

YOUTH MINISTRY SERVICE PROJECT OPPORTUNITIES

Below is a list of possible service activities that you can participate in with your small groups. You are not limited to this list--- if there is an organization that you would like to participate with that you know of, please make sure to let Lauren Piercefield lpiercefield@stmattewcatholic.org or someone on the Edge team know.

Ministries within St. Matthew:

- **Bible & Baking:** Offered on the third Thursday of each month from September to May, middle school students are invited to bake treats for the Missionaries of the Poor. While the treats are cooking, we will take some time to explore some Bible stories! Meet in the Family Room in the Parish Center. Fall 2018 dates: September 20th, October 18th, November 15th, December 20th
- **A Child's Place:** Serves to assist homeless children in Charlotte, with the primary focus of providing food to the children at school and over the summer. The ministry also provides meals and other donations to their families at times throughout the year. Help needed with snack providers (donate healthy snacks such as fruit cups and granola bars) and drivers (taking the food to A Child's Place.) Contact info: Valerie Zerbe valzerbe@gmail.com or Joanna Patcha gpjh@aol.com
- **Food Pantry:** Provide meals for St. Matthew parishioners in need, Catholic Charities Charlotte Diocese, and several smaller local food pantries. Volunteers help sort and shelve donated food items. The pantry has space limitations so no more than 10-12 volunteers are needed at one time. Entire families are invited to help make Christmas Food Baskets in the Parish Center. Once a month; Mondays, 9 to 10 am after collection Sundays. Also at Thanksgiving, Easter, and Christmas to make baskets. Contact: Brenda Lehtinen, 704-541-1551
- **Homelessness Relief Ministry:** Contact: Bill LaMay 704-995-0002 or Tom Golden 724-312-8009
- **Lunch to Go:** serves our community by making sandwiches and cookies and delivering them to the residents of the Union County Community Shelter and to Mel's Diner, thus allowing our parishioners to express the love of Christ by feeding the hungry throughout the communities of Union and Mecklenburg Counties. Sandwich and cookie makers are scheduled every other month, with some choosing to volunteer every month. Volunteers make approximately 40 sandwiches and drop them off at St. Matthew or at Duke Oxford's garage for Mel's Diner. Bakers prepare two dozen cookies every other month for church drop off. Contact: Lisa Oviatt 704-779-7528
- **Mel's Diner:** To provide food and other essentials for the needy. Various activities needed. Contact: Toni Oxford 704-904-0789

- **Our Lady's Rosary Makers Guild:** Devoted to helping our missions and others receive the gift of the rosary, thereby making their prayers more deeply centered in the life of Christ. We meet at the parish every six weeks, from 10 am to noon. Rosaries are made on members own time. (We always have openings for people devoted to helping our missions and others receive the gift of the rosary.) Training is required and all materials are provided. Contact: Mary Bettin 704-595-7087
- **Sandwich Ministry:** Goal is to provide 360 sandwiches each to the Men's' Shelter of Charlotte and the Salvation Army Center of Hope every week. Agencies served: Men's Shelter of Charlotte, Salvation Army Center of Hope Women's Shelter. Sandwich makers and substitute drivers needed! To volunteer or ask a question, contact Chris Oviatt or 704.915.1001.
- **Muffin Ministry:** Volunteers are to bake (not buy) 24 cupcake size muffins. Muffins are dropped off in the New Life Center at St. Matthew. Drivers take them to the shelters. Muffins are taken to organizations like The Salvation Army Center of Hope, Men's Shelter of Charlotte, and Urban Ministry Center. Please make sure to contact Jan Grouge muffinministry@outlook.com to confirm schedule.
- **Blessing Bags:** Help the underserved to create blessing bags that will be distributed to area homeless. This event will occur on Sunday, Sept. 30th from 1:30-2:30pm and again on March 31st. Please contact Barb Kohler at barbarak@stmatthewcatholic.org
- **REACH:** a network on our parish website that allows the youth and families of our parish to have easy access to a myriad of service opportunities within our church, diocese, and community. Visit the website for more information: www.stmatthewreach.com.