



PARISH OUTREACH PROGRAMS

Toys for Tots

Saint Paul, in partnership with The Columbia Presbyterian Church, is a collection station for Toys for Tots for both congregations. During the collection period in November both churches collect over 150 toys for this program. In addition, Saint Paul is a sign-up point for parents to come and sign-up for these toys. The toys are distributed in December to provide children a wonderful Christmas.

Advent Angel Tree

During the Advent Season, Saint Paul has an Advent Angel Tree Project, which is for the last few years has been designated for the collection of new men's and women's socks and underwear and blankets for The Columbia Presbyterian Church Clothing Bank and for the residents of the Emergency Winter Shelter. On average, we collect over 200 pairs of socks and underwear and over 30 blankets.

Annual Episcopal Parish Work-Mass Day

Each year, in companion relationship with the nine other Episcopal parishes in Lancaster County we participate with a Work-Mass Day. We gather for the Liturgy of the Word and after the readings and a brief reflection, we head out in teams to pre-assigned work projects in the community. They could be as simple as weeding someone's garden, painting a fence, trimming some bushes, or something more complex such as electrical or plumbing projects. When the work is done, we re-gather together and the Offertory of the Eucharist is the stories about our work experience that day. We finish our Eucharist by the sharing of

communion and then have an Agape Dinner to celebrate the presence of the Gospel in our community.

Disaster Relief Efforts

Through the Disaster Relief Committee of the Episcopal Churches of the Lancaster Convocation (ALERT), we respond to disasters in our community, our state, our nation, and around the world. We have participated in hurricane relief efforts in New Orleans and the south; earthquake relief efforts in Haiti; tornado relief efforts in the mid-west; and Super Storm Sandy relief efforts along the New Jersey coast. We have found that alone we can have little impact but when we come together, we can have an impact that belies our size.