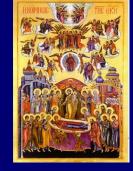
### CHURCH STAFF

- Parish Priest: Very Reverend Archimandrite Christodoulos Margellos
- Parish Council President: Jim (Demetrios) Katsihtis
- Philoptochos President: Eleni Giakoumopoulos
- Sunday School Directors: Susu Saba & Peli Galiti
- Greek School: Ilektra Kolokouri

Choir Director: George Tzougros

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# The Message

### MARCH 2022

# IN PLAIN VIEW

As the winters come and go we have all had to experience sickness, be it the flu or a simple cold. They tell us to drink plenty of fluids, and maybe sip a little bit of yiayia's soup. But sometimes we are so sick we need to take the time to go and see a doctor. We have an exchange take place where they ask us how we feel and we tell them our symptoms. Then after some tests they will tell us what is wrong and give us the medicine to get better.

We are all infected with spiritual sickness as well, but many go their entire lives not seeking to get any better, but simply live with this deadly disease. But there is a cure, a way to get the medicine you need. It is always there for us if we choose to use it; of course we are talking about the Sacrament of Confession. Just as we go to doctors if we are sick, Jesus the great spiritual healer is here for us to wipe out the sins of the world, and He has given authority to those ordained to forgive us our sins.

This was done first to the apostles and through them it has been passed down from generation to generation and now lies with the clergy here today. God has done this so forgiveness is accessible to everyone, and that no one is denied the chance. But to some this still sounds foreign, how can one go to a man and expect forgiveness? Simple, through the Sacrament of Holy Confession, which is one of the seven Holy Sacraments of the Church. As we build a relationship with the priest we confess to, in time he begins to work with the penitent to work through that which is difficult to navigate alone. This explains the reason why the clergy take on the name of Spiritual Father or Spiritual Guide.

We must not ignore this gift God has sent to us, but rather use it to the fullest extent possible. It is not something we should put on hold or wait until the last minute to do, but rather just as if we want to keep in good shape we work out 4 or 5 times a week, so must we partake in this sacrament 3 to 4 times a year. My brothers and sister repentance is always at hand, it is a simple matter of if we want to extend our hand and accept it, or simple ignore it. May everyone have a blessed Lenten season!

V. Rev. Fr. Christodoulos



# The Annunciation of Our Most Holy Lady, the Theotokos March 25

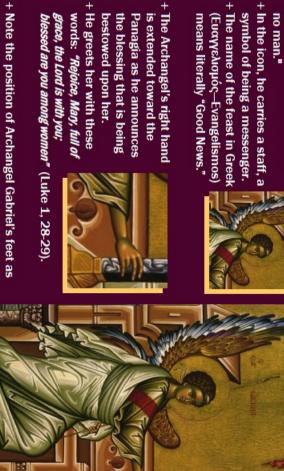
rejoice for you bear him who bears all things." "Rejoice, for you are the throne of the king,

- + The Archangel Gabriel came to Son, even though she "knew the Panagia to announce that no man." she would conceive and bear a
- + The name of the feast in Greek + In the icon, he carries a staff, a symbol of being a messenger.
- means literally "Good News." (Ευαγγελισμός–Evangelismos)
- + He greets her with these + The Archangel's right hand the blessing that is being is extended toward the bestowed upon her. Panagia as he announces
- words: "Rejoice, Mary, full of blessed are you among women" (Luke 1, 28-29). grace, the Lord is with you;



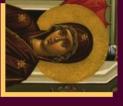








+ The Mother of God sits on an + Her veil bears three stars used to represent her ever-virginity: cherubim, and beyond compare she is "greater in honor than the elevated seat, showing that before, during, and after more glorious than the seraphim.



+ Her right hand is shown upwards: a gesture acceptance of God's will. that may indicate both surprise at news beyond understanding, and

Christ's birth.

- + Her posture, with her head lowered also shows humility and
- + She gives her whole self freely to God, submitting to His will acceptance.
- + The Panagia holds a spindle of + Holy Tradition tells us as Christ's tabernacle in the Temple...the very womb, she was weaving a purple Body begins to be woven in her and scarlet curtain for the scarlet thread in her left hand.



one that is torn in two at the moment of His death on the Cross.

Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America www.development.goarch.org Office of Parish Development Developed by the (847)825-1432





+ We are called to act

the Theotokos. the good news with he is runs to share

similarly when God

# March 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Fast day (Dairy Permitted)	2 Fast day (Dairy Permitted)	3 Fast day (Dairy Permitted)	4 Fast day (Dairy Permitted)	5 Fast day (Dairy Permitted) Saturday of Souls 8:30 a.m. Orthros followed by Divine Liturgy with Memorial Service 5:00 p.m. Great Vespers
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Forgiveness Sunday (Cheesefare Sunday) Fast Day(Dairy Permitted) 8:30 a.m. Orthros 9:45 a.m. Divine Liturgy	Strict Fast Clean Monday Great Lent Begins	Strict Fast	Strict Fast	Strict Fast 10:00 a.m. Adult Religious Edu- cation Class	Strict Fast	Fast Day Oil & Wine Permitted Saturday of the Souls
Sunday School/Greek School 6:00 p.m. Philoptochos Meeting via Zoom	6:00 p.m. Great Compline	6:00 p.m. Great Compline	5:45 p.m. Pre-Sanctified Liturgy 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice	6:30 p.m. Adult Religious Education Class	6:00 p.m. 1st Salutation Service	8:30 a.m. Orthros followed by Divine Liturgy with Memorial Service 5:00 p.m. Great Vespers
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Fast Day Oil & Wine Permitted Sunday of Orthodoxy	Strict Fast	Strict Fast	Strict Fast	Strict Fast	Strict Fast	Fast Day Oil & Wine Permitted
8:30 a.m. Orthros 9:45 a.m. Divine Liturgy Sunday School/Greek			Adult Religious Educa- tion Class			Russian Mission Service
School Sunday of Orthodoxy Pan -Orthodox Vespers 5:00 p.m. Reception to Follow	6:00 p.m. Great Compline	<b>7:00 p.m.</b> Parish Council Meeting	5:45 p.m. Pre-Sanctified Liturgy 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice	<b>7:00 p.m.</b> Women's Spiritual Meeting	6:00 p.m. 2nd Salutation Service	5:00 p.m. Great Vespers
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Fast Day Oil & Wine Permitted Sunday of Saint Gregory Palamas	Strict Fast	Strict Fast	Strict Fast	Strict Fast	Fast Day (Fish Permitted)	Fast Day Oil & Wine Permitted
8:30 a.m. Orthros 9:45 a.m. Divine Liturgy Sunday School/Greek School	]				Annunciation 8:30 a.m. Orthros followed by	
Pan Orthodox Vespers Saint John the Wonder- worker Portage, WI 5:00 p.m.	<b>7:00 p.m.</b> Man of God Movie Parish Outing		5:45 p.m. Pre-Sanctified Liturgy 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice	7:00 p.m. Great Vespers for the Annunciation At Annunciation in Milwaukee	Divine Liturgy 6:00 p.m. Great Vespers with 3rd Salutation	5:00 p.m. Great Vespers
27	28	29	30	31		
Fast Day Oil & Wine Permitted Sunday of the Veneration of the Holy Cross	Strict Fast	Strict Fast	Strict Fast	Strict Fast		
8:30 a.m. Orthros 9:45 a.m. Divine Liturgy Greek School Program and Luncheon	<b>5:00 p.m.</b> Great Compline		5:45 p.m. Pre-Sanctified Liturgy 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice			
	11 811011111111.10		1		1	I

expenses. Our goar shourd of to have our operating expenses covered by stewardship and to not have to rery



# FOCUS ON PHILOPTOCHOS HELP US TO HELP OTHERS

March 2022

Focus on PHILOPTOCHOS #PhiloCares

Philoptochos fulfills its mission to "help the poor, the destitute, the hungry, the aged, the sick, the unemployed, the orphaned, the imprisoned, the widowed, those with disabilities and the victims of disasters through its National and Metropolis Boards and its 26,000 members and more than 400 active chapters, nationwide.

Sending prayers for everyone during this time as we prepare to enter the Lenten period.

LOOKING AHEAD

- **Membership 2022**: Our annual membership drive begins and we urge you to come join us!! Come meet amazing women whom you can call your sisters in our army of agape. We welcome all ladies 18 years of age and up to please join us. Get yourself in the spirit of giving and show your love by doing the good work of Philoptochos. If you are interested in joining us as a member, you can fill out the membership form in the newsletter or contact me at <a href="mailto:lenagiak@gmail.com">lenagiak@gmail.com</a> or <a href="mailto:philoptochos@agocwi.org">philoptochos@agocwi.org</a>.
- March collection tray: We continue to be #PhiloStrong because of the support of this amazing community!! The tray collection per month is included in the newsletter. For March we were collecting for: Relief for Greece and Cyprus, but have changed to Crisis Relief Fund for Orthodox Christians
- National Philoptochos Launches Ukraine Relief Fund: Donations may be sent marked "National Philoptochos Ukraine Relief Fund" to the National Philoptochos Society at 126 East 37th Street, New York, NY 10016 or DONATE HERE: <u>https://ppay.co/G-w6g6DcoT0</u>
- March and April fundraisers: look for more information to come on how we continue to raise funds for local, national and international organizations this year.

NOTES FROM FEBRUARY

- A chapter member presented the great need for a local children and the chapter committed to supporting Kennedy Elementary School through the Operation Classroom initiative in the amount of \$2000 (gift cards from Woodmans).
- Support for a local parishioner Aidan Baldukas (nephew of Nikki Storck) He has been diagnosed with liver cancer and his support team needs our help. Proceeds from the shirt sales and any donations go to the Children's Organ Transplant Association in honor of Team Aidan to help with a lifetime of transplant related expenses. Currently there are two sites where we can assist:
  - You can make a donation of \$22 in 2022 campaign at this site: <u>www.COTAforTeamAidan.com</u> or any amount you wish.

You can also purchase a shirt for team Aidan at <a href="https://www.bonfire.com/team-aidan-cota-2021/">https://www.bonfire.com/team-aidan-cota-2021/</a>

Metropolis dates to note:

April 2: Metropolis of Chicago Lenten Retreat, Elgin, IL, 9 am-1:30 pm National Clergy Laity Convention and Philoptochos Assembly – July 3-7, 2022, New York, NY September 22: Metropolis of Chicago September Luncheon, The Empress Banquets



# The Ladies' Philoptochos Society Assumption Greek Orthodox Church 2022 Membership Drive

We invite you to join us and share in our philanthropic mission. Through your stewardships and our various fundraisers, we are able to donate to many worthy

causes helping people in need locally, nationally, and internationally. Locally we donate our resources and Philoptochos power to several organizations on a regular basis, and also to special hardship situations as needs are presented to us. Nationally and internationally we support the philanthropic programs of our Metropolis Philoptochos and our National Philoptochos.

We hope that you will join us as a member and also as a volunteer. Whether you attend regular meetings, volunteer to help with our activities, or would like to support our work with your stewardship, you will be a valued Philoptochos member. We look forward to hearing from you.

Please complete the form below and submit it with your 2022 stewardship payment, by February 28, 2022. Checks should be made payable to "*Philoptochos*" and please write *membership* in the memo section. The mailing address is below. Thank you!

NAME:
ADDRESS:
CITY/ZIP:
PHONE:

### I am interested in helping with the following project(s) and please include me!

Vasilopita Dinner (January) (n/a 2022)	Baklava Plus Sale (Sept. – Nov.)
Mid – Winter Luncheon (February)	Maintaining the Church Hall/Kitchen
Greek Independence Day Dinner	Cooking for Grace Episcopal -Porchlight Homeless Shelter
Koulourakia baking (Holy Week)	Baking Breads for Special Dinners
Spring/Easter bake sale (drive by pick up)	Coffee Hour Host
Greek Fest Bake Sale (drive by pick up or onsite)	Prosforon (Holy Bread) baking
Reception for Assumption Feast Aug 14	Bucket Brigade (church cleaning)

My Stewardship payment of \$\_\_\_\_\_\_is enclosed (check #\_\_\_\_\_\_or cash). Please note: \$15.00 goes to National Philoptochos, \$5.00 to the Metropolis of Chicago Philoptochos, and \$2.00 to the Bishop's Fund. We ask for a minimum pledge of \$22.00. Dues paid above the amount will be used for our philanthropic activities and other chapter obligations.

> Please return to Beth Fatsis (1215 E Johnson St, Madison, WI 53703) or drop it in the Philoptochos mailbox at Church.

### Thank you for your generous time and support!

# **YOUTH CORNER**

# ON THE ROAD TO EASTER WORD SEARCH

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Pra	yer	r Easter Foot Washing						Easter											
as	ting	ş			Palm Sunday						Resurrection								
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# **COMMUNITY NEWS**

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING: Will be held on Tuesday, March 15th at 7:00 p.m.

**<u>CARPET FUNDRAISER</u>**: To help off set the cost of the new carpet for the church we have put together an option to help pay for it. The new carpet comes in tiles and each of those tiles will cost \$20. So we are interested in seeing if people would consider donating tiles as many as you like, but we are hoping to get everyone to donate the tiles they are using each services. You can also donate an entire row which s 10 tiles for \$200. Please consider giving if you are able. Thank you for being a part of our community.

**ADULT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASS:** A.R.E. classes have begun for the winter. We are beginning a new book, "Saint Nektarios, Saint of our Century". We will have in person classes on Wednesday's at 11:00 a.m. here at the church. We will also have a virtual zoom class on Thursday's beginning at 6:30 p.m. The classes are the same and interchangeable. We look forward to continuing our journey together.

**FROM THE GREEK SCHOOL:** Classes have now resumed again. Every Sunday following Sunday School.

**WOMEN'S SPIRITUAL MEETING:** Women's spiritual zoom meetings will be on Thursday, March 17th at 7:00 p.m. If you are interested in participating and you haven't signed in yet please contact Peli Galiti at pegaliti@gmail.com You will get the zoom link in your email.

All women from Assumption parish, St. Ignatius Parish and other parishes are welcome.

**PAN ORTHODOX SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY VESPERS:** On Sunday, March 13th at 5:00 p.m. our Parish of Assumption will be hosting the first Annual Madison Sunday of Orthodoxy Vespers. Please join us for the vespers with all our Orthodox brothers and sister in the Madison area.

**PAN ORTHODOX LENTEN VESPERS:** On Sundays March 20th, 27th and April 3rd the Local Orthodox Churches will be hosting Pan-Orthodox Lenten Vespers. On March 20th Saint John The Wonderworker Orthodox Church in Portage will Host. On Sunday, March 27th Saint Ignatios in Fitchburg will Host and on Sunday, April 3 Saints Cyril & Methodios Ukrainian Orthodox Church will be hosting. All services will begin at 5:00 p.m. More information is in attached flier.

**GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY GREEK SCHOOL PROGRAM AND LUNCHEON:** Enjoy a traditional Greek Plaki fish meal while listening to the Greek School children share songs and poems about the Greek Independence. Adults: \$15.00 (traditional Plaki fish meal) Children: \$7.00 (1/2 fish meal) PLEASE RSVP to mariaandpatrick@gmail.com by SUNDAY, 3/13 with the following information: 1. Number and types of meals. 2. Eat at church or take it home.

**<u>CRISIS RELIEF FOR UKRAINE</u>**: Assumption Ladies of Philoptochos will be raffling a vacation rental stay. This year's annual raffle will support the National Philoptochos Ukraine Relief Fund\*\* As in past years, Faith Zabit Morledge, from Sprinkman Real Estate and a member of our church, has generously donated a 4-night stay at her lakefront property in Green Lake, WI. The value of this vacation rental is \$1000, and raffle tickets will be \$20 each or 3 for \$50. Please see photos at this link: http://www.escapetogreenlake.com and the attached flyer for more details.

All proceeds from this sale will provide crisis relief for Ukraine. We will draw the lucky winner on March 27 at our Greek Independence Day dinner & Greek School celebration in our church hall. You need not be present to win. Please mail checks payable to Philoptochos with "Ukraine" written in the memo sector to:

Beth Fatsis

1215 E Johnson St

Madison, WI 53703

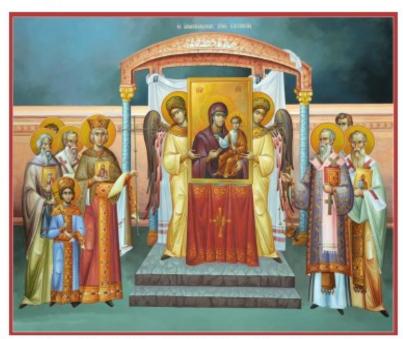
If you prefer you may drop your cash or check payment into the Philoptochos philanthropy basket near the front church exit. Please fill out this online form or include the attached form (also found in the March bulletin) along with your payment so that your donation will be accurately directed.

Thank you for your continued support of Philoptochos and the work that we do!

https://forms.gle/Hq5AKFQsgSUhSFp86

# Sunday of Orthodoxy Pan-Orthodox Vespers

**At Assumption Greek Orthodox Church** 



On Sunday, March 13th, 2022 the Madison Area Orthodox Churches will be having our First Annual Sunday of Orthodoxy Pan-Orthodox Great Vespers.

Services will begin at 5:00 p.m. at Assumption Greek Orthodox Church 11 N. 7th St, Madison, WI We will have a Pan-Orthodox Choir singing along with our Chanters.

Assumption Ladies Philoptochos will be hosting a fellowship coffee hour immediately following the service downstairs in our Fellowship Hall

# Lenten Pan-Orthodox Vespers For the Madison Area Orthodox Church



On Sundays, March 20th, 27th & April 3rd, 2022 the Madison Area Orthodox Churches will all be hosting Sunday Night Lenten

Pan-Orthodox Great Vespers.

Services will begin at 5:00 p.m. at

March 20th Saint John the Wonderworker Russian Mission Parish 211 W Pleasant St, Portage, WI

March 27th - Saint Ignatius Antichian Orthodox Church

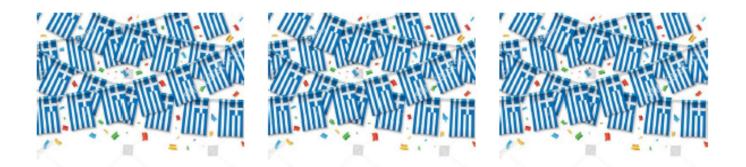
2124 Shafer Dr. Fitchburg, WI

Saints Cyril & Methodios Ukrainian Orthodox Church

1020 Regent St. Madison, WI

Sermons will be all by Local Orthodox Clergy

27 Light a candle in church and pray for someone in need of extra prayers.	20 Perform a random act of kindness as a family. Discuss how God wants us to always be kind to others.	13 Watch a Christian themed movie. Some favorites are Story- Book, VeggieTales, The Storykeepers and Torchlighter series.	March Lenten Calendar 2022
<b>28</b> Mail a note to your grandparents or older relative.	21 Draw or write a thank you note to your priest. Include any questions you might have.	14 Fill a bag with items no longer used and donate them to a local shelter.	7 Choose a prayer or scripture verse to memorize. This could be the Jesus Prayer for smaller children or Psalm 50 or the Creed for older ones. Practice it daily during Lent.
29 Bake a Lenten cake and enjoy it for dessert after dinner tonight.	22 Cook or bake a meal or snack and deliver them to a neighbor or family member.	<b>15</b> Do your cross and kiss every icon in your home.	<b>8</b> Talk about temptation and resisting it. Make a batch of Lenten cookies and leave them on the table for everyone to eat the next day.
<b>30</b> Take a nature walk. Collect treasures in your backyard or a nearby park and talk about how God made each and every thing unique and for	23 Read the Lenten prayer of St. Ephraim and do three prostrations.	<b>16</b> Read a Bible story with your family.	<b>9</b> Order a prayer rope for everyone in the family. Our church bookstore has some. Say prayer together as a family tonight and try to use your prayer rope.
<b>31</b> Fast together as a family from all electronic devices. Pick a fun family activity to do tonight.	24 Spend five minutes with your eyes closed and pray the Jesus Prayer with your new prayer rope.	17 Make a Lenten goals poster or journal all together.	10 Bake Kyra Sarakosti "cookies." These are not to be eaten but your family will cut off one of her feet every Saturday as we count down to Pascha.
	25 Read verses Lambda through Omicron of <u>Rejoice</u> , <u>Panagia: Offering to</u> <u>Children The</u> <u>Akathist Hymn</u> . Attend the Salutations service tonight and bring	18 Read verses Zeta through Kappa of <u>Rejoice, Panagia:</u> <u>Offering to Children</u> <u>The Akathist Hymn.</u> Attend the Salutations service tonight and bring	11 Read verses Alpha through Epsilon of <u>Rejoice</u> , <u>Panagia: Offering to</u> <u>Children The</u> <u>Akathist Hymn</u> . Attend the Salutations service tonight and bring your book.
	26 Discuss the Third Sunday in Lent - The Veneration of the Holy Cross. Count all the crosses in your home, including the ones you wear.	<b>19</b> Help your Mom or Dad with a project around the house.	12 Talk about the First Sunday of Great Lent - The Sunday of Orthodoxy. Choose your favorite icon and bring it to church tomorrow.



The Ladies Philoptochos Society and our Greek School Children Invite our parish to a **Greek Independence Day** Celebration

on Sunday, March 27, 2022

immediately following the service.

Enjoy a traditional Greek Plaki fish meal while listening to the Greek School children share songs and poems about the Greek Independence.

Adults: \$15.00 (traditional Plaki fish meal) Children: \$7.00 (1/2 fish meal)

PLEASE RSVP to <u>mariaandpatrick@gmail.com</u> by SUNDAY, 3/13 with the following information:

- 1. Number and types of meals
- 2. Eat at church or to go

The event benefits Orthodox Christians in need around the world. Please make checks out to Philoptochos.

# 2022 Stewardship Commitment Form

# **Our Church: Our Spiritual Home**

**Frequently Asked Questions** 

### How do I become a member of the parish?

Membership in the Orthodox Church begins at baptism (Chrismation for some) and continues throughout our life. We are united with Christ through the sacraments, or mysteries, of the Church and through our faithful offering of our entire selves to Jesus Christ. Our Archdiocese requires each parish to distinguish between voting members and non-voting members. A voting member is over 18 years of age and turns in a signed stewardship commitment card, committing a portion of time, talent and treasure to the Church. The Archdiocese also requires the voting member to remain current through the year on their commitments. Keep in mind that true membership in the Body of Christ involves living according to His word and within His Church.

## Why must I commit to give a specific amount?

Please keep in mind that your stewardship of money is kept in the strictest of confidence. However, we do compile the amounts anticipated to better plan our budget.

### What if I cannot fulfill my stewardship commitment?

During the course of a year, circumstances change. Your stewardship is valued because it is made out of your love for God and His Church. Please do not be concerned if you are unable to meet your stewardship commitment – we are glad you are a part of this parish.

# **Eternal Life begins Now**

"The Church is the unity of all worlds, earthly and heavenly, of angels and men, of the living and the dead. We obtain real communion with God and we participate in God's uncreated energy. God does not stay in heaven, directing history from there. He directs the world with His uncreated governing energies. We do not aim at appeasing God, but to heal ourselves, so that the vision of God becomes light for us and not fire. Furthermore, in the Church we live eternal life starting from now. We do not simply await the life to come, but we experience and enjoy it from the present. The Kingdom of God, according to the Fathers, is not life beyond the grave, but communion with God, above all, the vision of the uncreated Light."

Metropolitan Hierotheos of Nafpaktos The Illness and Cure of the Soul in the Orthodox Tradition

		RDSHIP & FAMILY INFORMATION FORM return this form to the Church Office
Family Name:		
Address:	City:	StateZip
Home Telephone:		
In gratitude for God's blessings, I \$\$1,560 (\$30/week)\$1,960 (\$38 Highlighted amount of \$1,960 is what we	/week)\$2,600 (\$50/week)\$5,20 need to average per steward to run the c	00 (\$100/week)Other hurch on Stewardship alone.
Member Name:	Spouse	Children / Age
Mobile Tel:		/
E-mail:		/
Occupation:		/
Work Tel:		/
	FREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH FAMILY complete and return this form to the	
Family Name:		
	which you or a member of your itials of the specific family member	family has some expertise or interest. after each item checked.
<ul> <li>Bible Study</li> <li>Teaching</li> <li>Greek Language School</li> <li>Visitation of Elderly/Infirm</li> <li>Finance</li> <li>Ushering / Welcome</li> <li>Reader (in liturgy)</li> <li>Gardening</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Youth Work</li> <li>Sunday School</li> <li>Church Choir</li> <li>Cooking-Events or Outreach</li> <li>Computer - general</li> <li>Computer - Web Site Mgt</li> <li>Parish Newsletter</li> <li>Other</li> </ul>	□ Construction

The Assumption Greek Orthodox Church 2022 Parish Budget Anticipates a commitment \$160,000 from Stewardship. This represents only 2/3 of our anticipated expenses. Every Stewardship Pledge should conscientiously contribute to the support of our Church for ONE FULL YEAR! To meet our expenses, Assumption needs an average of \$670 a day. We must

Yearly	Monthly	Weekly	Daily
\$ 200	\$ 16.67	\$ 3.85	\$ 0.55
\$ 400	\$ 33.33	\$ 7.69	\$ 1.10
\$ 600	\$ 50	\$ 11.53	\$ 1.64

ask ourselves prayerfully are we doing enough to continue our mission as a parish. Please consider using the above table to see how simple it is to increase your stewardship. With this simple increase we can bring our stewardship closer to fully covering our anticipated budget for 2022. We know not everyone can do this, just try your best and God will provide. You can set up auto pay by going to our website <u>http://www.agocwi.org/</u> and clicking on the giving button.





Waterfront Cottage with Boat Slip! Vacation home stay Oct. thru April

Faith@SprinkmanRealEstate.com (608) 444-8330 // SoldWithFaith.com

Assumption Ladies of Philoptochos Raffle to Raise Money for Ukraine Crisis Relief

Raffle Tickets: \$20 each or 3 for \$50

Name

Email address and/or phone number\_\_\_\_

Amount of cash/check donation \$\_\_\_\_\_

Please enclose this form in an envelope along with your donation (cash or check ) and place the envelope in the Philoptochos philanthropy basket at church.

Alternatively, mail a check "with your donation to Philoptochos Treasurer: Beth Fatsis, 1215 E. Johnson St., Madison, WI 53703

"Checks payable to Philoptochos with "Ukraine" in the memo section. Thank you very much for your ongoing support!

# **RIVER FOOD PANTRY**

The River Food Pantry has become the first redistribution organization (RDO) of Second Harvest Foodbank of Southern Wisconsin. As an RDO, The River can now redirect food sourced from Second Harvest to other local organizations throughout Dane County.

"It is a privilege to expand The River's partnership with Second Harvest, our largest food source," said Rhonda Adams, Executive Director of The River. "We entered this RDO agreement because of our longstanding dedication to recover as much food as possible for the community from local food retailers, many of which were passed onto us from Second Harvest to strengthen our community-wide efforts to reduce food waste."

Through this RDO agreement, The River is allowed to formalize partnerships with local organizations in need of support. Community partners receive regular donations of excess food and resources from The River to reach those who do not access the pantry's services for various reasons.

"This expansion of our long-standing relationship with The River Food Pantry is an excellent example of partners developing new and more efficient ways to meet the needs of those facing hunger in our community, and the organizations trying to support them," said Michele Orge, President/CEO of Second Harvest.

Since it officially became an RDO in August, The River has worked with over a dozen redistribution community partners to serve a monthly average of 900 individuals who would otherwise not have access to the pantry's services. This initiative helps to increase access to healthy food and to minimize food waste in Dane County.

The River's current redistribution community partners include:

- Access Housing
- Boys & Girls Clubs of Dane County
- Dryden Terrace (senior and assisted living)
- Dryhootch
- Friends of the State Street Family
- Hope's Home Ministries
- La Follete High School
- Neighborhood House Community Center
- Porchlight Homeless Men's Shelter
- Shelter from the Storm Ministries
- Paul Lutheran Church Community Store
- The Beacon
- Warner Park Community Recreation Center

The River distributes a wide variety of products with these organizations to meet their specific needs. Items can include fresh produce, ready-to-eat meals, nonperishable food, snacks, beverages, baby formula, and personal hygiene items.

Each community partner serves a unique population with varying needs. Many of the organizations struggle to afford the quality and quantity of food and/or resources their constituents need to eat and live healthfully, according to Bethany Michiels, The River's Community Coordinator.

"It is amazing to learn about and work with other organizations serving Dane County in such diverse ways. As an RDO, we can work together to efficiently and safely nourish so many more food-insecure children, seniors, veterans, low-income families, communities of color, and those experiencing homelessness," said Michiels, who works on-on-one with each partner. To learn more, please visit riverfoodpantry.org/redistribution-community-partnerships.

