



THE LIGHT

Christians Helping in Crisis™

Christian Clearing House

The light shines in the darkness ... (John 1:5a)

Spring 2026



Volume 13, Issue 1

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Living Our Mission Through Trust and Care

The situations we witness at Christian Clearing House (CCH) are often a dilemma, but because of you, our donors we have the ability to make the difference. Your support allows us to brighten the day(s) for many facing uncertainty.

Late one afternoon, a Job and Family Services (JFS) caseworker called asking if Christian Clearing House could help a gentleman (Mike) with a gasoline voucher so he could reach the Bowling Green unemployment office. The caseworker at JFS had spent hours trying to help Mike apply for benefits online without success. His only option (to receive the unemployment benefits) was to travel to the regional office.

Like so many of our neighbors, this man was experiencing "the snowball effect" - living paycheck to paycheck, he had been laid off from his work, without a phone, no SNAP benefits, no paycheck and no access to the resources needed to regain stability. Trusting the CCH staff to assist, the caseworker asked if we would provide gasoline and without hesitation, we said yes.

When Mike arrived, he was overwhelmed and confused. We could also easily tell that today's technological world was something he was unable to navigate.

CCH staff sat with him, walked through the directions to the Bowling Green office, printed the directions, and reviewed everything to ensure he felt confident to make the journey.



As we talked, we learned he had no food and had never used our services before. In addition to the gasoline, staff immediately provided a voucher for food assistance. He began talking about Ramen noodles by the case and was trying to figure out how

many cases he could purchase with the voucher. We explained he was able to get other foods, but he then shared he needed to stick with soft foods due to dental issues. Tammy Stahl, Executive Director offered him a calculator so he could track his spending and feel more in control.

This moment was not just about gas or food, it was about trust, compassion, and restoring dignity. It reminds us why CCH exists: to walk alongside our neighbors with care and hope when they need it most.

YOU—our donors—are the difference! If you would like to donate, visit: www.cchsupport.org

DONATE



Christian Clearing House
Christians Helping in Crisis™



CCH's Annual Treasure Hunt for a Cause

BRINKMAN'S GREENHOUSE

1800 E Sandusky Street, Findlay, Ohio 45840



SALE DATES

March 14, 2026 8:30 AM until 4 PM

March 15, 2026 1:00 PM until 4 PM

Donations will be accepted:

Monday through Friday

February 23 until March 6
9:00 AM until 4 PM

Saturday

February 21, 28 & March 7
9:00 AM until 1 PM

No Sunday donations



CHRISTIAN CLEARING HOUSE

Velvet Chandelier

» PRESALE EVENT FOR TREASURE HUNT FOR A CAUSE «

Join us as we celebrate 10 years

(Treasure Hunt for a Cause presale Event)

Thursday, March 12, 2026

6:00-8:00 PM

\$60 per ticket (limited to 100 shoppers)

Tickets available at Brinkman's Greenhouse,

The CCH office or online at cchsupport.org

Sparkle and Shine Project: Donate a Gown & Help a Girl Shine!



Do you have a beautiful prom gown that's no longer being worn? Consider donating it to the **Sparkle and Shine Project** and help make a dream come true for a local teen!

Last year, this heartwarming initiative helped **15 area girls** attend their prom in style, thanks to the generosity of our community. With dazzling donated gowns from individuals and local merchants, these young ladies stepped into prom night feeling **confident, radiant, and ready to create unforgettable memories.**

We are now **collecting gowns** to ensure even more girls can experience the magic of prom!
Drop-off at The Family Center, 1800 N. Blanchard St., Suite 107 or call 419-422-2222.

Know someone who needs a gown?

If you or someone you know needs a dress for prom, join us on **April 11, from 11 AM - 2 PM** at The Family Center. **Students must be attending a prom in Hancock County.**

Honoring St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church



Being named Church of the Year by Christian Clearing House is a meaningful honor for St. John's Lutheran Church. Members say they are grateful not only for the recognition, but for the strong partnership they share with Christian Clearing House in serving the community.

St. John's supports Christian Clearing House in many ways, including its annual Chicken Dinner fundraiser, where all proceeds are donated to CCH, and participation in efforts such as Souper Bowl Sunday to address food insecurity. The church also hosts the weekly Blessing Basket Food Pantry, open every Tuesday, and supports local and global relief efforts.

Throughout the year, St. John's opens its doors to the community through outreach events such as an Easter Egg Hunt, Fall Festival, and a new Community Christmas Dinner. Church leaders say that while the congregation may be small, its commitment to service and caring for neighbors continues to make a meaningful impact.

Celebrating Project Happy Feet & National Shoe Day

Did you know that a new pair of shoes can make a world of difference for a child in need? Since 2015, **Project Happy Feet** has been providing new shoes to local children as they return to school, ensuring they step into the classroom with confidence and dignity. Each fall, generous community donors and local businesses rally together to support **Project Happy Feet**, making it possible for children who might otherwise go without to receive a quality pair of shoes. The impact of this program extends beyond footwear—it fosters self-esteem, encourages school participation, and allows children to focus on learning without the worry of inadequate shoes.

As we recognize **National Shoe Day March 15, 2026**, it's a perfect time to reflect on the importance of proper footwear and the role it plays in a child's well-being. A good pair of shoes provides more than just comfort; it promotes health, safety, and confidence in everyday activities.

How You Can Help:

- Make a donation to provide a child with a new pair of shoes.
- Spread awareness about the impact of proper footwear.
- Contribute to the endowment fund at The Findlay Hancock Community Foundation.

Together, we can **walk hand in hand** toward a brighter future for every child in our community. **Thank you for your generosity and support!**



Project Happy Feet

Building Strong Families, One Pair At a Time

Items Needed Caring Cupboard

- Toilet paper
- Diapers (size 4 & 5)
- Deodorant
- Feminine products
- Laundry detergent
- Shampoo
- Conditioner
- Tooth paste
- Tooth brushes
- Body wash
- Bar soap
- Shaving cream
- Dish detergent
- Baby wipes



If you would like to support the Caring Cupboard, donations can be brought to the CCH office. Please call 419-422-2222 to schedule a drop off time.

Thank You...



United Way-Hancock County for awarding CCH \$125,000 for Halt-Hunger funding for 2026.

Food Requests:
The need for food assistance continues!



Christian Clearing House

1800 N. Blanchard St. Suite 107
Findlay, Ohio 45840
www.cchsupport.org
419-422-2222

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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Our Vision:

Christian Clearing House exemplifies Christ's love through assisting our community in times of need.

Our Mission:

To provide emergency assistance for our neighbors facing financial, emotional, or spiritual needs in Hancock County.

Financial gifts are a great tribute to those we love today and forever!



In Honor of:

Jack Cramer
Mary Sadowski
Jerry Sprouse
Dick Stephens
Jane Stout



In Memory of:

April Lehman
Doris Moore
Jan Powell
Jonathan Urban

Required Minimum Distributions (RMD) provide you the opportunity to make withdrawals annually. If you'd like more information on the requirements, be sure to contact your tax preparer before year-end.

When it comes to withdrawals please consider:

Gifting it—perhaps you'd like to donate to Christian Clearing House. Your distribution dollars could possibly help you reduce taxes and best of all help those with needs locally.

Use it to create a legacy—if you are interested in leaving money to CCH as a legacy gift that will continue to support those with needs forever, please contact 419-422-2222. Or consider setting up an endowment fund at The Findlay-Hancock Community Foundation in support of CCH. CCH also has established funds at the foundation that are open to deposit into.

Before you decide what to do with your RMD funds, talk with your tax preparer. He or she knows your entire financial picture and can help you determine which option is right for you.



REQUIRED MINIMUM DISTRIBUTIONS (RMD)



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