Now is the time to be the church.  Small acts by individuals and families can collectively make a big difference.  As a church community we are committing to filling the Loaves and Fishes pantry for our vulnerable neighbors who have lost jobs and income during this time, and to our homeless neighbors who are particularly vulnerable.  The Loaves and Fishes food pantry, which we supported with a Souper Bowl Food Drive, is seeing increased numbers and need.  Many of the organizations that make Bridges bag lunches (schools, youth groups, etc.) are not meeting, so the donation of bag lunches has dropped tremendously.  We can make bag lunches as family groups.  These are easy, actionable steps to take during Lent to share our love during this difficult time.

Here is what we can do during the remainder of Lent:

1.  Commit as a family Lenten service project to make 25 bag lunches safely (a sandwich, orange, cheese stick, water) for Bridges each week\* (please see note below).  Bagged lunches may be dropped off at the Russell Place entrance of Oakes between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. on Fridays.

\*In terms of hygiene, Bridges is asking that families follow precautions issued by CDC and health organizations. Only families who are not experiencing Covid-19 symptoms and have no reason to think they've been exposed should participate. Rigorous handwashing practices must be followed - if gloves can be worn, that is an additional preferred precaution. Masks should be worn during the sandwich-making and lunch assembly process. This is probably not a great activity for families with k-5 kids, as hygiene may be harder to control.

2.  Each time you go to the grocery store, pick one of the following five items (canned tuna or chicken, pasta sauce, beans, canned vegetables) and drop at the Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry, drop on your way home at the vestibule of St. Theresa’s church anytime from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

3. Donate food/supplies to Family Promise. If you would like to donate items from the list below, please contact Amy Jones to make an appointment for delivery to our day center at ajones@familypromise.org (There will be no person to person contact in regard to deliveries.)

**FAMILY PROMISE SHOPPING LIST**

**FOOD: CLEANING SUPPLIES:**

Frozen steamable veggies Clorox wipes

Frozen breakfast entrees (no pork, if possible – turkey sausage) Hand sanitizer

Fruit cups Spray cleaners

Canned soups/Dry soups Paper towels

Cereal Toilet paper

Shelf stable milk (evaporated milk, dry milk, etc.) Paper plates

Oatmeal Plastic cutlery

Mac and cheese (easy mac, please) Cups

Cereal Bars Bowls

Rice/noodle pouches Toilet Bowl Cleaner

Frozen entrees (hot pockets, personal pizzas, etc.) Bleach

Tuna Hand soap

Canned chicken Ziplock bags

Mayo Thermometers

Bread Batteries

Pasta Tissues

Pasta Sauce

Chips

Applesauce

Peanut Butter

Jelly

Mustard

Instant Coffee

Tea Bags

4.  Please have your family take pictures of delivering/dropping off and text Pastor Deborah at  DHuggins@centralpres.org so we can total our impact.

We will share weekly tallies and impact.  Now is the time to help where we can. Collectively, we will make a difference.  #bethechurch