

FESTIVAL OF SHARING

FestivalofSharing.org



August Brief 2018

Greetings!

Have you decided which Sharefest you're going to attend this year? If you have, we can't wait to see you there! If you haven't, no need to worry there's still time! This brief will recap some of the activities that occurred this summer and highlight what is going to happen this fall.

In June, Missouri Methodists attended Annual Conference and brought with them 539 lotions; 20 toothpastes; 1,510 bars of soap; 5,405 razors; 4,014 toothbrushes; 1,163 shampoos; 1,887 combs/hairbrushes; 1,756 hand towels; 642 deodorants; and 7,540 washcloths to create hygiene kits. Some of the items were given to agencies in June and July and some were held back to set-up packing projects at the Sharefests. You may be wondering; how did all those items get counted?? We had a youth group, a group of adult volunteers, and several conference staff spend two days counting and sorting the items. All I can say is, many hands make for light work!

In June and July, Festival of Sharing was lucky enough to have an intern to assist with a few projects. Mariah Dale is a second year MU Student studying music and voice performance. She attended Festival several times as a youth and was excited for the opportunity to continue working in missions. Her summer tasks included database updates, taking inventory on supplies, photographing quilts for the auction, and creating marketing materials for youth events at the Sharefests.

It's been a busy, but productive summer! I am eager for the Sharefests to begin and see what we can accomplish in 2018. Thank you for your continued support and encouragement!

Sincerely,
Sidney Owens
Coordinator



2018 Events

September 15th
Kansas City Sharefest

September 22nd
Tipton Sharefest

September 28th-29th
Macon Sharefest
(youth overnight
opportunity)

October 6th
Dexter Sharefest

October 12th
Cameron Sharefest

October 12th-13th
Ferguson Sharefest
(youth overnight
opportunity)

October 19th-20th
Springfield Sharefest
(youth overnight
opportunity)

October 27th
Quilt Auction

December 15th, 2-3:30pm
Christmas Program at
Vandalia Correctional
Center

For more details, please
see pages 12-13 in the
booklet or visit
www.festivalofsharing.org.

Sharefest Activities

❖ Kansas City (St. James UMC)

- Will be serving at least 11 agencies from the KC area!
- Packing projects for youth and adults: rice and food boxes
- Expanded donation drop-off times:
 - September 10th, 11th, 13th, and 14th from 10am to 3pm
 - September 12th from 10am-7pm

❖ Tipton (Tipton UMC)

- Will be serving at least 15 agencies from Central MO!
- Packing projects for youth and adults: rice and hygiene kits
- Note from team member, Sheila: *Our church, as well as other churches, have already started making kits. We choose a kit and ask the congregation to bring items for that kit for several weeks, then we concentrate on another kit and ask members to bring items for several weeks. By starting early there is plenty of time to support the project and complete more kits by the time Sharefests happen. We are looking forward to hosting this event at our church. We have reached out to several other churches in our community and they are excited to be a part of this wonderful, non-denominational event. We hope to see lots of folks in Tipton!*

❖ Macon (Macon UMC)

- Packing projects for youth and adults: rice and hygiene kits
- Friday night youth and adults will participate in a simulated natural disaster (People seeking shelter and first aid after a tornado). The objective is for participants to better understand the need for Sharefest kits and individuals who may receive them. Plan to be an active participant and arrive between 7-10pm 9/28. On Saturday, kits will be assembled, received, and distributed. There will be presentations by organizations who distribute kits, worship and lunch. Anticipated completion is 3pm. To best meet objective, event is limited to first 80 youth registered. Cost is \$5.00. More information: Maconumc.org, MUMC 660-385-2156, or Rhonda Smith 660-651-7613.

❖ Dexter (First UMC)

- Will be serving at least 12 agencies from SE MO!
- Packing projects for youth and adults: rice, popcorn, and beans

❖ Cameron (Cameron UMC)

- Will be serving at least 4 agencies from NW MO!
- Packing projects for youth and adults: rice, paper products, and student dental kits
- Expanded donation drop-off times:
 - October 8th-13th from 9am to 4pm
- "Paper the Community" event
 - 9am-3pm on Saturday, October 6th at Wal-Mart in Cameron (N. Walnut Street)
 - Collecting paper goods to be distributed at Cameron Sharefest
 - bathroom tissue (4-packs), paper towels (2 rolls), facial tissues (2 boxes), and feminine hygiene items

❖ Ferguson (Immanuel UCC)

- Will be serving at least 12 agencies from the St. Louis area!
- Packing projects for youth and adults: rice, reading and writing, and paper products
- Opportunity for youth to stay overnight and participate in a poverty education activity. Cost is \$25 and includes T-shirt, simulation, snacks, and breakfast. Also, on Friday night, anyone is welcome to join us for worship and message from youth band from SunRise UMC in O'Fallon. Register at <http://www.festivalofsharing.org/ferguson-youth-event.html>.

❖ Springfield (Hood UMC)

- Will be serving at least 21 agencies from SW MO!
- Packing projects for youth and adults: rice and flood buckets
- Opportunity for youth to stay overnight. Cost is \$20 and includes T-shirt, laser tag, snacks, breakfast, and worship. Register at <http://www.festivalofsharing.org/springfield-youth-event.html>.

Quilt Auction

We are accepting quilts for the auction until September 1, 2018. They can be mailed to or dropped off at 3601 Amron Court, Columbia, MO 65202. Quilts received prior to this date will be included in the slide show that will play at each Sharefest. If you would like to submit a prebid on any quilt, please visit the money booth at a Sharefest.

Join us at the auction!

When? Saturday, October 27th. Previewing begins at 9:00am, free-will donation lunch at 11:00am, and auction at 12:30pm.

Where? Knights of Columbus Hall in Columbia, MO (2525 North Stadium Blvd)

How? Just show up, no tickets required for admission!

Interested in helping? We are still looking for churches to donate food for lunch. Contact Susan Jones at sueq853@gmail.com.



Christ Lutheran in Stover, MO has put together a unique display to encourage members to donate shoes. These shoes will be passed on to the Rainbow Network who ships them to rural Nicaragua to protect community members from parasites. Please donate gently used, closed-toed shoes. They accept male and female styles of all sizes. Bring them to a Sharefest in boxes that are liftable sizes or half full-strong trash bags that are clearly marked "SHOES" on the outside.

Church World Service

A CWS representative will be at each of our events this fall. We will accept CWS Kits (hygiene, school, and cleanup buckets) at every Sharefest. We will have volunteers organizing these kits in large plastic crates that will travel between the Sharefests. After the quilt auction, Church World Service will send a representative to Columbia to pick up all international kits and transport them to their warehouse in Ohio. Please continue to make international kits for our neighbors who experience natural disasters.

Garden Seeds and Eyeglasses

We are accepting donations of garden seeds and eyeglasses at each Sharefest. If you are interested in helping sort and count these items after all Sharefests are over, please set up a day to work in the warehouse by contacting festival@socket.net or 573-474-3332.



Office of Mission, Service, and Justice
3601 Amron Court
Columbia, MO 65202
573-474-3332
festival@socket.net

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Columbia, MO 65201

Permit No. 140

Opportunities to Serve

Each year, people graciously offer their gifts, talents, and passion to Festival of Sharing. Do you have a gift or talent you wish to share with others? Festival can always utilize extra hands or creative minds to brainstorm and organize events. Email festival@socket.net or call 573-474-3332 if you are feeling led to help.

BEST CHOICE LABELS MAKE A DIFFERENCE:

Did you know that your organization can register to earn money by saving Best Choice Labels? When you save 1,000 labels and use a doubling coupon you can earn \$60. Many organizations donate this money to Festival of Sharing and this generosity raised \$1,770 in 2017. It is easy to register online at:

<http://www.bestchoicebrand.com/save-a-label/save-a-label-registration/>.

Interested in supporting Festival, but unsure how? We accept checks payable to "Festival of Sharing" at 3601 Amron Court, Columbia, MO 65202 or PayPal gifts at www.festivalofsharing.org.