



My Joyful Heart

SHARING THE LOVE OF CHRIST WITH
CHICAGOLAND'S CHILDREN IN
NEED



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THANKFUL HEARTS

Always grateful for you

UPCOMING EVENTS

Come join us!

I read something recently that reminded me not to try and figure out what is happening, to just trust God and thank Him in advance for the good that will come. It is definitely not easy, but I have learned over and over to trust and realize God does important things that are usually different from what I could ever imagine.

**I know the plans I have for you,
and they are good.**
Jeremiah 29:11

WELCOME TO MY JOYFUL HEART

We're so happy you're here!

The Summer Event ran throughout the month of May. The children received gently used toys, sporting equipment, purses, clothes, arts & craft kits, books and snacks/food. Nearly all of our children rely on free and reduced meals at school and the summer months present challenges for many families that struggle to put food on the table. Even helping with one meal will provide nutrition these children need to learn and grow and thrive. While we can't provide everything, we hope our gifts can make an impact, even if for one day.

Thank you to all the families that held drives, the individuals that dropped off bags and the following businesses: DOT Foods, Frankfort Food Pantry, [DBATS](#), [Mokena](#) and [Smoothie King New Lenox](#). Together we created food bags for over 120 children to add to the gift

 God's Word is Food for your Soul 

His stomach rumbled loudly, but no one noticed. The boy was after all, only one of more than 5,000 people on the hillside listening to Jesus that day. And he probably wasn't the only one starving, although it seemed he was the only one with food. The boy opened his lunch as a hungry little girl crept close. He couldn't enjoy his food while she watched. Maybe he could share! But he couldn't feed everyone. Suddenly, a man called to him. It was one of Jesus' disciples. The man brought him before Jesus: "here's a boy with 5 loaves of bread and two small fish, but that's not enough for all these people." The boy stood in awe. Jesus was interested in his lunch? He gave Jesus the food and waited. "Tell the people to sit down," Jesus said. Breaking the bread, He thanked God and began to distribute it. Everyone got enough and there were still twelve baskets left over! The boy marveled that Jesus multiplied his lunch to feed those whom he couldn't. He gave his food to the Lord, but the Lord gave the boy, and 5000 others, that and so much more ---He fed their bodies and spirits with the Word of God.

God wants you to realize that only he can provide for your deepest needs and hungers. He wants us to know that he will provide even when it may not seem possible to us, and that he may also want to involve you in the process!

bags. We enclosed the story of the Fish and Loaves to help the kids understand that scripture can feed their soul! ☐

Next up is our **Back to School** event that will begin late July/early August. See the Wish List at the bottom of this newsletter if you would like to help from afar or click the button below if you would like to join us as a volunteer.

Join
Us!

WHAT'S HAPPENING

See what's going on



A bicycle built for...you!

We were so blessed to receive 15 bikes this summer because of the generosity of [The Bike Man](#). We cannot wait to hear back from the kids and read their letters once they receive these awesome gifts.

Undies for Everyone



THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

**YOUR GENEROSITY IS
AWESOME!**

Click to Donate

Undies for Everyone through August 31

This year we are asking for NEW packages of undergarments to help give out in the Fall! We are looking for the following:

- Briefs
- Boxers
- Hipsters
- Camisoles
- Bras
- Undershirts
- Thermals

Sizes needed include boys sizes 5-20, girls sizes 5-8 and any adult size. You can also have us purchase a set for a child in our program by making a donation.

JOYFUL SPOTLIGHT

Stories from behind the scenes



Our Magical Arts & Crafts Kits

When we receive crafty odds and ends, we have some incredibly talented volunteers that create Arts & Crafts Kits for the children.

Jean T. and Jan F. made awesome craft kits to hand out to the children for our last event. They are one of the most asked for items from the children, so we love seeing supplies turned into kits to let them explore their creativity.



Girl Scouts Make it FUN!

Girl Scout Troop 75207 made creating art kits FUN! They had a competition between the classes at school to "Collect Art for the Heart." After collecting supplies, the girls created Kindness Rock Art Kits where they created a rock with positive images and messages. The kit consisted of another rock for our enrolled children to paint, color or decorate with the hopes that we can flood their little worlds with kindness. The bags were also filled with additional great art supplies that the girls helped collect.



A true example of kids cascading kindness around to other kids. We thank the girls for not only this collection but also the time they spent here volunteering.

THANKFUL HEARTS

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Brownie Troop Donates Girl Scout Cookies

Girl Scout Troop 55786 in Naperville coordinated a donation from [Girl Scouts of Greater Chicago and Northwest Indiana \(GCNWI\)](#).

Thank you to this awesome troop for thinking of and helping the children of My Joyful



Heart for the Summer and Back to School Events!



A Note to Our Sponsors

Thank you for your continued investment in the life of a child in need. You are changing lives!

You can write to your child at any time and even add a special gift, if you choose. To include something for the **Back to School Gift Event**, please drop it off at the Ministry Center or send it directly to us before **July 22nd**.

If you send to us directly from a site (such as Amazon), please email information@myjoyfulheart.org for details on how to address your package so we are clear who it is for. Thank you!

[Become a Sponsor](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Come join us!



Joyful Hearts Virtual Fundraiser

The Joyful Hearts virtual fundraiser is our largest event this year and we need help selling 1000 virtual hearts at a donation of \$20 each (you can purchase as many as you would like). Each ticket has a number between 000-999.

Throughout the month of November 2021, each evening one lucky heart will win \$100. There is no ticket to save or anything to remember, we will track it all here and post the winners in November.

Why not purchase one for the important man in your life as Father's Day approaches or for those graduates?

[Order Your Hearts](#)

Bunco is Back!



Join us on **Friday, July 30th at 6pm** for a Bunco Night! We will host Bunco at the American Legion Post in Lockport in an open-air pavilion.

Besides the Bunco game, we will have prizes, raffles and light food! Purchase tickets using the button below or stop by our Ministry Center. Round up your friends and come play some Bunco!

[Purchase Tickets](#)



Back to School Gift Event (July 22)
Bunco (July 30)
Undies for Everyone (now through August 31)
Joyful Hearts Fundraiser (purchase now through Oct 31, Event month of November)
20th Anniversary Gala (April 23, 2022)



My Joyful Heart is a Great Nonprofit!

Great NonProfits is the leading platform for community-sourced stories about nonprofits. The best way to share My Joyful Heart is to write a review. We would love for you to share your experiences at My Joyful Heart and show the impact we bring to children.

Please take a minute to fill out a review for us, we would love to maintain our continuing status as a Top Great NonProfit!

[Write a Review](#)

Dear my joyful heart

Thank you for the lovely gifts they're super great.
I really enjoyed making the neckties and they look
really nice! The dress fit perfectly and it was my favorite
color. The lockit went very nicely with the dress.
Thank you for the bigger bible it is easier to read than
my small one. The candy was delicious.



02/25/2021

To: Joyful Hearts

Thank you for the thoughtful gifts.
I feel good every time I receive
them. Makes me look forward to
them.



amazon
wishlist

Shop our Amazon GIFT
EVENT Wish List

Shop our Amazon
OFFICE Wish List

Our Wish List

We are so blessed with the gifts we have received from our Amazon Wish List! We do not always know who sends them but we are very grateful!

Here are a few of our greatest needs for the next events:

- Travel hygiene items (soap, shampoo, toothpaste)
- School supplies (tablets, folders, markers, crayons, pens, pencils, erasers)
- New Underwear (boys sizes 5-20, girls sizes 5-8 and any adult size).
- T-shirts, camis (new—kids XS through adult 2XL).

Share our Undies For Everyone drive via
Facebook

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www.myjoyfulheart.org

