

### **Week 3 @ C3**

submitted by Char Zoet

- February: A gift of cash for food for Ukraine was sent through MCC (Mennonite Central Committee).
- March: We collected nonfood, household items for People Center in Spring Lake.
- April: We collected cleaning supplies for Every Woman's Place, a residential program for women and children in need. That assistance was followed by filling an emergency need at the Place for briefs.
- May: We sent approximately 35 Hygiene Kits to MCC. Kits included personal items: towels, washcloths, nail clippers, toothbrushes, and bath soap. Kits were intended for use in refugee camps.
- June: We sent summer snack items in bulk to Kids' Food Basket for distribution to Muskegon area grade school students.
- August: "Back to School" for MLK and Edgewood Schools of the MHPSAS. \$1000 worth of school supplies were delivered to MHPSAS office. We do every year with the same result - \$1,000 worth of school supplies.
- September: Sacred Suds is a program of Community enCompass of Muskegon. We collected laundry detergent and anything else having to do with laundry. We also collected socks for them, many socks! About 120 pairs. Community enCompass was recently forced to close. Other area agencies will take over services offered by Community enCompass.
- October: We collected nonperishable food items to be included in the 7,000 Thanksgiving Dinner baskets packed and distributed by Muskegon Rescue Mission.
- November: Doctors without Borders was our cause for November. We collected dollars to be used for Israel and Palestine.
- December: For a second year we are doing "Seasonal Card Blizzard." C3 members, adults, and children, are preparing greeting cards for residents of Riverside Nursing & Rehab, Medilodge at the Lakeshore, Christian Haven Home, and North Ottawa Care Center – all local care agencies. We anticipate passing out more than 250 cards. Rebecca, the activities director of NOCC remarked last year, "These are the only cards some of our people will get." Value of this effort – "Priceless."

Watch for the New Year 2024 to bring new and exciting ways to do what we can as Week 3 @ C3 to address needs locally, nationally, and worldwide.

### **History of Week 3@C3 and The Charter for Compassion**

Approximately ten years ago the Board of C3 Spiritual Community resolved that C3 would become a companionate community as defined by guidelines of The Charter for Compassion (<https://charterforcompassion.org>) What this has meant for C3 is that we declared we would create a program called "Week 3@ C3" and through this program we would, once a month, year-around, choose a charity or nonprofit within our more immediate West Michigan area as well as nationally and internationally, that demonstrated a need which we in one way or another could help address. By bring together tangible goods, financial assistance and/or actions, we show that we do care for others and do address needs and thereby are a "compassionate community.