

St. John's Confirmation 2009



The “Car-Pool” Works of Mercy

I was at a meeting recently, and we were brainstorming ways to bring Christ to young people. This gentleman next to me named Mark, was obviously from “the North” as his accent gave him away. As we discussed “what teens should do with their lives”, he said they should concentrate on the “car-pool” works of mercy... Yeah, that’s the way I heard it... The “Car-Pool” Works of Mercy. What he was referring to of course in his thick Northeastern accent, were the Corporal Works of Mercy: Feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, clothe the naked, shelter the homeless, visit the sick, visit those in prison, and bury the dead!

This prompted me to laugh and think... “Hey! “Car-Pool” Works of Mercy has a nice ring to it!” Not only does it mean to do all those things listed above, but it also seems to invite the idea that we can serve TOGETHER, like in a “car-pool”!

So, let us consider that we might plan and do a Confirmation Project in groups... Like Car-Pools. You can plan it, and put it all together, get your parents to share in the driving to get you there and back, and actually do “the work of Christ”, sharing the actual works of mercy in our community!

Here Are A Few Service Opportunities From “Hands On” the Volunteer Center of North Alabama

<http://www.volunteerhsv.org/>

Salvation Army

Volunteers are needed for Angel Tree registration September 28- Oct. 2 hours are 8:30a.m.-4:30 except for Sept. 28 and Oct. 2 event until 7:00p.m. Lunch will be provided. Also, October 1, 2 and 3 marks the annual “Give and Receive” event. This event will be taking place at Stein Mart locations in Huntsville, (Airport Road location and University Dr location in Target Shopping Center). Event will be from 10a until 8p on all three days. Volunteers are needed to work at The Salvation Army table and accept gently used clothing items. In return the donor is issued coupons for their Stein Mart purchases. Volunteers will need to keep a running tab of how many clothing items are donated.

Madison Street Festival

Volunteers are needed on October 3, 2009 for assistance with parking, directing traffic booth setup, children’s area, and more for the 29th Annual Madison STREET FESTIVAL.

Operation Green Team/HSV City

Come one, come all for an electronic recycling event on Saturday October 17th from 9am to 3pm at Joe Davis Stadium. Approx. 60 volunteers are needed, some to direct traffic and direct people but majority needed for lifting heavy computers, TV sets and more. Heavy lifting shifts should be a max. of 2 hours. Volunteer training starts at 8am.

American Diabetes Association

Step Out Walk to Fight Diabetes -Saturday, September 26, 2009 8:00am registration, 9:00am walk begins at McMullen Cove: Together we can STOP diabetes. One Step at a Time.

The Land Trust

The Land Trust is looking for volunteers for Trail Care Days: October 3 & 24. This event is great for groups & families!

Arthritis Foundation, Alabama Chapter

21st Annual Humanitarian Award Dinner to be held on Thursday, October 15th at the Von Braun Center North Hall in the evening, Arthritis Foundation is in need of volunteers to help that day with set up/ check-in / registration / table seating.

Jingle Bell Run/Walk to benefit the Arthritis Foundation will be on November 22nd at 2:30 p.m. It will be held at Midtowne on the Park and the course is a certified 5k course running through Research Park. Volunteers needed to help with set-up, clean up, and especially with the start/finish line.

The North Alabama Center for Educational Excellence

The North AL Center for Educational Excellence is looking for volunteers to help with ACT testing prep classes and GED prep classes Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 5:30-8:00pm. Classes are broken up into Math, Science, English(grammar), and Reading. Also, tutors are needed for students grades 6-12 after school from 3:30-7:00pm Mondays through Thursdays.

CARE CENTER, New Hope

CARE Center Thrift Store Transportation Need - the Thrift Store is in need of volunteers who will go pick up furniture and appliances from people wanting to donate.

Owens Crossroads Elementary

OCR Elementary Computer/Media volunteer needed- OCR has secured excellent media equipment like projectors, document cameras, Ipods, etc., but now needs support to keep it all running. They need someone who is knowledgeable about changing a projector bulb or wiping out an Ipod with poor programs on it. This volunteer opportunity would be 1-2 hours/week and requires experience in technology.

Lee High School

We are in need of volunteers to work with 10th and 11th grade students in targeted reading and math programs. Volunteer tutors will work with small groups of students (2-4) to help improve reading comprehension or math skills. Training and all materials you need to be effective in working with your small group will be provided. Volunteers are needed Monday through Friday in 55 minute intervals (a standard class period!). You set your schedule! In order to maintain the small group communities, we do ask that volunteers commit to a time slot for at least 6 weeks.

New Hope Children's Clinic

The Clinic is in need of volunteers to escort children from the New Hope Elementary and High School and to the Clinic (which is located behind New Hope Middle School). The present volunteer time slots are: Mondays from 8:00 a.m. to Noon, Tuesdays from 8:45 a.m. to Noon, Wednesdays from 11:45 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and Thursdays from 8:45 a.m. to Noon. The New Hope Children's Clinic provides free/low-cost medical care to the underserved children of the New Hope, Owens Cross Roads, and Gurley communities.

Heals Clinic

A volunteer is needed to answer the phone and walk children to and from the medical clinic on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday mornings from 8:30-10:00 a.m. or any part of that time. A volunteer could sign up for one, two, or all three mornings. Also a volunteer to sit with children as they wait for their dental appointment. Duties would be reading a book, watching a DVD with the children, drawing or coloring with them. The times available are the same as above: Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings from 8:30-10:00 or any portion of that time.

88.1 WAY-FM

88.1 WAY-FM is looking for volunteers for the upcoming pledge drive October 20th – 23rd. There are 2-3 hour shifts available beginning at 5:30 AM and ending at approximately 7:30 PM.

Community Network Learning Center

Volunteers needed to help with an afterschool youth program. Responsibilities include monitoring and assisting youth, grades K-6 in the computer room during computer free access time. Also high school and adult volunteers are needed to assist with homework for students grades K-6. The days are Mon—Thurs., times 2:30—5:30. Volunteers would be welcomed one or more days.

In December, a volunteer is needed to help with gift wrapping. This is a flexible time position, but needs to be someone that can work between the hour of 8:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.. The days are also Mon-Thurs. All supplies will be provided.

On Thursday October 29 from 6:30-7:30 p.m. 2-3 volunteers are needed to help pass out treats to children during our Halloween event. Volunteers are encouraged to “dress” for Halloween.

On Saturday December 12 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, 3 or 4 volunteers are needed to help with a children's holiday party. Volunteers would be helping Santa pass out gifts, serve refreshments, and supervise children during the event.

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Madison, Alabama

Confirmation Service Project Form

Confirmation Community Service Expectations: As a candidate for Confirmation you are asked to participate in ONE of the two Service Days offered this year. Those days will be held on Saturday November 14, 2009 and Saturday March 6, 2010. You are also asked to complete ONE ADDITIONAL project of your choosing, so long as it benefits a person or organization outside of your home. Please fill in the following information AFTER you have completed this additional project. Your project should be completed by, and this form should be turned in no later than **Sunday March 28, 2010.**

Confirmation Candidate's Name: _____

Confirmation Candidate's Sponsor: _____

Project Title: _____ Project Date: _____

Name of Person, Family or Organization Served: _____

Please provide a brief explanation of the project: _____

How many hours were spent organizing and performing this service? _____

Using the back of this form, please answer the following questions:

- Would you please explain the details of the project and the planning that went into its preparation and performance?
- Please read Matthew 25: 35-40. How does your project relate with Jesus' challenge to serve, and how has this project revealed what it means to be a Catholic Christian today?
- What was the most rewarding moment, feeling or outcome of your project, and how does it help in your preparation for Confirmation?
- What was the most challenging part of your project, and how does it help in your preparation for Confirmation?
- Is there anything else you'd like to share that may be beneficial for others who plan to do service projects here at St. John's?

