

## **January 2019 Outreach of the Month Food Packing**

Either you or someone you know at ULC has likely volunteered for one of the “**God’s Work, Our Hands**” food packing events. Maybe this year you’ll join us? We are working to finalize a date for September 2019 and details will be posted in late summer.

Since 2015, we have packaged over 50,000 dehydrated meals! ULC and One Community (Lutheran Campus Ministry) have teamed with the Islamic Center each year and plans are underway to hold another food packing event in 2019. This year, along with the Islamic Center, we hope to include the helping hands of our neighbors with the Wesley Foundation at MSU (United Methodist Campus Ministry).

There are plenty of different ways to support this ministry, including prayerful, financial, and hands-on support. We purchase all of the dehydrated food to package, and each complete meal only costs 28 cents per package! Every packing event consists of at least 10,000 meals, so the minimum total cost is \$2,800.

The meals we package help feed people experiencing hunger around the world—even in East Lansing, as one-third of the meals have been given to the MSU Student Food Bank since 2016. A \$25 contribution buys enough dehydrated food to keep one volunteer busy packing for over an hour. The more money we raise, the more food we can purchase, and the more volunteers we can include in serving.

We hope you’ll consider how you can make a difference by contributing to this outreach ministry, which serves to feed hungry people in body, mind and spirit. Please make checks out to “ULC” with Food Packing on the memo line or use envelopes in the backs of the pews to donate cash – just write “Food Packing” on the outside of the envelope and place it in the offering plate.

The food packing events have been a wonderful ministry of feeding the hungry and welcoming our neighbor. If you are interested in helping plan the event, please talk with us. This is a great opportunity to spend time getting to know students, as well as members of our own congregation, and our neighbors from the Muslim and Methodist community.

*Vicki Anderson and Pastor Haley Vay*