

The North Central Massachusetts Faith Based Community Coalition

MAY 2020 NEWSLETTER

Special "THANK YOU" Edition

Dear friends of the North Central Massachusetts Faith Based Community Coalition,

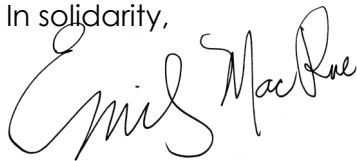
This month's newsletter is a special *"Thank You"* edition meant to express our sincerest appreciation to all of our volunteers, donors, and church partners for their enormously helpful contributions. Since the release of our last newsletter on May 9th, we have had four Sunday breakfasts with sandwich bags and four pasta suppers – totaling about 820 meals in the stomachs of our hungriest friends. This success would not be possible without the continued support from everyone in our village who are highlighted in this month's newsletter.

As we know, this type of work doesn't start and end with the chaos that is occurring locally, nationally, and globally. We move forth with our mission each and every day with the Lord's blessings. In that vein, I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge the grief that we are experiencing in light of the murders of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, and countless other African Americans in our Country. Although many things feel uncertain and there are a lot of questions left unanswered, what we do know is that each and every one of us must commit to doing the hard work before us.

Amidst our grief, sadness, anger, and frustrations, we must take strength from one another and within this community; we must come together in solidarity with the broader movement for justice that is sweeping our Country. Through the NCMFBCC, we are able to serve incredibly marginalized groups of people, including many of our black brothers and sisters. We must continue to humanize our guests, friends, and one another in recognition that every life matters. As Project Bread recently stated, "We cannot solve hunger if we do not first end racism".

There are countless people we'd like to thank personally for their continued commitment and contributions to the NCMFBCC that it would be impossible to include in just one newsletter. I hope you enjoy this special *"Thank You"* edition of our newsletter highlighting some of our gratitude!

In solidarity,



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Kathleen Craigen

Administrative Director

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OUR CHURCHES

"WHERE GRACE HAPPENS, GENEROSITY HAPPENS." -MAX LUCADO

Thank you to all of our partner churches for their commitment, endless support, and contributions!

First Parish Church of Groton

United Parish Lunenburg Community Center

Bread of Life Church

New Patriots Christian Congregation

New Hope Community Church

First Baptist Church of Westminster

First Church of God in Christ

Beautiful Gate Church Of God In Christ

Redemption Rock Church

New Creation Community Church

Gospel Gateway



THANK YOU!

To all of our highest contributing grant funders and donors.



breadoflifechurch

22 State Road East, Westminster



First Parish Church of Groton

A Unitarian Universalist Welcoming Community

Offering Worship Services and Religious Education each Sunday at 10:00 AM



United Parish Lunenburg



Individual Contributors:

Jennifer & John Disney

Jessie Olson

Paul & Donna Funch

Sam Godin

James MacRae



Thank you!

This program is also made possible by contributions from:

We are made strong by our dedicated Board members:



D Reid

Elisa

Christine Regan-Davi

Kathy Deery Cote

Stacey Christy Terrio

Will Cortezia

Shari Houtman

Vicky Younkin

Margie Nelson



Mark Armstrong

Kathy Brown

Carrie Harris

Carole Hicks

Nathan Hicks

Allan Maccarone

Pastor Timothy Martin

Pastor Gary Palmer

Theresa Suzo



Thank you for all of our in-kind donations and our business partners for their contributions including masks, gloves, hand sanitizer, farm fresh eggs, seemingly endless fresh produce, a refrigerator, a storage unit for overflow, loaves of bread, non-perishable meals, and so much more.



RESTORATION AND
RECOVERY CENTER, INC.
40 Fairmount St,
Fitchburg, MA 01420



United Way of North
Central Massachusetts

Individual Thanks:

Keith Barnaby

Jessica Bumford

Joe Carbone

Liz Davis Chafin

Susan Christensen

Felix Colon

Charline Driscoll

Cynthia Hanson

St. Joseph's Church & Sandy Hudson

Kelly

Chris Iosua

Kelly Johnson

Desire Maldonado

Fern Parker

Mike Preston

Heather Russ

Neil Zanni



Community Health Connections

We take great care of you!

OUR VOLUNTEERS

“ONE OF THE GREATEST GIFTS YOU CAN GIVE IS YOUR TIME.”

Mark Armstrong

Andrea Arsenault

Emmanuel & Gladys Blackston

Kathy Brown

Diane Butler

Felix Colon

Kathleen Craigen

Jamie Eichelberger

Ryan Harris

Carol Hatch

Sandy Hudson

Cera Hawkins

Angaw Kahassai

Desire Maldonado

Monica McNamara

Patrick Mongeau

Thomas Moser

Margie Nelson

Fern Parker

Madeline Philbrook

Kane Rozell

D Reid

Larry Segglin

Alan Stowell

Josh Stowell



WE CAN'T WAIT TO
SEE YOU AGAIN!

As people feel comfortable integrating back into community activities, we look forward to welcoming everyone back to volunteer. We are so thankful for ALL of the work that EVERYONE has done in the last few years. From the bottom of our hearts, thank you to EVERY volunteer.



Thank you to NewVue Communities and NeighborWorks for providing us with Monica, Felix, and Kathleen for the last six weeks! We are looking forward to continuing our work with them.



Thank you to Monica, Felix, and Kathleen for the work they continue to do in support of the Coalition, especially during the pandemic that has changed our program drastically.

We couldn't have done it without you!



THANK YOU TO OUR GRACIOUS HOST: YMCA OF CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS

Special thanks to the YMCA staff who
volunteer for and support the program:

Ted McDonnell, Director

Chelsea deBettencourt

Angaw Kahassai

Patrick Mongeau

Pamela Christian Ridings



Respectfully submitted by Kathleen Craigen
June 3rd, 2020