

Missional Church Learning Experience Community Project List

American Baptist Churches of Connecticut

Quaker Hill Baptist Church, Quaker Hill, Conn., “Saturday Night Live”

By inviting community groups to partner with the church, this project provides an alternative worship service by bringing different music, messages and giving opportunities. The community-designed worship service also invites participants to get involved in “Faith in Action” where five different opportunities are offered in which people can choose to get involved that day.

Niantic Baptist Church, Niantic, Conn., “Bride Brook Blessings”

Volunteers from the community provide a multitude of caring ministries to the residents of Bride Brook Rehabilitation Center.

Putnam Baptist Church, Putnam, Conn., “CPR Training Classes”

A variety of community health service opportunities including CPR training, first aid classes and health screening opportunities are provided by the local ambulance corps, other churches and local nurses.

First Baptist Church, Shelton, Conn., “Project Hope”

The project works with community agencies and churches to offer companionship and provide assistance with transportation to and from appointments, shopping, and household repairs to elderly and handicapped people who do not have family support.

First Baptist Church, Norwich, Conn., “Winter Survival Kits”

By partnering with public utilities, fire departments and local stores, low income families are provided with winter kits that include blankets, detergent, hygiene products, batteries for smoke alarms, energy efficient light bulbs, socks and underwear, a ‘family fun’ item and a list of community services.

Cornerstone Baptist Church, Danielson, Conn., “Access Agency Assist”

Volunteers trained to listen, mentor and give nonprofessional assistance supplement the community Access Agency in providing assistance with transportation and life skills.

New Horizon Baptist, Manchester, Conn., “Back to School Community Day”

This project provides an all-day family “fun fair” encouraging families to prepare their children for school. In an atmosphere of music and fun, families receive: health screenings, hygiene education, games, Bibles, key chains with blessings, clothing, snacks, book bags and supplies.

First Baptist Church, Essex, Conn., “Angel Food Ministry Partnership”

Along with two other congregations, the church provides a menu of foods that can be bought by low income residents at wholesale prices. Recipients are also encouraged to buy extra items and donate them for “free distribution” at the food pantry.

First Baptist Church, New London, Conn., “The Purpose of Christmas”

In partnership with the Salvation Army and the Hispanic Seventh Day Church, Christmas dinner along with entertainment and a gift are provided for all who are hungry, lonely or would like to help others on Christmas Day.

Enfield American Baptist Church, Enfield, Conn., “The Parkway Pavilion Mission”

By working with the staff, patients and volunteers at Parkway Pavilion, the quality of life is improved for the residents.

First Baptist Church, Mansfield, Conn., “radKids”

This program works with the community and schools to implement a children’s safety education program that helps children recognize danger—and respond appropriately and effectively—to protect themselves.

American Baptist Churches of Maine

Henderson Memorial Baptist Church, Farmington, Maine, “A Warming Shelter”

For citizens who cannot afford to heat their homes, this project works with the community to provide a warm, safe gathering space, a noon meal and purposeful activities during the day.

First Baptist Church, Bangor, Maine, “Being a Neighborhood”

Community residents gather around neighborhood improvement activities to build relationships through service.

Ogunquit Baptist Church, Ogunquit, Maine, “Celebrating Reading”

Volunteers are recruited to go into public schools to read books to children and give each child a book to take home and read to a sibling or a friend.

Thomaston Baptist Church, Thomaston, Maine, “Community Connections: Bridging the Gap”

To help bridge the gap with nighttime homeless shelters, and in partnership with other churches in the community, this daytime shelter provides warmth, safety, a noon meal and life-skills training

Sanford First Baptist Church, Sanford, Maine, “Young Life of Greater Sanford”

In partnership with community organizations and churches, mentor relationships are formed with at-risk teens.

Waterville, Baptist Church, Waterville, Maine, “The Meetinghouse – Center for the Arts”

Using the church’s historical musical heritage, this project seeks to create opportunities for low income children to experience the arts.

Corliss Street Baptist Church, Bath, Maine, “School Supplies for Fisher-Mitchell Grade School”

Initiating a “catch them doing good” reward system, the church supplies basic school supplies for students and copy paper and ink cartridges for the school.

North Vassalboro Baptist Church, North Vassalboro, Maine, “Youth Annex”

Using the converted church annex building, youth—with a designated adult mentor—have a safe place to hang out.

Bowdoinham Second Baptist Church, Bowdoinham, Maine, “Seniors Community Activity Group”

The Seniors Community Activity group provides a warm, spacious meeting place for seniors to gather for socialization and engage in meaningful activities.

First Baptist Church, Gardiner, Maine, “Citizen’s Academy”

This project is a joint venture with the police department to teach citizens how to become more aware of, and involved in, the community’s well-being.

United Baptist Church, Topsham, Maine, “ArtVan”

Professional art therapists and art instructors along with community volunteers provide art supplies and instruction to low income children in order to increase community relationships, hope and well-being.

American Baptist Churches of Massachusetts

First Baptist Church, Weston, Mass., “Transportation for Community Elders”

Each Saturday volunteers take seniors on errands and appointments.

First Baptist Church, Swansea, Mass., “Presently Visible, Visibly Present”

New communication technologies make it possible for the church’s worship and ministry to be available for the homebound, seekers and travelers.

Hornbine Baptist Church, Rehoboth, Mass., “God’s Calling”

Using a seminary student’s “practice of ministry,” this project develops models for building bridges between the congregation and the community.

Ashland Federated Church, Ashland, Mass., “Federated Underground”

The opening of a new coffeehouse provides a place where local musical groups can perform and the youth and their adult mentors begin to communicate.

First Baptist Church, Williamstown, Mass., “Take and Eat”

Due to the fact that Meals-on-Wheels does not deliver food to the elderly on weekends, First Baptist Church—in cooperation with another church and students from Williams College—is taking on the task of preparing and delivering 75 meals to homecare seniors on the last Sunday of each month for one year.

Praying Strong All Tribes House, Mashpee, Mass., “Wind Song”

This project helps build self-esteem among Native American youth and elders through workshops and advocacy for services.

Mid-American Baptist Churches

Community Baptist Church, Truman, Minn., “Truman Community Seniors Life”

This project offers a wide variety of life-enhancing opportunities for seniors such as low impact aerobics, movie night and morning coffee.

First Baptist Church, Knoxville, Iowa, “Stretching the Family Dollar”

The focus of this project is to find ways to help families living on a limited income stretch their dollars. A community-wide “family fair” is held with booths about starting a small garden plot, cooking and eating on a budget for good nutrition, and finding fun with limited resources.

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First Baptist Church, Mt. Pleasant, Iowa, “Mentoring with a Mission”

A wide variety of community agencies come together to form an “army of volunteers” to mentor low income families and share life experiences.

First Baptist Church, Indianola, Iowa, “Occupational Ministry”

This ministry offers free help in locating and obtaining employment, including help with résumés, interview skills and support.

First Baptist Church, Charles City, Iowa, “Weekend Alternative for Junior High Students”

To help foster a positive environment for junior high youth, this project creates engaging weekend recreational and service opportunities.

First Baptist Church, Grinnell, Iowa, “Partners in Parenting”

Community service partners and other churches come together to offer a wide range of workshops for all types of parenting arrangements.

First Baptist Church, Anamosa, Iowa, “Skate Board Park”

This project works with community groups to design and build a safe skate board park for youth.

First Baptist Church, Boone, Iowa, “Hand Up”

Churches and agencies come together and provide shelter, meals, mentoring and biblical studies for homeless persons who are down—but not out.

First Baptist Church, Ottumwa, Iowa, “United Christian Welcome”

To address the need to return “unity” to the community—through a multicultural Christian environment—newcomers partner with local Latino congregations and community businesses for dialogue.

First Baptist Church, Red Oak, Iowa, “Soaring Eagles”

Caring adults from community churches and agencies provide after-school needs for children in a safe and healthy environment. Students are able to relax, work with a mentor, receive assistance with homework and have a healthy snack.

American Baptist Churches of Oregon

Eastwood Baptist Church, Medford, Ore., “God Loves Strippers”

Women from the church befriended the dancers of a local strip club, bringing them birthday cakes and small gifts in exchange for the opportunity to listen to their stories and pray for their needs that include building a trusting relationship with the club bouncers.

Rivergate Community Church, Portland, Ore., “Life for Land”

Working with the neighborhood and Habitat for Humanity, the church has transformed some of its land into low income housing, and neighbors are welcoming new residents with a community garden.

American Baptist Churches of Rhode Island

Phenix Baptist Church, West Warwick, R.I., “Community Resource & Information Booklet”

In conjunction with area social service agencies, the church prints and distributes a resource book to help families navigate the multiple agencies and resources available to them in their community.

Berean Baptist Church, Harrisville, R.I., “Angel Wings”

The church, in cooperation with the school district and other community groups, is making hygiene products available to school children in ways that protect their dignity and the dignity of their families.

Wakefield Baptist Church, Wakefield, R.I., “Elder Pals”

This ministry provides trained volunteer drivers to deliver food to seniors unable to get to the local food pantries and offer visits of friendship and safety checks.

Summit Baptist Church, Greene, R.I., “Warm Our Town”

This ministry assists persons in the purchase of heating oil and informs them about safety issues and the cost and value of having the oil burners serviced to improve efficiency.

North Foster Baptist Church, Foster, R.I., “Sparrows Nest Closet”

The church works with the Department of Human Services to provide nonfood stamp and personal hygiene articles for more than 24 households.

Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church, Mt. Pleasant, R.I. “Community Coffee House”

A safe place that provides great live music and a compelling gospel message when young people of the neighborhood gather there on the second Friday evening of each month.

American Baptist Churches of Rochester/Genesee

Clifton Baptist Church, Clifton, N.Y., “Protecting the Children”

Clifton Baptist Church, in cooperation with local congregations and the fire department, has launched a community education program about the dangers of lead paint in older buildings in Monroe County.

First Baptist Church, East Rochester, N.Y., “Operation Snowfall”

The Community Resource Center, along with the East Rochester senior center and East Rochester youth center, provides volunteers to shovel snow for seniors.

York Baptist Church, York, N.Y., “Gathering for All”

Community partners come together for the good of the community to sponsor events and enhance communication between partners.

Webster Baptist Church, Webster, N.Y., “Adopt Wilmorite Park”

This ministry is a community effort that refurbishes and maintains a local park.

First Baptist Church, Granville, Ohio, “Lunches on the Square”

To help hold people over until the first of the month—recognizing the “end of month” problem for food distribution programs—the church is working to provide nutritional brown bag lunches distributed on the town square.

First Baptist Church, Penfield, N.Y., “Flap Jack Saturdays”

A monthly, Saturday morning breakfast is used to foster a spirit of community among the town’s different groups. More than 200 neighbors come together, enjoy a great breakfast, and use the time to share fellowship with community groups.

West Virginia

First Baptist Church, Grafton, W.Va., “Christmas Community Outreach”

First Baptist Church, in cooperation with another community church, organizes a special food distribution effort in early in December to help residents during the holiday season.

Send the Light Community Fellowship, Frankford, W.Va., “Love in a Brown Bag”

This ministry provides low income children with a bag of healthy snacks to take home with them from school on Fridays.

Mill Creek Baptist Church, Leroy, W.Va., “Christmas Sharing Center”

Mill Creek Baptist Church, partnering with the community and local businesses, shares gifts, clothing, and boxes of food. This is done in a “shopping” atmosphere with people bringing in and picking up gifts. The event concludes with a Christmas dinner that everyone involved is invited to attend.

Parchment Valley Baptist Church, Ripley, W.Va., “Welcome to Our Neighborhood”

Parchment Valley Baptist Church partners with community social service agencies—in a “fair” type setting—to welcome single parents to a housing development.

First Baptist Church, Ravenswood, W.Va., “CommUnity Kitchen”

First Baptist Church—in partnership with Parchment Valley Conference Center, Wal-Mart, Food Fair, Big Lots, Krogers, other churches and volunteers including high school students—provides free meals to low income people two Saturdays a month.

Baptist Temple, Parkersburg, W.Va., “Joe’s Café”

This ministry is a community effort to provide a daily hot meal, free of charge, to anyone in Parkersburg in need of a meal. The project, which focuses on the stranded, underprivileged and transient persons who come through Parkersburg, is designed to “fill the gap” of other community efforts.

Goshen Baptist Church, Morgantown, W.Va., “Healthy Heads”

Goshen Baptist Church works with schools, local physicians, social service agencies and police to provide training in health and safety related issues as well as a helmet for each child.

First Baptist Church, Parkersburg, W.Va., “Ice Cream Social”

This ministry, in cooperation with other churches, city services and businesses, holds a “city block party,” not only to introduce residents to the many ministry opportunities available, but also to inform them of the services these ministries provide. People are made aware of how to become involved in ministry and raise funds for the future.

Baptist Temple, Huntington, W.Va., “Engage, Restore, Revitalize”

Baptist Temple, in partnership with local churches, police, neighbors and other agencies tries to meet the needs and improve the environment of the high crime area around the church by providing home safety equipment, clean-up efforts and social gatherings.

First Baptist Church, Masontown, W.Va., “Our Community is Blooming”

As a first step toward developing community partners, and as a way to increase a sense of community pride and fellowship among citizens, the church brings together people to develop and maintain a flower garden around the entrance sign into Masontown.