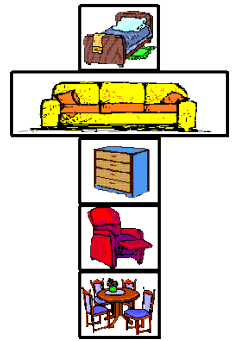


Epworth Furniture Ministry

“Being Disciples of Christ by providing quality used furniture and basic household items to individuals in our community who are in need.”

furnitureministry.org



Epworth Furniture Ministry

2022 Annual Report



January 12, 2023



Epworth United Methodist Church
4855 W. Central Avenue
Toledo, Ohio 43615-2237

2022 Overview

Community Service Impact

- 119 families received furniture
- 297 family members served – 138 adults and 159 children
- 1,212 pieces of furniture gifted to the families
- Household items distributed:
 - 300 towel sets
 - 145 dish sets
 - 275 pans and skillets
 - 190 bedding sets
 - 120 flatware sets
 - 240 lamps
 - 240 small kitchen appliances
- 390 children books gifted
- 330 boxes of household items donated to Goodwill and Catholic Justice Ministry

Community Donations

- 260 donors provided furniture
- 50 pickups made
 - 32 regular Saturday pickups
 - 18 special pickups for donors closing homes or moving
- Isaac Family donated 3,000 square feet of warehouse space
- Business and agency donations
 - Sale by Sisters

Volunteer Stewardship

- About 75 volunteers per month are needed to operate the ministry
- Volunteers donated over 2,700 hours
 - Scheduling Pickups 720 hours
 - Picking up Donations 980 hours
 - Distributing Items 1,000 hours

Serving Families of Northwest Ohio Since 2008

	<u>2008-2022</u>
Families served	1,845
Family Members	5,123
Pieces of Furniture	17,528
Volunteer Hours	38,900

Mission

Being Disciples of Christ by providing quality used furniture and basic household items to individuals in our community who are in need and offering hope and dignity to those who have felt hopeless and invisible.

To achieve this mission EFM uses an operating model that has remained the same since 2008:

- Donated furniture is picked up and brought to a warehouse
- Partner agencies screen the recipients
- Recipient furniture needs are matched to furniture availability
- Donated furniture distributed once per month in recipient provided truck

Operating Review

The ministry served 119 families, 297 family members and re-gifted 1,212 pieces of furniture. Since its inception in 2008 the furniture ministry has served 1,845 families, 5,123 family members and provided 17,528 pieces of furniture.

Throughout the year the ministry was blessed with volunteers who picked up furniture, sorted/warehoused donations and assisted in the distribution of the much-needed furniture. These volunteers donated over 2,700 hours in 2022.

Who We Serve

The individuals the ministry serves typically are facing difficult times in their lives. Some have been homeless, some are fighting addictions, and some are just struggling to make ends meet. The 17 community agencies affiliated with EFM recommend the families to receive furniture based on need and on having a residence with little or no furniture. The people are trying to get their lives back in order and having a bed, dresser, sofa, chair, dinette set and household items helps make an apartment a home. After receiving furniture one participant summarized the experience as follows: “Now, I got me a home.”

In a typical month 10 families are served on Selection Saturday. Weather, time of year, personal issues and available transportation are some of the factors impacting the number of families served per month. Providing delivery transportation is the recipient’s responsibility and is an obstacle for some. About 70% of the families accepting an invitation will come to Selection Saturday, a 30% attrition rate.

The Donors

The EFM donors want their furniture to go to someone who needs it. The donors believe in what EFM is doing and are willing to wait up to two months for their furniture to be picked up. Donors learn about the ministry by word of mouth and seeing the yellow EFM truck in their neighborhoods.

A team of volunteers donated over 700 hours scheduling donation pickups and responding to calls and emails from donors, agencies, and individuals requesting help. The team scheduled pickups for 260 donors on one of the three regularly scheduled Saturday pickups or special pickups during the week for donors who have a half truckload of furniture. In 2022 the team made 50 pickups.

The following local business donated used furniture and household items throughout the year:

Sale by Sisters – furniture and household items.

Blessings – Household Items

In addition to furniture EFM provides small household items to the families. The Epworth congregation and furniture donors donate most of these items but volunteers purchase some items at garage sales. In 2022 the following blessings were distributed to families:

300 towel sets	190 bedding sets	240 small kitchen appliances
145 dish sets	120 flatware sets	275 pans and skillets
240 lamps	240 children books	

Volunteers

The EFM volunteers are dedicated individuals who are filled with compassion for helping those in need. Lifting furniture, sorting goods, and loading trucks is hard work but no one ever complains. Most volunteers can't believe the fun they are having doing God's work. About 75 volunteer positions per month are required to operate the ministry and in 2022 the volunteers donated over 2,700 hours to schedule pickups (720 hours), pickup donations (980 hours) and distribute furniture (1,000 hours).

The Warehouse

In addition to storing donated furniture the EFM warehouse is where the furniture is distributed to the families. The furniture is displayed on racks and arranged so the families can make selections easily. Once the family selects an item it is moved to the loading bay and then loaded onto the family's truck. The Isaac Family donates 3,000 square feet of warehouse space. This donation is a major financial support and is critical to the success of the ministry.

Community Agencies

The 17 EFM community agencies identify who is to receive furniture. Each month EFM allocates about 20-25 recipient slots among these agencies. Once the families are selected to fill the allotted agency slots the agencies provide them with information about the Selection Saturday procedure. The 2022 community agencies and their participation rate are:

Community Agency	Invites	Accepts	At SS
Adult Court	6	6	6
Bethany House	11	4	4
Catholic Charities	4	4	4
Cocoon Shelter	11	3	3
Family House	11	3	1
Harbor Behavioral Health	36	24	14
Healthcare for Homeless Veterans	11	2	1
Leading Families Home	14	10	9
Lutheran Social Services	6	5	2
Mercy Health-Healthy Connections	28	17	14
Red Cross	14	11	6
St Paul's Community Center	26	18	17
St Paul's Marketplace for All People	11	6	5
TASC	22	12	12
US Together	0	0	0
YWCA Northwest Ohio	11	6	3
Zepf Center	36	27	13
Other	5	5	5
Total	263	163	119

2022 Leadership Team

The volunteers providing leadership to the furniture ministry during 2022 are:

Holly Bolenbaugh, Chair
Ed Bardi
Martha Chapman

George France
Kim Meadows
Peter Machin

Marilyn Town
Keith Webb

More Information

For more information go to the Epworth Furniture Ministry website, www.furnitureministry.org.