Thank you to Our Many Member Congregations!

Fairview United Methodist Church
First Assembly of God
First Baptist Church
First Baptist Church—South Lynchburg
First Christian Church
First Presbyterian Church
First United Church
Forest Presbyterian Church
Forest Road United Methodist Church
Fort Avenue Church of Christ
Fort Hill United Methodist Church
Grace Evangelical Free Church
Grace Memorial Episcopal Church
Heritage Baptist Church
Heritage United Methodist Church
Hillwood Mennonite
Holy Cross Catholic Church
Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
Hyland Heights Baptist Church
Jackson Street United Methodist Church
Jericho Missionary Baptist Church
Lighthouse Foursquare Church
Marsh Memorial United Methodist Church
Mead Memorial United Methodist Church
Memorial Christian Church
New Hope Free Methodist Church
Our Senior Lutheran Church
Park View United Methodist Church
Peakland Baptist Church
Peakland United Methodist Church
Providence Transformation Church
Quaker Memorial Presbyterian Church
Reality Ministries International
Redeemer Presbyterian Church
Redeeming Grace Baptist Church
Rivermont Avenue Baptist Church
Rivermont Baptist Church
Sandys Bay Baptist Church
Shiloh United Methodist Church
St. Andrew Presbyterian Church
St. Andrew Presbyterian Church
St. John’s Episcopal Church
St. Paul’s Episcopal Church
St. Stephen’s Episcopal Church
St. Thomas More Catholic Church
Temple Baptist Church
Thomson Road Baptist Church
Timberlake Christian Church
Timberlake United Methodist Church
Trinity Episcopal Church
Tyrone United Methodist Church
Unity in the Seven Hills
Westminster Presbyterian Church

Interfaith Outreach Association
701 Clay Street
P.O. Box 1125
Lynchburg, VA 24505

Save the Date!
Seeds of Hope Luncheon
Thursday, April 28th @ 12:00
Holiday Inn Select
Downtown Lynchburg
Special Honorees
The Honorable Elliot and Rosel Schewel

Thank you to Our Many Member Congregations!

Agudath Sholom Synagogue
Aliisa Grove Baptist Church
Ascension Episcopal Church
Baha’i Faith
Believer’s Fellowship
Berean Baptist Church
Bethlehem Lutheran Church
Beulah Baptist Church
Boonsboro United Methodist Church
Bovdale Baptist Church
Covenant Presbyterian Church
Court Street United Methodist Church
Cumberland United Methodist Church
Chesterfield Baptist Church
Chesterfield United Methodist Church
Christ Church of the Brethren
Church of the Covenant
College Hill Baptist Church
Court Street Baptist Church
Court Street United Methodist Church
Covenant Presbyterian Church
Crosspoint Wesleyan Church
Diamond Hill Baptist Church
Eighth Street Baptist Church
Elon Presbyterian Church
Eudiant Christian Church
Fairview United Methodist Church
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Westminster Presbyterian Church

Interfaith Outreach Association strives to relieve distress and improve the quality of life for our neighbors in need by providing programs that offer education, guidance, and support. IOA serves as a vehicle for interfaith cooperation in Central Virginia whereby congregations become members of IOA and enter into partnerships with each other, their respective denominations, and community agencies to accomplish its mission.

IOA serves the city of Lynchburg and the counties of Amherst, Appomattox, Bedford, and Campbell.

8th Annual Seeds of Hope Luncheon to Raise Much Needed Funds for IOA

Interfaith Outreach Association is hosting its 8th Annual Seeds of Hope Luncheon, a free fundraising event, in hopes of raising much needed funds to support their programs. Each year, we are happy to be able to share what we have done to help the community over the last year and exciting changes for the upcoming year with those in the community who have supported IOA and with new friends who are interested in learning more about what we are doing to help the needy in Central Virginia.

The luncheon will be held on Thursday, April 28th 2016 at 12:00 at the Holiday Inn Downtown, located at 601 Main St. Lynchburg, VA 24504.

Beginning a new tradition, Interfaith will be honoring someone in the community at our Seeds of Hope Luncheon who has made a big impact in the lives of those in need in the Lynchburg area.

This year, we are proud to announce that our special honorees are the Honorable Elliot and Rosel Schewel.

We still have open seating available for anyone who would like to learn more about the wonderful work of Interfaith Outreach and help us thank the Schewels for their dedication to serving the community. Please RSVP to ioashawne@ntelos.net or 434.846.6098 by Friday, April 15th to reserve your seat.
Interfaith Keeping Families and the Elderly in Their Warm Homes This Winter

Lynchburg area residents have experienced one of the most diverse winters we have seen in years. From 80 degree weather in December to 10+ inches of snow in January, their heating and cooling needs have changed drastically and so have their thermostats. While those warm temperatures enabled people to postpone the need to turn on their heat, they also required people to run their AC longer than usual. We expect that in the next few weeks we will see a large increase in need for assistance with electric and gas bills after the havoc of winter storm Jonas.

At Interfaith Outreach Association, we take a more holistic approach to assisting those who come in our doors in need of assistance with a bill. We talk with each one of them about the circumstances that led to them being unable to pay their bill and make recommendations for other agencies that they may be able to work with to help them improve their current situation. We pay close attention to the other bills that they are responsible for paying to help them prioritize their expenses and to help them identify places where they may be overpaying to eliminate some expenses. In looking at those bills and receipts, we are able to confirm that each person who receives services from Interfaith is truly in financial need. We appreciate your continued support as we work with our neighbors in need to help them find comfort at home.

2015 Statistics

- 2,764 people, including 1,228 children, received emergency assistance with eviction notices, utility cutoffs, and fuel tank fill ups allowing families to stay together in their own home
- 46,196 hours of time were donated to IOA’s programs by our dedicated volunteers
- 8,573 people learned more about IOA through outreach
- 249 individuals received free furniture
- 418 people benefited from our Vision Information Program Support Groups
- 54 houses were repaired to allow needy people to stay in their homes
- 218 inmates participated in the Life Skills Classes in the Blue Ridge Jail system
- 4,999 referrals were made to other agencies that can offer further assistance
- 219 needy individuals received necessities such as groceries and toiletries
- 7,196 hours of time were donated to IOA’s programs by our dedicated volunteers
- 852 furniture items were given to clients in need which included beds, dressers, kitchen tables, and sofas
- 105 individuals participated in our Return, Learn, and Earn Class and another 147 received aftercare counseling.

Corporate Sponsors

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<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Emergency Food &amp; Shelter Program</th>
<th>Old Dominion Box Company Foundation</th>
<th>Stifel Nicolaus</th>
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<td>Babsbuck's Auto Service</td>
<td>Estates and Condominiums</td>
<td>Piedmont Eye Center</td>
<td>Tarp Funer Home</td>
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<td>Fleet Laboratories</td>
<td>PIP Printing and Marketing</td>
<td>The Easley Foundation</td>
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<td>GE Foundation</td>
<td>Presidency of the Peaks</td>
<td>The Greater Lynchburg Community Trust</td>
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<td>Cecil B. Arthur Trucking</td>
<td>Genworth Foundation</td>
<td>Retail Merchants Association</td>
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<td>Riverside Runners</td>
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<td>Holiday Inn Downtown</td>
<td>R.R. Donnelley</td>
<td>Whitehead Media Ventures</td>
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<td>Dodson Pest Control</td>
<td>NB Handy</td>
<td>Schewel's Furniture</td>
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Assisting the Elderly

At the core of what we do, Interfaith Outreach strives to help keep those who come to us in need in their homes. For the elderly, helping them to retain their independence does exactly that.

Through the Interfaith Rebuilds program, we are able to perform small home repairs that make a big difference. Whether we are building a ramp, putting in an accessible toilet, repairing broken door boards, or patching a hole in the roof, these repairs mean the difference in someone being able to stay in the home they worked hard to purchase and being forced to move to an assisted living facility or nursing home. In 2015, we were able to work on 54 homes in the Central Virginia area, helping all of those residents to remain in their homes.

Participants in our Vision Transportation Program, many who are elderly, are able to receive much needed rides to their medical appointments. Whether they are in need of a weekly ride to physical therapy or chemo treatments or an occasional ride to another medical appointment, being able to get to their appointments allows them to stay in their homes and maintain their independence without having to pay for transportation.

Return, Learn, and Earn Job Skills Class Sees Increase in Employment Success for Participants

In 2015, Return, Learn, and Earn saw 105 participants come through the program. Using the skills that they learned during the class, most of these participants have been able to find and keep a job as a result of their participation in the Return, Learn, and Earn class.

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported that the City of Lynchburg’s unemployment rate came in at 4.9% in 2015, just above the national average. Following the U.S. Census, Lynchburg was reported to have roughly 37% of its employed citizens living below poverty level and the total poverty level was at 24%.

Through cooperation with many agencies in the Lynchburg area including Roads to Recovery and VADOC’s Probation and Parole, Interfaith Outreach Association is actively working to combat the unemployment and poverty rates in the area. The Blue Ridge ReEntry Council, chaired by Progressive Release Director Steve Monnetti, meets monthly to discuss barriers to employment, housing, and other factors affecting people reentering society to help bridge the gap between incarceration and successful reintegration.

In 2016, Return, Learn, and Earn saw 150 participants come through the program. The class now meets every Monday at noon at the IOA office located at 701 City Street. This one hour class consists of a rotating five week schedule which can be started and finished at any time. Participants learn about conducting a proactive job search, interview skills, job retention, soft skills, and the “nitty gritty” of resumes and cover letters. Participants are also able to schedule appointments for additional resume assistance.

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