

## Outreach and Mission Efforts at Holy Comforter

The parishioners of Holy Comforter make generous financial contributions to many different outreach projects, local, national, and international. Grant money is taken from the Operating Budget (Mission), ECW/Pennywise funds, and Special Offerings at Christmas, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter. In addition, many volunteer hours are given to various organizations. The names of Holy Comforter contact persons are listed with the corresponding organization.

*In 2016, both the **Outreach Team** and **Episcopal Church Women/Pennywise Thrift Shop** made grants to the following organizations:*

- **Arise Campus Ministry at George Mason University ([getconnected.gmu.edu](http://getconnected.gmu.edu)):** A Christian ministry that encourages students to explore faith and discover grace through worship, mission projects, social events, and small groups.  
Contact: The Rev. Valerie Hayes ([vhayes@holycomforter.com](mailto:vhayes@holycomforter.com))
- **Britepaths ([britepaths.org](http://britepaths.org)):** Provides Fairfax County area neighbors in need with short-term safety net services, empowering them to work toward long-term self-sufficiency. Holy Comforter parishioners help to stock the emergency food pantry by collecting, sorting, and delivering grocery items on a weekly basis. Twice a year, our volunteers shop, sort, pack, and deliver groceries to thirty families.  
Contact: Susan McGuire ([osusna@cox.net](mailto:osusna@cox.net))
- **Committee for Helping Others ([cho-va.com](http://cho-va.com)):** A Vienna-based mission comprised of Vienna churches, synagogues, and civic groups which helps people in need of food, shelter, clothing, furniture, and transportation. Volunteers are needed to collect, store, and distribute donated items at several sites in Vienna.  
Contact: Heather Glynn ([hmgwhq@aol.com](mailto:hmgwhq@aol.com))
- **FACETS: Fairfax Area Christian Emergency and Transition Services ([facetscares.org](http://facetscares.org)):** “Helping parents, their children and individuals who suffer the effects of poverty—so often unnoticed—in the Fairfax, VA area since 1988.” Holy Comforter contributes many volunteer hours to FACETS programs.
  - Hot Meals prepared at Holy Comforter and delivered (2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday each month)  
Contact: Leslie Barnhart ([barnharts4@hotmail.com](mailto:barnharts4@hotmail.com))
  - Hypothermia Prevention Shelter: At Holy Comforter one week during the winter months. Many volunteers help with preparations and during the shelter week.  
Contact: Alisa Vogt ([alisa.m.vogt@gmail.com](mailto:alisa.m.vogt@gmail.com))

- **Five Talents (fivetalents.org):** Fights poverty, creates jobs and transforms lives by empowering the poor in developing countries through innovative savings and financial inclusion programs, business training and spiritual development. The jobs Five Talents creates are undergirded by sound business training and funded by microloans. As a volunteer with Five Talents you can help transform lives among some of the world's most vulnerable poor. Many staff and Board members are Holy Comforter parishioners, and we contribute to mission trips undertaken by Five Talents volunteers.  
Contact: Aimee Davis (aimeedavis65@gmail.com)
- **The Lamb Center, Fairfax (thelambcenter.org):** Operates as a daytime shelter serving the poor and homeless, transforming lives, and sharing God's love. Volunteer opportunities are varied.  
Contact: Dottie Stone (don.dot.stone@cox.net)
- **Listening Hearts Ministries (listeninghearts.org):** Teaching people the practice of spiritual discernment through prayerful listening in supportive communities.  
Contact: Frances Sullinger (fsullinger@verizon.net)
- **Samaritan Ministry of Greater Washington (samaritanministry.org):** Helps those with the greatest needs in D.C., empowering them to choose their own goals and pursue them. See the website for volunteer opportunities.  
Contact: Candace Dibblee (candace.dibblee@aol.com)
- **The Shepherd Center Oakton-Vienna (scov.org):** Serves older persons in our community by offering a number of services including classes, "Friendly Callers," "Handy Helpers," transportation to appointments, grocery delivery, and a registered nurse on site.  
Contact: Barbara Fitzsimmons (barbyostfitz@verizon.net)
- **Episcopal Relief and Development (episcopalrelief.org):** "Healing a hurting world," ERD serves and supports suffering people worldwide.
- **Junior League of Northern Virginia (jlnv.org):** The Community programs of this Junior League address childhood obesity, which affects one in five children in Northern Virginia.  
Contact: Maj-Lene Keech (mpkeech@gmail.com)
- **L'Arche (larcheusa.org):** L'Arche Greater Washington, D.C. is part of an international L'Arche movement to imagine community differently; a community where people with and without intellectual disabilities live together sharing homes, providing mutual support, and advocating for one another. There are two of these communities, including four communal homes, in D.C. and Northern Virginia. In these communities the weakest members are given a place of honor and their gifts are called forth. Mutual relationships and trust in God are at the heart of their life together.  
Contact: Joni Langevoort (jlangevoort@gmail)

*The Episcopal Church Women/ Pennywise Thrift Shop have made recent grants to the following organizations:*

- **Main Street Child Development Center (mainstreetcdc.org):** Located in Fairfax, Virginia, Main Street was founded in 1973 and serves 150 children, ages 2 to 5, from predominantly low income families. Volunteers are welcomed.
- **Reading is Fundamental (rif.org):** Headquartered in Washington, D.C., RIF is the leading champion for children's literacy through meaningful research, quality content, and equal access to impact all kids with the power of reading.
- **Sprout Therapeutic Riding and Education Center (sproutcenter.org):** A mission-based non-profit organization providing equine assisted activities and therapies to individuals and groups. It seeks to raise public awareness about special needs and to provide dynamic learning, recreation, and socialization opportunities in a farm environment in Loudon County. Volunteers provides critical support to Sprout clients.  
Contact: Jane Reft (janereft@gmail.com)
- **Veterans Moving Forward Service Dogs (vetsfwd.org):** A source of service dogs and canine therapy services for veterans with physical and/or mental health challenges, provided at no cost to the veteran. Volunteers are welcome.  
Contact: Michele Khol (kholcm@verizon.net)
- **Washington National Cathedral Reconstruction Fund:** The Cathedral sustained more than thirty-four million dollars in damage during the August 23, 2011 earthquake.
- **Days for Girls International (daysforgirls.org):** Celebrates the inherent worth and dignity of girls and women by providing sustainable feminine hygiene solutions and health education, thereby strengthening communities. Thus far, they have reached women and girls in more than 100 countries.
- **Hope for Humanity, South Sudan (hopeforhumanityinc.org):** Headquartered in Richmond, Virginia, Hope for Humanity is "Equipping South Sudan's girls and boys for leadership through a quality education with a Christian foundation."
- **Alliance for Haiti's Children (lahaiti.org):** Headquartered here in Vienna, Virginia, AHC partners with rural communities in Haiti to create networks of quality schools. This community-based model expands educational opportunities for twelve thousand children with six integrated programs. Volunteers 18 years and older may participate in summer camps in Haiti.

- **College of the Transfiguration in South Africa (cott.co.za):** This College has been offering academic education and training for Anglican clergy for 25 years. The Rev. Dr. Vicentia Kgabe, Rector of the College, visited and preached at Holy Comforter in December, 2016.
- **Second Story (second-story.org):** Known until April, 2017 as Alternative House, Second Story's mission is to help homeless, abused, and at-risk young people by providing safe shelters and opportunities for growth. There are also programs for young mothers. Second Story has four types of volunteers: Individual Long-Term, Individual Short-Term, Group volunteers, and Community Service Hours for Students.  
Contact: Aimee Davis (aimeedavis65@gmail.com)
- **Insight Memory Care Center (insightmcc.org):** Formerly known as Alzheimer's Family Day Center, this organization prides itself in caring for individuals with a variety of memory impairments and helping families through each disease process. More than just a day center, IMCC provides family caregiver support and education. Volunteers are welcomed.

*The Outreach Team has made further grants to the following organizations:*

- **American Friends of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem (afedj.org):** Devoted to building hope and peace by financially supporting education and healthcare available to all in the Holy Land and raising awareness in the US.  
Contact: Mary Obaidy (maryobaidy@gmail.com)
- **BRAWS (brows.org):** The mission is to support women and girls in shelters by providing new (with tags on) bras and underwear.  
Contact: Jill Maroney (jillmaroney@cox.net)
- **Gestalt Pastoral Care (gestaltpastoralcare.org):** Gestalt Pastoral Care is rooted in the Christian ministry of healing, and integrates Gestalt growth work, spiritual companionship and prayer for healing. Holy Comforter offers space for GPC Retreats.  
Contact: Alexandra MacCracken (ajm328@me.com)
- **Images for Good (imagesforgood.org):** Celebrates our community by documenting acts of service and special events via photography.  
Contact: Kevin Krisko (wotd130@yahoo.com)
- **Iglesia Espiritu Sancto Parish, Santa Rita, Honduras :** Holy Comforter has a long-standing relationship with Deacon Concepcion Santos in Santa Rita, Honduras. Our Parish treasurer coordinates with former parishioner Marco Caceres to support Deacon Santos with two stipends during the year. Due to safety concerns, Holy Comforter has sent no mission teams since 2012.

- **Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem ([j-diocese.org](http://j-diocese.org)):** The Diocese of Jerusalem covers five countries and is home to thirty parishes. Alongside the ministries of healthcare and education, the Diocesan Peace and Reconciliation department continues to work at strengthening interfaith dialogue with Jews and Muslims.
- **Compass Rose Society ([compassrosesociety.org](http://compassrosesociety.org)):** Supports the work of the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Anglican Communion.