

DEEP SIX STUDY

November 28th, 2021

Signs of Life (Community Partner Focus)

MESSAGE HIGHLIGHTS *(You can view the full message online at capecodchurch.com/Watch)*

Opening: (Pastor Ben) – It’s been a great “Season of Generosity” so far during Missions Month. As a church, we packed and shipped 893 boxes through Operation Christmas Child and donated 186 turkeys and hams to the Falmouth Service Center last week. We focus on acts of generosity during this season, especially, because we want to be known for what we *give* as a church, not just for what we know or say. This year during Missions Month we’ve announced four major projects we’ll be tackling as a church in 2022; we’re all invited to “Pray, Give and Go” in response:

- Pray – Pray for our partners, their organizations, and the people they serve
- Give – The four new projects for 2022 will cost around \$200,000; we’ll raise that through our Missions Fund, a separate account that’s 100% dedicated to loving those outside our church.
- Go – Whether it’s on one of our international mission trips or “across the street” with one of our local partner organizations, there will be multiple opportunities to “go and serve” in 2022.

1. Habitat for Humanity (Beth Wade – habitatcapecod.org)

- Millard Fuller, founder of Habitat for Humanity, began the organization based on Jesus’ command to love our neighbor (Matthew 22). Fuller saw a need and an opportunity to do that through helping people build affordable homes for their families.
- HFH Cape Cod does that by partnering with families and the local community; a rigorous application process selects the families, who must put in “sweat equity” alongside volunteers.
- HFHCC is currently building 10 homes on Willett Way in East Falmouth; Cape Cod Church will sponsor one of those homes, to be built in summer 2022. Sponsorship (a \$50,000 commitment) underwrites the cost of the home to ensure affordability for the purchasing family.

2. Cape Kid Meals (Pastor David Johnson – capekidmeals.org) (Isaiah 58:3-12)

- God promises to do “heart surgery” on us when we choose to trust and follow Jesus, causing us to see the world differently. The tears of others are often the way God softens our heart.
- The ministry of Cape Kid Meals is to provide weekend food to school-age kids who would otherwise go hungry. Each food bag is prayed over: “May the love of Jesus spill out of this bag.” A hungry kid can have a hard time believing that there’s a God in heaven who loves them.
- In 2022, Cape Cod Church will partner with CKM to acquire and move to a centralized storage, packing and distribution center that will enable their mission to expand to ALL schools on Cape Cod. Our project commitment is for \$50,000, plus volunteers to help set up the new facility.

ADDITIONAL SCRIPTURE

These passages may provide additional insights related to the subject of this week's message.

Ezekiel 36:25-27; Micah 6:6-8; Matthew 25:31-40; Luke 10:25-37; Galatians 5:13-14; 1 John 3:16-18

Video of the Week: [1-3 John](#) by the Bible Project

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION AND DISCUSSION

1. During our "Season of Generosity" this year (so far) we've collectively done big things like sending hundreds of Christmas boxes to children and donating almost 200 turkeys and hams to our local neighbors. What do you think motivates individual members and families to do that?
2. When Pastor Ben says that "we want to be known for what we *give* as a church," what does that mean to you? Why is it important?
3. This week we announced two more major missions projects for 2022 – sponsoring a Habitat Home in East Falmouth and helping Cape Kid Meals acquire and move to a new distribution center. Which of those projects excites you most, and why?
4. Read Ezekiel 36:25-27. Christians believe this prophecy refers to the "new hearts" God gives us when we decide to trust and follow Jesus – a heart that loves and serves others. What makes a Christian's "new heart" different from the hearts of those who also serve others generously but don't know Jesus?
5. Some of our community partners are secular in nature – i.e., they're not connected to the Christian church or guided (officially) by Christian doctrine. How then does our (CCC) partnership and support of them foster our church's mission to "help people discover a full life with God"?
6. As our annual Missions Emphasis month comes to a close, what are your final thoughts on the projects and partnerships we've highlighted this year? How is God calling you to "Pray, Give, and/or Go" as we get ready to enter 2022?