

# The Good News House in Partnership with Habitat for Humanity

## MISSION

This congregation supports many wonderful missions and organizations to help us individually and collectively know God, love others and serve the world. Through Good News House (GNH) in association with Habitat for Humanity of Huron Valley (HHHV), FUMC AA congregation carries out a mission to enable home ownership for families who would otherwise not have this opportunity.



The need for affordable energy efficient housing in our community is critical, and home ownership provides a lot more than four walls and a roof as protection from the elements. It also contributes to physical health, safety and security, financial stability, increased success in school and an increased ability to reach out for new opportunities. In short, it helps to break the cycle of poverty for families. We know that the Habitat program works. Of the more than 200 families served in Washtenaw County by HHHV in the last 30 years, 97% of the homes are still well-maintained and occupied by the original homeowners!

## HISTORY

FUMC AA member, Bob Whitacre founded Good News House (GNH) in 1997. GNH is now a partnership of 14 congregations. Each congregation provides a member to the GNH steering committee. The steering committee works with Habitat of Huron Valley (HHHV) to determine the house and build schedule. GNH organizes the volunteer construction teams that build the house. Initially, GNH built a single house from scratch each year. In 2009, GNH and HHHV switched to renovating homes instead of building from scratch. Since 1997, GHN has provided homes for 36 families, which have included more than 70 children.



## WAYS YOU CAN HELP

We respectfully request your prayerful consideration of the ways you might support this effort, and on behalf of the Good News Houses Habitat Committee, we would like to thank you for doing so. A list of ways you can support Good News House is listed below.

- **Volunteer to help with construction at the build site.** NO BUILDING SKILLS REQUIRED. The workday begins at 8:30 a.m. and ends at 3:30 p.m. Water and porta-potty are available. Tools are provided, but you are welcome to bring your own. Lunch maybe provided at the site by volunteers depending on this year's COVID guidelines. [FUMC AA Build days will be determined by end of April.]
- If this year's COVID guidelines allow, be willing to **be a member of the Lunch Crew.** You will work with other lunch team members to obtain, prepare and bring food to the work site. You only need to be at the site during lunch time. (11:30 to 1PM)
- Be a **Short Notice Volunteer** where you are willing to take last minute (1 or 2 days prior) request to work at a site.
- Would be interested **being a part of the FUMC AA GNH Team** to help at the volunteer sign up table or other organizational tasks within our congregation.
- **Pray** for the workers, homeowner families and Habitat for Humanity
- **Contribute to the church's financial pledge for construction materials. This year, your financial support is especially important because have not met our church's financial pledges for the last couple of years. HHHV sponsor organizations like GNH must support both physically and financially to remain a sponsor.**
  - This can be done by writing a check payable to FUMC-AA, with Habitat written on the memo line and mailed or put in the offering, or
  - Online at the FUMC AA website and select Habitat for Humanity in Giving Fund.
  - Note:if donations are made at Habitat website your donation will not be applied to the church's financial pledge

No matter how you decide to support GNH either physically or financially, please pray for the safety of the workers, the dedication of the HHHV staff, and the lives of the current and future Habitat homeowners.

TO VOLUNTEER OF IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS

From May through August, there will be an information and sign-up table at Connections after Sunday service, or you can email Mark Wickham at [mwickham0411@gmail.com](mailto:mwickham0411@gmail.com) or call at 810-599-6164.