first community

Letting Go, Giving Forward: Resources for Our Faith Community

The **MATERIAL DONATIONS FLOWCHART** summarizes all the donations the Missions Department currently accepts.

First Community Contacts

- Martha Popa – Helps older adults in home organization, downsizing, and who are relocating. She is insured.
    - Contact Information: Phone: (614) 633-9535; Email: mvpopa@breezelineohio.net
- Barbara DeHays – Expertise in antiques and collectibles. Also an auctioneer (helps with best prices for items).
    - Contact Information: Central Ohio Appraisals (State licensed real estate Appraiser): Phone: (614) 648-0066; bdehays@sbcglobal.net.

First Community Donation Opportunities

Women's Guild "Goods for Good" Mini Garage Sale

- 9am to 3pm on Saturday, May 2 in the parking lot at First Community South.
- Donations accepted Friday, May 1, in the FC South parking lot between 2pm and 6pm, or early Saturday morning. No item drop-offs before Friday at 2pm.
- In conjunction with the Grandview Community Garage Sale.
- The Trading Post will be open!
- Volunteers are needed! Contact Kitty Rohrer at kfrohrer@gmail.com or by text or phone at (614) 282-3932 to sign up to volunteer or with any questions.

Heart to Heart

- Donations are accepted of non-perishable foods: labeled, unexpired, unopened, in original containers.
- Perishable food donations are to be arranged by appointment with Yohan Kim, Food Pantry Manager. Contact Yohan at ykim@fcchurch.com or by phone at (614) 488-0681, x203.
- Personal care items are accepted including feminine hygiene items and toiletries (pads, tampons, shampoo, soap, toothpaste, toilet paper, etc.).
- Baby care items are also accepted including diapers, wipes, food, and formula.

Trading Post

- Proceeds support First Community Missions. They are located in the basement of the Annex Building at South Campus. The store is open Monday, Wednesday, Friday and the first Saturday of the month from 10am-4pm.
- Donations accepted include clothing, décor, office supplies, entertainment, books, housewares, small sporting goods, linens, crafts and sewing supplies, personal accessories, antiques, jewelry, toys, small tools and gardening supplies, small electronics, board games and cards.
- Complete Donations List
- Also welcome are supplies used to manage the store, including:
    - Used shopping bags with handles (paper or vinyl, all sizes)
    - Used padded mailers
    - Scotch tape dispenser refills
    - Zip lock bags (snack, sandwich, quart, gallon, 2-gallon, 3-gallon)
    - Powdered laundry detergent and Oxyclean spray refill
    - Paper towels
    - Dry Swiffer pads
    - Large black trash bags

Mat Makers

- Members of Mat Makers at First Community Church use plastic shopping bags to make and provide 3-by-6-foot mats to clients of its Heart to Heart food pantry and the Near Northside Emergency Material Assistance Program food pantry in the Short North.
- The clients who receive the mats often sleep under bridges and are grateful to have the warm, water- and bug-resistant cushions. Otherwise, clients would sleep on cardboard or old clothing.
- Donations requested are for clean, dry, standard plastic shopping bags like those you'd get at Kroger, Target, Walmart, etc. NOT thin produce bags or newspaper sleeves.
- You can drop off your bags at FC South in the coat room or FC North in the Rose Wing vestibule. Please note the bags must be clean.

Warm Welcome Knitters

- Warm Welcome Knitters accepts donations of yarn. This group makes hats, scarves and mittens that they in turn, donate to the Heart to Heart food pantry, and various community groups including C.R.I.S. (Community and Refugee & Immigration Services) and ProjectHOPE.

Prayers & Squares Prayer Quilt Ministry

- Prayers and Squares create the beautiful quilts that are tied before and after worship services for those who may be facing surgery or illness, grieving a loss, going through a crisis, or celebrating something meaningful. As each knot is tied, a prayer is offered to the person who will be receiving the quilt. The motto for Prayers and Squares is that "It's not about the quilt; it's all about the prayers."
- Donations are requested for fabric that is 100% cotton for quilting. Please, no donations of upholstery material and bed sheets (even if they are 100% cotton) as they cannot be used as the weave is too tight.
- If you have cloth you would like to donate, it can be dropped off on the metal shelves on the first floor hallway of the Annex Building with a note that indicates it is for Prayers & Squares. For more information, contact Susan Westbrook at susanwestbrook53@gmail.com.

Pill Bottle Recycling

- Empty Rx and OTC pill bottle donations are accepted on behalf of Matthew 25 Ministries. Their pill bottle program fulfills the dual need of improving medical care in developing countries and caring for our environment.
- Please remove labels and wash bottles. Donate with lid attached to the bottle.
- Pill bottles can be dropped off at the FC South coat room or FC North Rose Wing vestibule.
- For more information, contact Rick Greene at rgreene4970@gmail.com.

Donations of Eyeglasses

- Eyeglasses are collected by Charlie Jacob for Lions Club and Good Neighbors of Central Ohio.
- All are collected in boxes marked Lions Club, but they are sorted out and taken where needed. The boxes can be found in the coat room at FC South, the FC South Annex in the Trading Post stairwell and the Rose Wing vestibule and lobby at FC North.
- Sunglasses, readers, prescription glasses, and cases are accepted.

Items the Church is Not Currently Accepting

- Newspapers
- Plastic clamshell produce containers
- Empty egg cartons
- Medical supplies
- Toys for the preschool or the Mary Evans Child Development Center (give to Trading Post)
- Pianos
- Furniture: There are no groups in the church accepting furniture donations and no one at the church doing pickups of furniture.
- Large appliances (e.g., microwaves, washers)
- Printers, computer monitors, fax machines

Outside Organizations Accepting Donations

**Please note that the information below is shared as a helpful starting point for those looking to find meaningful homes for their donated items. While we hope it serves as a useful guide, the Mission Department does not have direct knowledge of or have formal relationships with these organizations. As such, we are unable to speak to their current needs, donation processes, hours, or specific missions, and we do not coordinate arrangements, field inquiries, or make contacts on behalf of donors.*

Medical Equipment & Supplies

- First Community does not take medical equipment or supplies for any ministry (including Trading Post or Heart to Heart). This includes bedpans, raised toilet seats, and shower benches. Also, we don't take in-home care and hospice supplies like tubes, bandages, syringes, etc.
- *Suggestion:* Helping Hands at Peace United Methodist Church
- Helping Hands is a ministry that loans medical equipment to people in the Columbus, Ohio area. The equipment can be used for as long as they need it, no strings attached.
- If you would like to donate clean, new/gently used medical equipment, call (614) 837-4568.

Prescription Disposal

- Most city fire and/or police stations have prescription disposal opportunities. Either they collect unused medicines at an event, or provide disposal kits (pharmacists may have them too) to offer means of disposal other than throwing them in the trash or down the drain. This keeps the drugs from people that can be harmed and out of communal resources.
- Drug Take Back Day is scheduled for **Saturday, April 25, 2026 from 10am – 2pm**. A link to a locator search tool for prescription drug collection sites is as follows: Take Back Day
- Search the Drug Disposal Locator Tool for permanent drug disposal boxes in your area: Drug Disposal locator | Drug Disposal Locator Tool | Medication

Baby & Children's Clothes & Supplies

- The Trading Post has limited store space for kids' stuff, but they do accept clothes and toys.
- *Suggestion:* Little Bottoms free store accepts clothes, toys, equipment, supplies, food, etc.
- Little Bottoms provides free diapers, wipes, baby clothes, books, coats, baby gear, and other basic needs for parents and families who are pregnant or have children 0-3 years of age.
- They cannot accept: Adult clothes and kids clothes larger than 5T, used car seats, incline sleepers, Diaper Genies, breast pumps, expired formula, and cribs older than 5 years.
- Questions? Text them at (614) 820-5509.

Furniture and Donation Pickups

**Please Note: First Community Missions does not take furniture of any kind.*

- Furniture Bank of Central Ohio
- Habitat for Humanity Mid-Ohio
- Furniture Donation Free Pick Up Service | Goodwill Columbus
- The Salvation Army Thrift Stores | Schedule a Donation Pickup