



September 2025

P.O. Box 733, 781 Spring Pkwy
Woodstock, VA 22664
540-459-4599

Executive Director's Update



Fall is a season of transition. God shows us how beautiful change can be as leaves turn vibrant shades of red, orange, and gold. It's also a reminder that we can embrace change in our own lives by shifting our focus outward—showing compassion to the less fortunate in our community.

While many of us look forward to pumpkin patches and holiday gatherings, others may be struggling to make ends meet. Many Shenandoah County families are already worrying about the changing temperatures and how they will impact their ability to heat their homes or put food on the table.

Acknowledging our blessings gives us the chance to fill the community with generosity. As temperatures drop, call numbers increase at Family Promise. More of our neighbors need assistance. Helping doesn't always mean grand gestures; sometimes the smallest acts bring the greatest comfort. Here are a few ways for you to join us in making a difference this fall:

- Contribute to our food pantry: Nonperishable items, especially hearty fall staples like canned soups and stews, pasta and sauce, frozen family-size meals like lasagne and mac and cheese, go a long way.
- Offer financial support: Even a small monthly donation can help us keep our doors open, helping children remain housed, warm, and fed.
- Take part in our holiday meal box campaign. Donations of frozen meals, stuffing mix, instant potatoes, cranberry sauce, and frozen pies will help families enjoy the Thanksgiving holiday.

Jesus told the parable of the good Samaritan, a story of a man traveling from Jerusalem to Jericho. While on his way, he was robbed of everything and beaten. The good Samaritan came by and saw someone in dire need of help. He gave the man immediate medical assistance and took him to an inn. Though he was unknown to him, the good Samaritan cared for his neighbor. Such a phenomenal act of compassion!

As we embrace the beauty of fall, let us also embrace its spirit of gratitude and compassion. Through your acts of kindness, you too can be a good Samaritan.

Wishing you peace,

Kelly



In this
newsletter:

Latest news, and more.

Keep Reading!



Family Promise of Shenandoah County invites you to
the 2nd Annual Run/Walk to support families in
Shenandoah County facing homelessness

Saturday
November 15, 2025
Shenandoah County Park in Maurertown

Register to participate:
shenandoahfamilypromise.org

All ages are welcome!

RACE DAY INFORMATION

Registration begins at 8:00 a.m.

5K Run begins at 9:00 a.m.

Walker start will follow runners

\$35.00 per participant

\$25.00 (12 and under)

includes long sleeve
race t-shirt (in-person and virtual)
if registered by November 1st



Questions: Call 540-459-4599





We had a wonderful group of JMU Nursing students visit us recently. We toured our facility, engaged in an activity about the factors leading to poverty, and talked about the programs and services we offer at Family Promise.

The future of healthcare looks to be in good hands with these young women! We wish them the best as they graduate in December.

GO DUKES!



As we approach the holiday season, we continue to need support and help from our community. We would like to provide our guest and graduate families with food boxes for Thanksgiving and Christmas. As many of our families are not able to or wish not to prepare a traditional meal for these holidays, we are suggesting the following for those who are able to help:

- Frozen "family size" lasagna (e.g. Stouffers, store brand)
 - Frozen "family size" turkey/dressing (e.g. Stouffers, store brand)
 - Frozen "family size" macaroni and cheese (e.g. Stouffers, store brand)
 - Frozen pies (e.g. Mrs. Smith's, Marie Callendar, store brand)
 - Instant mashed potatoes
 - Stove Top dressing
 - "Slice and bake" cookies (e.g. Pillsbury, Nestle)
- (you may also wish to include a can of frosting and sprinkles)
- Bag of seasonal candy

Items may be brought to the Family Center during regular business hours (Monday through Thursday: 9 am-5 pm; Friday: 9 am-4 pm). Our office will be closed November 27 and 28.

**Thanksgiving collection deadline: November 19, 2025;
Christmas collection deadline: December 17, 2025**

**Many Thanks to
Our Landlord Partners**

Ed & Ruth Aumiller
Peggy Smoot
Zion Lutheran Church



August 2025 Cost of Service

service	amount	families	children	2025
utilities	\$422.20	3	6	
rent	\$3,833.00	5	11	
move in	\$2,626.97	2	4	
motels	\$106.00	1	2	
child care	\$0.00	0	0	
other	\$0.00	0	0	
shelter	\$4,002.77	2	6	
food	\$0.00	16	40	
Total	\$10,990.94	29	69	

August 12 was the first day of school in Shenandoah County!
Eighty-two Shenandoah County children (12 served through our Shelter Program and 70 served through Eviction Prevention) will be going HOME each afternoon:

- * Home to their own house.
- * Home to their own bed.
- * Home to their own family.

***YOU made this possible. YOU did this!!
THANKS!!!***



Let's get acquainted

Dale Bowers, Board Member



My name is Dale Bowers, a Board Member of Family Promise of Shenandoah County. I live west of Woodstock with my wife of 38 years, Lisa, who is a registered nurse working at WMC in Cath holding. We have three grown children, Jake 34, Sally 32, and Joel 29. I shepherd God's flock that gathers at Community Mission Covenant Brethren Church. In my early days I worked construction, masonry, carpentry, and various other trades from time to time. I worked 16 years at Bowman Apple Products, now Andros in Mt. Jackson. I served as maintenance manager, assistant plant manager and eventually plant manager. I left BAP in 2002 to work at what I had always wanted to do, building things with wood. I joined Shenandoah Woodworks in Maurertown where I worked for 20 years as their lead cabinet/furniture builder. I LOVED it! and still do. I retired from SWW in 2022 to devote more time to being pastor at Community Mission Church, which I also love doing. God called me into ministry early in life, at age 19, and He increasingly drew me into a deeper relationship and service to Him until 2012 when I became an ordained pastor.

In what little spare time I can eke out, I enjoy hiking, cycling, scroll saw work, lathe work and an occasional trip planned out by my wife. Sometimes overseas but mostly to other parts of this great country. Lisa is a great trip planner...no, she's not available for hire but she enjoys planning trips.

God calls each of us to serve Him by serving others and not just other "Christians". I very much enjoy serving on the board at Family Promise. They help keep my trades skills up to snuff. Family Promise makes a lasting positive impact on those we serve regardless of whether they succeed or fail to get their lives together. Most do succeed but still the influence Family Promise has on them is a lasting and positive one.

2025 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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WISHLIST

REUSABLE GROCERY BAGS
SMALL DISHWASHING SOAP
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