for individual golfers, teams and sponsorships. [Click this box](#) to learn more about being part of this event designed to meet the needs of those experiencing homelessness and poverty.

The United Way of Lincoln County is hosting its annual "Stuff the Bus" event, where local businesses/organizations collect new school supplies July 6 - August 6. The collected items will be distributed at back-to-school events and at teacher shopping days. [Click this box](#) for information on supplies needed and collection locations.

Hesed House of Hope Homeless Shelter has some open beds. Potential residents will need to call the shelter for more information at 704-732-0175. 190 volunteers logged 281 hours of service in June. Check below for a list of needed items.

Hill's Chapel's Free-Choice Food Pantry provides food for struggling neighbors every two weeks. They are open Sunday and Tuesday 6pm-8pm and Thursday 2-4pm. Donation needs are listed below.

Journey of Hope is a Christian non-profit ministry assisting the homeless with supplies, resources and advocacy. [Click this box](#) for Melissa's contact information.

Lake Norman Food Mission at Denver Wesleyan feeds 600+ families a month. Volunteers are needed to pick up food from stores Fridays and Saturdays. Vehicle is provided. [Click this box](#) to reach out for more info.

The Lake Norman Lions Club provides vision screening for children 6 months through 7 years old. Lazy Eye must be caught by 3 years old to be treatable. Contact Denzilmbell@gmail.com for more info.

The Lakewood TV Project provides TV's and service to residents of Lakewood Care Center who are able to use the remote control but unable to afford this service on their own. Service for each TV is about \$190/year. [Click this box](#) for sponsorship information.

A GriefShare class for Loss of a Spouse will begin at Pursuit Church, Rock Springs Campus on August 2nd from 3-5pm. The GriefShare Group Session running from August 16 - November 1st will also be held at the Rock Springs Campus from 3-5 pm. Registration for both classes is required. [Click here](#) for information.

Matthew 25 Ministry will be accepting pill bottles again. Please bring clean bottles - no labels to the next Helping Hands meeting.

Current Donation Requests

Current Needs

Most items may be brought to DUMC
Monday-Thursday, 10:00am-3:00pm.

ASBURY RESOURCE CENTER (ARC)

Funds for new socks and underwear are always needed.
Also need volunteers to assist sorting through clothing donations on Tuesdays 10-3 pm.

BACKPACKS FOR KIDS

Jelly in plastic jar/bottle
Vegetables
Small cereals and grits and oatmeal packets
Applesauce- cups or squeeze
Fruit cups
Snacks

BRIDGE OF LOVE

Donations can now be dropped off in Lincoln at
Boger City UMC
Latino foods - Long grain white rice
Pueblo Lindo (dry) black beans
Instant corn masa
Corn and flour tortillas
Chili beans and black beans, canned

FOSTERING GRACE

Walmart and Fast Food Gift Cards
Size 4-6 Diapers

FURNISH A FUTURE

Washers and Dryers
Queen, full and twin mattresses

HESED HOUSE OF HOPE HOMELESS SHELTER

Always need snacks for check-in

HILL'S CHAPEL FREE-CHOICE FOOD PANTRY

Shelf stable food items

Opportunities for Ministry Support

through Amazon or
Walmart Wish Lists

BACKPACKS FOR KIDS

Provides food for local children on weekends and school breaks, click [here](#).

DSS FOSTER CARE

Supports foster families with needed supplies - click [here](#).

FURNISH A FUTURE

Provides furniture and household goods for families starting over - For the Walmart list, click [here](#).

HARBOUR HEALTH (HEARTBEATS) WOMEN'S CENTER

Provides free pregnancy tests, ultrasounds, counseling, and needed supplies for women experiencing an unexpected pregnancy. For needed items, click [here](#).

HESED HOUSE OF HOPE HOMELESS SHELTER

The only homeless shelter in Lincoln County provides food, shelter, laundry, education, and more to otherwise unsheltered neighbors - click [here](#).

JOURNEY OF HOPE

Provides outreach, food/meals, blessing bags, financial assistance and budgeting guidance for unsheltered and others near homeless - click [here](#).

SOUL TO SOUL OUTREACH

Support Lincoln County's unhoused neighbors by providing tarps, laundry ministry, small fans, bug spray, toiletries and more - click [here](#).



Click this box to Register for Soul to Soul Outreach's
July 30th Golf Tournament