



“Bringing Families Home. . .  
Keeping Families Together”

e-Newsletter  
February 2022

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### A CHILD’S FUTURE BEGINS AT HOME

Eileen rises before dawn each morning to prepare for the day. After getting herself ready for her job as a home health assistant, she wakes, feeds, and dresses her toddler. She looks out the window of her apartment and prays the car windows aren’t frosty. Scraping them would be another delay in their hurried morning. They pack up and head out for the thirty minute drive to daycare.

Each time she drops her son off she wonders if this will be his last day of childcare for the week. She worries she will have to miss work if the daycare closes. If she loses her job how will she pay her rent? She also worries that one or both of them will get COVID....again.

While we hear differing opinions on the impact of the Pandemic on our country, the greatest impact may well be on single mothers. They have had to manage the insanity alone. With schools and daycare being their support system for childcare, a closure of one of these causes their world to crumble. With no other parent available to rearrange work schedules, cover virtual schooling, and care for younger children, single mothers are faced with no other option but to miss work.



## Partner Churches

All Soul's Anglican Church

Antioch Church

Christ United Church of Christ

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints - Woodstock

Columbia Furnace

Church of the Brethren

Columbia Furnace

United Methodist Church

Community Mission

Church of the Brethren

Edinburg Lutheran

Parish

Edinburg Christian

Church

Emmanuel Episcopal

Church

First Baptist Church of

Woodstock

First Church of

Columbia Furnace

Grace United Church of

Christ

Lebanon Lutheran

Church

Maurertown Brethren

Church

Mt. Hebron United

Methodist Church

Mt. Hermon United

Methodist Church

Mt. Zion Lutheran

Church – New Market

Mt. Zion Lutheran

Church – Woodstock

New Market Seventh-

Day Adventist Church

Oak Level Church

Our Lady of the

Shenandoah Catholic

Church

Reasoning Tree Church

Reformation Lutheran

Church

Round Hill Church of

the Brethren

The need to miss work has had a major impact on another Family Promise mother. Her two school-aged children have had to miss school due to quarantine when others in their class have fallen ill. After those children returned to school, her youngest had to stay home when her childcare center closed. Finally, the entire family contracted COVID. This hard-working mother has lost three jobs in the past year. She was fired for being absent from work too often.

Fortunately for these mothers, a support system exists in Family Promise of Shenandoah County. The call for food has been significant. When children are home seven days a week there is a need for more groceries. While most of the families receive SNAP, Eileen's benefit was reduced to \$19 per month when she got a raise of fifty-cents per hour. We are there to help these and other families when they are in need of family friendly food assistance.

Through your generosity, we have also been able to help with utility bills, rent, and personal care items for these families. We have offered case management and a shoulder when needed. The help is so greatly appreciated. During yet another recent period of work missed due to daycare closure, Eileen told us, "I get so worried about everything. Then you check in with me and I know it's going to be alright. I don't even know how we would survive without you all."

*Therefore, encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing. 1 Thessalonians 5:11*

## Strasburg High School Gets Creative!



*Playhouse donated to FPSC is now at one of our scattered sites, and the children had great fun with it before the snow.*

*Our heartfelt thanks to everyone who made this happen!!*

Check out this great project by Strasburg High School!

Jennifer Mason, Math Teacher, proposed teaching a Geometry class with an Agriculture Teacher, Brian Fisher, to give the students opportunities to apply their learning to real life. This semester was the first time a Geometry class has been co-taught by Jen and Brian.

Brian and Jen attended a conference in June in North Carolina; the conference was entitled "Geometry in Construction" to prepare to teach the course. During the conference, Jen and Brian decided their class project would be to build a playhouse to donate.

## Partner Churches (cont.)

Shenandoah  
Community Fellowship  
St. Andrews Episcopal  
Church  
St. John United  
Methodist Church  
St. John Bosco Catholic  
Church  
St. Johns United  
Methodist Church  
St. Johns UCC  
Hamburg  
St. Luke Brethren  
Church  
St. Luke's United  
Church of Christ  
"County Line"  
St. Mark's Lutheran  
Church  
Strasburg Assembly of  
God  
Strasburg Christian  
Church  
Strasburg Presbyterian  
Church  
Strasburg United  
Methodist Church  
Trinity United Church  
of Christ  
Valley Central Church  
Valley Pike Church of  
the Brethren  
Virginia Hills Church of  
Woodstock  
Wakemans Grove  
Church of the Brethren  
Walkers Chapel Church  
Waterbrook Brethren  
Church  
Wesley Chapel United  
Methodist Church  
Woodstock Christian  
Church  
Woodstock Presbyterian  
Church  
Woodstock United  
Methodist Church  
Zion Christian Church  
Zion Lutheran Church -  
Mt. Jackson

With the support of businesses and people in the community, they were able to bring the project to fruition and delivered the playhouse to Family Promise on December 22.

The following donated to the project: Rockingham Co-op in Strasburg, H.L.Borden Lumber Company, S & S Roofing, Brian Fisher. JPG Towing - transported the playhouse to Family Promise

Great job, everyone! Thank you to the local businesses and community members who supported this project! *Source: Shenandoah County Public Schools Facebook Page.*



### Thank You Starbucks Patrons

*Our community's generosity is felt in so many ways!*

*During the holidays, Starbucks put up a Christmas tree and asked patrons to donate cleaning and laundry supplies as well as personal care items to FPSC.*

*Thank you so much for sharing with our families. The little things mean so much!*

### Look Who Stopped by for a Visit

*We love keeping up with our guest families and always appreciate getting to see the children as they grow up.*

*Bryce & Gracie*



### Got Wheels?

*It was a big day for Ian & Mikayla. A generous friend of FPSC donated a vehicle which they are now using to help juggle jobs and a new baby. Many thanks!! They are so grateful for this opportunity for more flexibility in their schedule.*



## Corporate Sponsors

### Premium



### Silver



### Bronze



### Partner



## Longaberger Basket Auction

Thank you to the individual who donated the baskets and to all our bidders & buyers!!



## Steak Dinner

April 2, 2022  
4:00 - 6:30 pm

Drive Thru Only  
Antioch Church

Watch for more details!!



## Golf Tournament

August 13, 2022

Bryce Resort

*Save the Date!*

## Did you know. . . February 24<sup>th</sup> is National Peanut Butter Day?

Peanut butter is a good source of vitamin E, B6, niacin, calcium, potassium and iron, is packed with protein and is rich in healthy monounsaturated fat. Peanut butter is a staple in our emergency food pantry. Thank you to everyone who has donated many different types of food to share with families in need!



PROUD 2021 IMPACT GRANT RECIPIENT

United Way of Northern Shenandoah Valley

