

The monthly meeting of MCEF was held at 7:00 p.m. at the One Stop Shop. There were 19 in attendance representing 16 churches/organizations. The meeting was called to order by the President, Pat Hubert. Karen Tucker, Treasurer, opened with prayer. The agenda was adopted by general consent.

All Souls Episcopal, Rick Morrison
Black Creek Baptist, Debbie Ward
Broadus Baptist, Karen Tucker, **Treasurer**
Broadus Baptist, Neil Turner
Church of the Redeemer, Ed Soniat
Cool Spring Baptist, Ann Kennedy
Episcopal Church of the Creator, Sandy Wainwright
Fairfield Presbyterian, Nancy Gallihugh, **Client Services Director**
Gethsemane, Mary Britton, **Vice President**
LDS Chickahominy, Marge Friel
Mechanicsville AARP Chpt. #5407, Ed Taylor
Mechanicsville UMC, Mary Jervey
Messiah Lutheran, Gladys Hubert
Messiah Lutheran, Pat Hubert, **President**
Newsong UMC, Alan Fearnow
Northside Baptist, Trudy Carlton
Restoration Church, Carol Dean
Truth Baptist, Wendy Pursel, **Secretary**
Leigh Negvesky, **Clothing Coordinator**

OFFICER AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Minutes of the February meeting were approved as posted. Please check the website for the monthly minutes as they contain good information to report to your church. Updated 2025 brochures are available at the OSS or on the website at the bottom of the page. Be sure to give Wendy Pursel any updated contact information if changes occur.

CLIENT SERVICES REPORT/Phone Reps

Nancy Gallihugh reported that the Hanover County Social Services office in Mechanicsville has not requested any additional bags of food at this time. Last month, MCEF provided 2 bags of food to them in the event that a family was in need of food on a Friday, when there are no other food banks open.

There are currently 4 phone representatives, and the schedule runs through June 21st. If you are interested in being involved in answering the MCEF phone, please contact Nancy Gallihugh at inn Galli@comcast.net. Each phone representative has the phone for 2 week intervals. The phone is no longer being used for financial assistance, but is used for basic information only. A notebook of information, training, an answering machine, and WiFi are provided along with the phone. Phone calls just need to be answered by the end of the day.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE ACTIVITY

During the month of February, there were 23 requests for financial assistance and 6 were helped with 5 pending. Many of the requests were not eligible for help based on location or having already had recent assistance.

Information for requesting financial assistance may be found on the website, and those requesting assistance must send the information requested through email. Rent and utilities are not paid in advance, but only when an eviction or disconnect notice has been given. Payment is not given to clients, but paid directly to property management or the utility. Those requesting assistance must live in the 23111 or 23116 zip codes. Financial help of up to \$500 is given once every 2 years, if eligible.

TREASURER’S REPORT

February 2025 income/expense accounting:

Income- \$8,613.78

Expenses- \$6,758.34

Acct balance end of the month - \$68,112.85

Certificate of Deposit at Edward Jones - \$200,000

Karen Tucker reported that the income for February is higher than the expenses due to the fact that the February rent was not paid. Both the February and March rent payments have been made, and will now be sent in electronically moving forward.

There was a motion to approve the treasurer’s report subject to audit. The vote was favorable.

HANOVER SENIOR RIDES

During the month of February 2025, MCEF gave 94 (one-way) rides in Mechanicsville and ACES provided 24 (one-way) rides in the Ashland, Elmont, and Hanover Courthouse areas. Overall, Hanover Senior Rides provided a total of 118 (one-way) rides for the month of February.

2025 monthly ride totals:

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr.	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
MCEF-	110	94										
ACES -	<u>28</u>	<u>24</u>										
Total -	138	118										

We currently have 128 riders (MCEF has 104 and ACES has 24 riders). Also, we currently have 31 volunteer drivers (25 with MCEF and 6 with ACES).

Our Operations Manager, Aimee West, and our 4 Ride Coordinators continue doing a great job in managing the daily operation of the program by scheduling rides, providing information, and communicating with the riders and our volunteer drivers.

During February, we suspended operations for 2 days due to inclement weather and 30 rides had to be cancelled or rescheduled.

ONE STOP SHOP (OSS) ACTIVITY FOR February

Total sign ins –134 (representing 399 persons in household)

Total new clients –10

Total # bags of food given out – 185

Total # bags for second helping –18

Total bags of clothing given out – 56

Total bags of linens given out – 21

In the month of February, there were 4 days that the OSS was not able to open due to weather and school closings.

**DONATIONS OF FOOD AND CLOTHING ARE ACCEPTED
THE 1ST AND 3RD SUNDAY OF THE MONTH FROM 2-3:30.**

****Please note that there will be NO DONATION SUNDAY on the 3rd Sunday in April - April 20th (Easter Sunday).**

FOOD PANTRY/VOLUNTEER

Mary Britton gave a reminder that due to the current egg price and shortage, we will continue to provide one dozen eggs per household per month, but eggs will not be given to clients coming in for a second helping within the same month.

Current Needs For The Food Pantry

Applesauce

Canned Meats (chicken, Vienna sausages, SPAM)

Paper Towels and Toilet paper are great ideas for a collection drive!

CLOTHES CLOSET (and linens)

Leigh Negvesky reported that we have begun purging our closets of winter clothes as we switch to spring/summer. Our overabundance is being shared with other locations such as the King William Cornerstone Clothes Closet and Retreat Hospital. We are accepting Spring clothes.

Please be reminded that we do not accept clothing that is stained, dirty, torn, out of date, or with slogans/advertising.

Current Needs For the Clothes/Linens Closets

New Socks and Underwear (all sizes and family members, especially girls)

Full/Queen Sheets

BACKPACK MINISTRY

Alan Fearnow gave a Backpack Kids Annual Report for 2024. According to this report, 12 volunteers participated in the Backpack ministry at New Song, for a total of 704 hours of work. 3,914 backpacks were prepared and delivered, which equates to 23,484 meals, reaching an average of 115 kids each week during school. New Song donated 2,407 pounds of food and \$6,038 from their offerings and budget. There are approximately 12 churches and community organizations that work together in this ministry, including MCEF.

Current Needs for Backpacks

Individual serving sizes with pop tops or easy lids, microwaveable:
(fruit cups, mac and cheese, canned pasta (such as Chef Boyardee).
small soup (chicken noodle or tomato), Ramen noodle cups, cereal bars,
cereal)

FUND RAISING

- NASCAR - next upcoming race - August 15-16. This will be the only race this year.
- Kroger - Please connect your Kroger Plus Shopping card to MCEF #GD661 on your Kroger profile.
- The 9/11 Benefit Concert will be held again next year, with a commitment from the Hanover High string orchestra to perform at Walnut Grove Baptist Church.

NEW BUSINESS

- The 50th Anniversary planning committee will meet on Saturday, April 26, from 10:00-11:30 at the OSS.
- We will begin our Long Range Planning, as this is the 3rd year of the 2nd 5 years of being in the OSS location. A team will be meeting in the Spring.

ANNOUNCES/EVENTS

- March 15, 8-2pm, Yard Sale, Food, Venders, and Displays, Messiah Lutheran
- March 16, 3-5, Perch Perfect - kids build/decorate birdhouse, Black Creek Baptist
- March 22, 7:30-11:30, Yard Sale to benefit Sleep In Heavenly Peace missions, Broadus Church
- April 3, 1-6, Blood Drive, Church of the LDS on Atlee Rd. - please register on the RedCross.org website
- April 6, 11:15, Lunch and Learn - Stop Scams, Broadus Church (contact Karen Tucker)
- April 8, 7:30, Spirit of Volunteerism Celebration, Atlee High School
- April 13, 12-2, Springfest, Restoration Church
- May 8, 10-1, Hanover Centenarian Celebration, Covenant Woods (contact Debbie Preston at dapreston@hanovercounty.com)
- May 9, 1:00, Restoration Church Golf Tournament, Hunting Hawk
- May 15, 9-1, Finding Value In Your Prime event for seniors, Fairmount Church (go to Hanover Parks and Recreation website to register). Venders, breakfast, lunch.
- June 9-12, 9-12, VBS, Restoration Church

The group shared any prayer concerns followed by the Lord's Prayer.
The meeting was adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

Please remember that the MCEF meetings are the second Monday of the month , unless otherwise notified. (put it on your calendar)

Next Meeting - April 14, 2025 at the One Stop Shop – 7:00 p.m.

Wendy Pursel, Secretary