



Festival Brief

SUMMER 2022
NEWSLETTER FOR FESTIVAL OF SHARING

ABIDING IN LOVE

By Sidney Everhart | 573-474-3332

We are excited to share that Festival of Sharing has funding available to partner with Missouri churches and organizations in efforts to cooperatively respond to community needs around poverty. We recognize that poverty is multidimensional and experienced in different ways and that local knowledge and collaboration can make a big impact. We hope to support communities as they work together to create healthy and successful lives for neighbors.

Responses must include at least two churches partnering from different denominational backgrounds and may work to address concerns beyond economic resources, to include such things as physical, social, cultural or spiritual resources. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis and grants will be awarded up to \$1,000. More details can be found on the application on our Resource page.

For any questions, please reach out to me. In the remaining pages of the newsletter, you will find information on the Sharefests, improving hygiene items, the Food Box Challenge and a new CWS kit.

Above: Collecting Welcome Backpacks @ Missouri Annual Conference

Announcements

Funding Opportunities

Growing Access Grant applications accepted on a rolling basis. See festivalofsharing.org/resources.

Website

Our website will have a new look by the end of summer! The URL stays the same.

Upcoming Dates

Quilts due
August 26

Food Box Challenge
September 1-30

Sharefests
September 10- October 8

Quilt Auction
November 6-12



COOPERATIVE RESPONSE GRANT

Ecumenical Projects
Impacting Poverty

APPLY NOW

FESTIVALOFSHARING.ORG/RESOURCES

Blessings!



Improving Hygiene Kits

Festival of Sharing is working to make its hygiene items more inclusive of all types of skin and hair. You might have noticed a change in the Missouri Personal Hygiene Pack contents from “bar soap” to “moisturizing bar soap.” This is one small step to offer comfort to more skin types. Agencies in Missouri helped us compile a list of lotion and Black hair products. This year we invite you to donate these individual items through our warehouse or Sharefests, and they will be shared with agencies based on their local need. A list of example items and brands can be found on our resource page: festivalofsharing.org/resources.

As we continue with these efforts, we will reflect on the process and adjust as needed and communicate any changes for future collections. Thank you for partnering with us in these efforts!

Want to engage more? We recommend watching the heart-warming animated short, Hair Love, which tells the story of an African American father learning how to do his daughter's hair for the first time. It can be viewed on YouTube for free, search "Hair Love animated short."



Can you rise to the occasion?

FOOD BOX CHALLENGE SEPTEMBER 1-30

Directions at
festivalofsharing.org/resources

Will it be dinner, dessert, snack or breakfast? What recipe can you create using items from a Missouri Family Food Box? Submit your masterpiece to win a sweet treat!

Sharefests

The Sharefests will be here soon! Currently, we anticipate opening our locations back up for volunteers to join for various activities such as packing rice, tying fleece blankets and assembling kits. We recognize that COVID-19 is still an active health concern and we will continue to monitor and make adjustments as needed. The best ways to receive the most up-to-date information on the events is to give us a call, visit festival@socket.net/sharefests or follow us on Facebook @FestivalofSharing.

If you're interested in volunteering at a Sharefest, please fill out the volunteer interest form on our website and we will reach out to you to make arrangements.

Global & Domestic



Church World Service

Earlier this summer we had the opportunity to partner with CWS, the Ferncliff Camp and Conference Center and the Missouri Annual Conference to collect Welcome Backpacks for refugees and asylum seekers. The backpacks include essential items like healthy snacks, a reusable water bottle, a few basic hygiene items, a blanket and more. The backpacks were taken to Ferncliff's warehouse outside of Little Rock, AR where they are prepared for shipment across the U.S. as CWS responds to refugee and resettlement needs. CWS currently collects Welcome Backpacks all year. If you would like to join this effort, you can turn backpacks in at any Sharefest this fall, or visit cwsglobal.org/donate/welcome-backpacks/ to donate \$75 for a backpack to be assembled. A list of kit contents is also available on that page.

CWS and UMCOR (United Methodist Committee On Relief) are partnering to collect relief supplies and have launched a new kit this summer! The Period Pack will help provide support to vulnerable menstruating populations and will be distributed during disasters, whether natural or socio-economic. The kits are valued at \$14 and include hand sanitizer, trash bags, sanitary napkins and more. We will accept donations of Period Packs at 2022 events. Content list and assembly directions can be found at umcmmission.org/umcor-relief-supplies.



YOU'RE INVITED!

2022 Quilt Auction

NOVEMBER 6-12, 2022

Proceeds benefit the Church World Service Blankets Program which helps people rebuild after disasters.

Quilt photos, details and bidding directions will be accessible from our quilt auction web page one month prior to bidding going live at www.festivalofsharing.org/quilts.

Send quilt donations to the Festival address (below) before August 26, 2022.

3601 Amron Court
Columbia, MO 65202

(573) 474-3332
festival@socket.net

WE ACCEPT CHECKS & MAJOR CREDIT CARDS.

Reminders

Quilt Deadline is August 26!
Please invite your friends and family to share information about the auction. Flyers are available for download on our website under the Quilt Auction page. We also have an event page on Facebook @FesitvalofSharing.



Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Columbia, MO 65201
Permit No. 140

MO Annual Conference of the
United Methodist Church
3601 Amron Court
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festival@socket.net

Return Service Requested



FAQ

What if I can't find the suggested size for a kit item?

We recognize that product sizes can vary by location. We encourage you to get products as close to the listed size in the booklet as possible. If you need to, going up in size/weight is preferred. If you have questions about an item, please feel free to reach out.

Festival of Sharing Presentation

We would love to meet you! Schedule a presentation with your congregation, Sunday school class, or volunteer group either in person or virtually! Email festival@socket.net or call 573-474-3332.

Stay Connected

Subscribe to our emails at festivalofsharing.org under the "About" tab. Like and follow us on Facebook for event details and service opportunities. Join our Coordinating Committee! Email or call for more info.

Engage With Us!

Festival at Home

It's summer, what can we do now?

While we may not be thinking about winter right now, you might be able to find blankets or fleece to make a tie blanket at a reduced cost right now. We have directions available on our Resource page.

