

Chippewa Falls Mission Coalition Meeting Minutes – Monday, March 3, 2025

PLACE: Trinity United Methodist Church, 201 W. Central St., Chippewa Falls, WI
TIME: 5:00 p.m.

- * Introductions and Prayer Requests
- * Open Meeting With Prayer – Deacon Rose Ruthy

* **Guest Speaker:** Brian Dulmes

Subject: Chippewa Falls Mobile Meals Program

-- Mobile Meals has been operating in the Chippewa Falls area since 1971. They differ from Meals On Wheels in that Mobile Meals delivers meals within the city limits of Chippewa Falls. Meals On Wheels delivers meals mostly outside the city limits.

-- Mobile Meals are available to people unable to prepare their own meals due to aging or health related issues. Each meal costs \$5 and it is a well-balanced meal which provides meat, vegetable, starch (potato, etc.), bread, butter, fruit, dessert and milk. (Special diets are available upon request.)

-- Hot noon meals are delivered by volunteers Monday thru Friday, with the exception of certain holidays. **More volunteer drivers are needed.** As a volunteer you would only be responsible for delivering meals one day a week. (You could do more days, if you wish.) It usually takes about an hour to an hour and a half to deliver meals to about 10 to 16 people. Substitute drivers are also needed to fill in when regular drivers can't make it.

-- In addition to delivering meals, the volunteers also do wellness checks on each resident to make sure they are all right. Many friendships have been formed between the volunteers and residents. That social contact is as important as the meal itself.

-- Mobile Meals are currently being prepared by Dove Health Care/Rutledge Home. Donations from various community organizations and individual donors also help fund this program. **If you or your organization would like to make a donation you can send it to: "Mobile Meals, P.O. Box 601, Chippewa Falls, WI 54729."**

-- For more information ... or if you know someone that would benefit from receiving Mobile Meals ... or if you would like to volunteer to deliver a meal once a week ... you can contact Sue Brick ... 715-723-0486 ... mobilemealsinccf@gmail.com You can also visit the Mobile Meals website for more information ... cfmobilemeals.weebly.com

* **Mission Update:** Hope Village/Tiny Houses (Mike Cohoon)

-- Our Annual Fundraiser, the Quarter Auction was held on March 1st at Lake Wissota Golf and Event Center. It was totally sold out. They are still counting quarters, but Mike said he is hopeful it will approach last year's final tally of \$28,000. Stay Tuned!

-- The Indianhead Motel project is still moving forward to provide affordable housing for singles and couples in the Chippewa area. We will be closing on the deal on March 31st. We are still looking into various grants to fund the Indianhead project. \$2.6 million is needed, we currently have \$1.3 million in grants. The recent government restructuring has put some funding up in the air. But, we're prayerfully confident we can reach our goal as things clear up. Some funds may be shifted to the Indianhead project from our next Six-Plex/Duplex build to make it happen. A bump in the road, but we continue to move forward.

-- Our current Hope Village Duplex/Six-Plex building project is still on track for an April 2025 opening. Currently waiting for gas and power to be hooked up. We hope to be renting these units by June 1st.

-- A number of our Hope Village/Tiny House guests have found permanent housing and are moving to their new homes. At the present time six of the ten Tiny Houses are occupied. We are reviewing new applicants at this time.

* **Mission Update:** Chippewa Co. Hunger and Homeless Council – Have you come in contact recently with any homeless people looking for help with food or shelter? If so contact Mike Cohoon ... director@hopevillagechippewafalls.org ... 715-210-5405.

* **Mission Update:** “Lighten Your Load” Family Laundry Mission. (Gayle Klitzke)
-- The new volunteer schedule for April – June 2025 is ready to go. Just contact Gayle ... gayleklitzke@hotmail.com ... 715-723-5053 for volunteer details. Gayle also mentioned we could use some more laundry detergent. (**NOTE:** We recently received some late donations of laundry detergent from our February “Lather With Love” mission. From that we were able to provide LYL with four large containers of laundry detergent.)

* **“Lather With Love” Soap Mission – February 2025** (Tom Drehmel)

Our February “Lather With Love” soap mission was once again a great success. Thank you to all that were able to donate soap items, as well as all the prayers for this mission. A Special Thank You to Kellee Petik and the Central Lutheran Youth for promoting, gathering, counting and sorting all the soap items that were delivered to Central Lutheran by the various CFMC churches/non-profit.

FINAL LWL TALLY: 207 Laundry Detergents ... 141 Shampoos/Conditioners ... 860 Hand Soaps/Body Washes ... 151 Dish Soaps ... 1,330 Misc. Health/Hygiene Items ... FOR A GRAND TOTAL OF 2,698 “Lather With Love” Items collected.

All items collected were distributed evenly for the following Pantries ... First Presbyterian, English Lutheran of Bateman, Valley Vineyard, St. Francesca Resource Center, Chippewa Valley High School, Agnes’ Table and LE Phillips CDC Chippewa Outreach.

If we decide to continue the “Lather With Love” Soap Mission in 2026, we would like to find a new location to serve as the main collection area. Central Lutheran has been the main collection area since 2011 and we would like to see another church/non-profit take a turn at collecting and sorting the items. If this is something your church/non-profit would be interested in doing let us know. Thank You!

* **2025 Easter Community Meal** (Cathy Greenseth)

The St. Charles Pastoral Council has agreed to host the CFMC Easter Community Meal on Easter Sunday, April 20th from 2 to 4pm. Cathy has been working with Tiffany Wogahn and Mary Kaiser to work out the details for getting volunteers and the food together for the meal. It looks like Rutledge Charities will again provide the food. A Volunteer Schedule will be coming out shortly. Stay Tuned!

* **Other Business/Announcements**

-- On Palm Sunday, April 13th, at 2:00pm St. Charles will be offering a play entitled “The Last Word.” All are invited. A flyer for this event will be sent to all CFMC members shortly.

*** Next Meeting – April 7, 2025**

- **Christ Episcopal Church, 624 Bay St., Chippewa Falls**
- **Guest Speaker:** Brenda Clausen ... **Subject:** Salvation Army, Pathway of Hope Program

*** Close with Lord's Prayer/Our Father**

CFMC Mission Statement: "Faithful people joining hearts and hands to be God's Love in action for our neighbors near and far."

CFMC Bible Verse: Psalm 60:12 – "With God's Help We Will Do Mighty Things."

WEBSITE: cfmissioncoalition.org -- **FACEBOOK:** facebook.com/cfmissioncoalition