



*Sermon Based*  
**Life  
Groups**  
*• a place to grow •*

At Christ Church, we believe that *“life change happens best when people are in a Life Group.”* We believe this because Life Groups give people the chance to do three things:

1. Learn through great content
2. Build meaningful friendships
3. Join together to SERVE others

To help your group find meaningful serving opportunities, our SERVE team has built this list of community partners and is available to help your group connect with an opportunity that fits your interests and gifts.

While there are countless opportunities in our community and even additional opportunities within your own Life Group, listed below are some community partners that we have ongoing relationships with and that we believe are strategic ways for your group to have an impact.

~~~~~**Food and Housing Opportunities**~~~~~

**Elyria Emergency Food Pantry**

Linda Knapp

680 N. Abbe Rd.

Elyria , Ohio 44035

(440) 365-7391

[elyriacumc10@gmail.com](mailto:elyriacumc10@gmail.com)

*A ministry of Community United*

*Methodist Church, Linda’s team*

*serves needy families in the Elyria area.*

- Assisting with unloading, sorting, shelving food
- Serving clients by handing out food, carrying groceries, etc.

SERVE Rep—Melody Dyer

**Christ Church Tremont Food  
Pantry**

David Wakeman

[dwakema1@gmail.com](mailto:dwakema1@gmail.com)

*We serve 100 households each month in partnership with Zion UCC in Tremont.*

- Unloading and staging food for distribution
- Pantry day volunteers register and serve clients on the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of each month

**Helping Hands**

Sheila Pesarchick

440-781-3880

*A clothing/household item collection and distribution ministry*

- Volunteers needed for sorting and distribution
- Helping to coordinate donation drives throughout the community

**Christ Church Tremont Housing  
Rehab & Improvement Ministry**

Tom Carlson

[thomascarlson9@gmail.com](mailto:thomascarlson9@gmail.com)

*We work with Tremont residents to repair and maintain homes.*

- Construction Volunteers
- Materials donations

**Habitat for Humanity**

**Lorain County**

105 Court Street, Suite 512 Elyria

(440) 322-2355

**Restore Center**

214 East 34<sup>th</sup> Street Lorain

(440) 244-1046

*National housing ministry specializing in construction of homes for local families in need*

- Construction Volunteers
- Project Coordination
- Restore Volunteers

SERVE Rep—Melody Dyer

~~~~~**Family and Women's Opportunities**~~~~~

**Ohio Guidestone**

Arian May

Kelley Lykes

(440) 260-8231

*Formerly Berea Children's Home, Guidestone serves 1,700+ families and at risk kids through a wide variety of programs and services.*

- SERVE Projects have included Thanksgiving and Christmas drives
- Mentoring and Tutoring opportunities are available
- Daylong construction and clean-up projects are needed

SERVE Rep—Tony Kurnick

**Laura's Home**

Leah Uveges

[\(216\) 431-3510](tel:(216)431-3510) ext. 235

[lruveges@thecitymission.org](mailto:lruveges@thecitymission.org)

*Battered women's shelter serving Cuyahoga County*

- Evening childcare opportunities
- Meal service
- Adopt a lounge decorating and furnishing campaign
- Coordinate supply and material gift drives

SERVE Rep—Melody Dyer

### **Genesis House**

Virginia Beckman

(440) 244-1853

(440) 323-3400

1-866-213-1188

[www.geneshouseshelter.org](http://www.geneshouseshelter.org)

*Lorain County safe haven for battered women.*

- Served on last SERVE day by helping with construction projects
- Additional maintenance needs in outreach facility
- Volunteer opportunities in community awareness and client services.
- Supply Donations

SERVE Rep—Al Schmitz

### **Family Promise of Lorain County**

Carrie Byrd

(440) 787-6699

[carrie@familypromiselorainco.org](mailto:carrie@familypromiselorainco.org)

*Day center for homeless families*

- Supporting homeless or transitioning
- Opportunities to serve as a host congregation to help overnight clients

SERVE Rep—Melody Dyer

### **Blessing House**

Sr. Mary

5440 Grove Avenue

Lorain, Ohio 44055

(440) 240-1851

[info@blessinghouse.org](mailto:info@blessinghouse.org)

*Crisis day care/orphanage serving*

*Lorain County*

- Served on last SERVE day by helping with several construction projects
- Several opportunities to serve children and families

SERVE Rep—Al Schmitz

### **Cleveland Pregnancy Center**

Bob Hirshey

(216)631-0964

[www.clevelandpregnancycenter.org](http://www.clevelandpregnancycenter.org)

*CPC serve at risk and expecting moms through a wide variety of ministries and programs*

- Hosting a Baby Shower/supply and material gift drives
- Occasional Fundraising Events
- Specialized volunteer interests
- Construction and Facility maintenance and improvement projects

SERVE Reps—Vivian Sickles & Beth Papatonis

### **The Oakes Family Care Center**

Stan Barlow

(330) 220-7777

cell (330) 321-5196

[oakscares@aol.com](mailto:oakscares@aol.com)

*Brunswick Family Services Agency serving pregnant and new moms as well as young families.*

- Opportunities to serve families and clients
- Volunteers needed for landscaping , painting, cleaning projects.

SERVE Rep—Brandy Hopkins

### **Camp Cheerful**

Shelly Huffman

(440) 238-6200 x275

*Part of Achievement Center, specializes in treating special needs children and adults through horse camps and development programs*

- Several opportunities to serve special needs children and families
- Volunteers needed for landscaping , painting, cleaning projects.

SERVE Rep—Tony Kurnick

~~~~~Partner Churches~~~~~

**Beyond the Walls Church**

Sandra Tuskan  
(440) 281-9213

[Sandra@loveinclairainco.org](mailto:Sandra@loveinclairainco.org)

*Partner church to our West Campus active in serving low income families in Elyria.*

- Served in Christmas project
- Distributes items monthly to neighborhoods and offer to pray
- Operates a clothing room to serve local families
- Many opportunities to serve together

SERVE Rep—Brandy Hopkins

**Building Hope in the City**

Amy Mitchell  
(216) 281-4673

[amy@buildinghopeinthecity.org](mailto:amy@buildinghopeinthecity.org)

*Committed to empowering the urban church in Cleveland, BHITC works with several local churches to do training, after school programs, poverty awareness and various other programs.*

- After school reading and tutoring volunteers
- Jobs skills training
- Mentoring of low income families
- Personal finance coaching

SERVE Rep—Dominic Verdell

**Forward Church**

Jeff Bodzionv  
(216) 394-3771

[onebranch@me.com](mailto:onebranch@me.com)

<http://forwardcleveland.com/>

*Partner church serving Slavic Village and parts of urban Cleveland*

- Renovation projects involved in relocation to new building
- Housing ministry serving individuals from church with home repair needs
- Sponsor/volunteer with monthly meals and outreach projects
- Serve in Works Ministry, teaching skills to community members through workshops and classes

SERVE Rep—Ed Kwiecien

As you and your group pray about how you might get involved in serving together, do not hesitate to call on our SERVE team for more information or to answer any questions that might come up. Additionally, as you SERVE, we want to be a resource to you to help you achieve amazing results, together...

