Winter Nights: September 30th – October 6th

The Winter Nights Family Shelter for families with children will open September 9th, a full 4 weeks earlier than in the past. In addition to 4 extra weeks, there will be a pilot program of an 8-week stay at ONE congregation in January & February. This required significantly adjusting the Host Site schedule.

To learn more about Winter Nights Family Shelter go to their web site: https://cccwinternights.org/

St Stephen’s will again partner with St. John Vianney’s Catholic Church in Walnut Creek to serve for a week at their church. SJV was moved to the front of the expanded season (The 2nd host site: Sept 23 – Oct 6). St Stephen’s will take the 2nd week at their site: Monday evening September 30th – Monday morning Oct 7th.

Ann Lawrence, Andie Sheets, Dan Swander and Susie White are coordinating our efforts this year. They will be staffing a wide range of essential jobs: homework helpers, morning cleaners, front desk monitors, overnight sleepers, weekend activity folks, meal planners and kitchen help. Time to sign up!

Volunteer Signups

Special Volunteers needed:
- Donations-in-kind:
  Is anyone interested in coordinating the collection of donated items (below)?
- Weekend Activities:
  Organize a few special events & activities for Saturday and Sunday (Oct 5th & 6th). No blanket making this year. Maybe cookie decorating? Picnic & races at Heather Farms Park?

  If you are interested, contact Ann Lawrence, and she will give you the details annlawrence617@gmail.com; 925-212-8261

Shelter Signup sheets will be in the Parish Hall after both the 8am and 10am Sunday services starting August 25th. Ann, Dan, Andie or Susie will be there to answer questions and help you get signed up.

Online signups are available too, starting now.
Use this link to add your name, email and best phone # to the specific job and time you want to fill.

Sign Up for Winter Nights
Donations
Bring items to church. There will be collection baskets in the Narthex, Office and Parish Hall. Winter Nights families and children need:

- Activity Supplies:
  Stickers, Coloring Books, Nerf Balls (soft) various sizes, Playground balls

- Client Supplies:
  ★ Pillows  Standard size only (NEW)
  ★ Sleeping Bags  Rated to 30’, Adult and children sizes.  (NEW and gently used)
  ★ Wash Cloths— NEW or gently used.
  ★ Pre-paid gift cards:
    Shell, Chevron, etc.  Safeway, Grocery Outlet, Walmart, Target
- Flash Lights and extra batteries
- Socks for men, women and children NEW or very gently used.
- Twin size, single bed sheets (flat only) … no other sizes, please.
- Hand Towels  NEW or gently used.
- Bath towels  NEW or gently used.
- Batteries  AA & AAA needed most, C & D’s ok

The Need for “cash” Donations
Typically we spend $1,200 - $1300 for all weekday breakfasts, sack lunches, and some of the food for weekend hot breakfasts and hot lunches with the help from special donors, but all donations are appreciated.

With any money that remains, St Stephen’s buys gas and grocery store gift cards for Winter Night families or donates directly to the WN Program Director for specific client needs.

You can donate “cash” by sending a check to the church office made out to St Stephen’s with “Winter Nights” in the memo, or use the St Stephen’s web site donation link and specify Winter Nights.

Many thanks, again

Ann Lawrence  annlawrence617@gmail.com  925-212-8261
Andie Sheets  adsheets@mac.com  925-997-3357

Making a difference for that one, with God’s help