Upcoming Events

- **Volunteer Saturdays**
  September 16 & December 16
  9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
  For more information, contact Lucie.johnson@acc.cdom.org or 901-722-4797

- **Providing Help... Bringing Hope Kick-off**
  Benefitting all Catholic Charities of West Tennessee Programs
  November 1

- **Immigration:**
  Naturalization and Citizenship Preparation Classes
  Recurring every Monday at 1325 Jefferson Ave
  Call 901-722-4730 for more information

- **Bouquets of Hope**
  Mondays as flowers are donated
  For more information, contact Christine.Hash@acc.cdom.org

- **Mobile Food Pantry Distribution**
  August 31 – St. Mary’s Jackson
  September 28 – IC Union City
  Contact Lucie.Johnson@acc.cdom.org to volunteer or for more information

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To find out how you can help, please contact Virginia Davenport, Camp Director, at 901-722-4716 or visit Camp Love & Learn’s website at www.ccwtn.org/camp

“Whenever we encounter another person in love, we learn something new about God.”

—Pope Francis

These words spoken by our Holy Father in “The Joy of the Gospel: Evangelii Gaudium” express the spirit of Camp Love & Learn 2017, which was the BEST SUMMER EVER. Over 200 campers attended the seven week enrichment camp at St. Anne or St. Paul in Memphis. Campers experienced weekly field trips to a variety of places, like bowling and the zoo! Every Friday, campers went swimming and had an amazing time at the pool.

Every summer, the children of Memphis are invited to have a summer experience that focuses on learning, nutrition, and, of course, FUN! Campers range in age from rising kindergartners to rising fifth graders and are taught by licensed and experienced teachers. The curriculum focuses on building essential math and reading skills to help campers succeed in the upcoming school year. Last year, campers made impressive gains in their comprehension skills with over 65% of campers making gains! What an exciting accomplishment!

Parents and campers alike enjoyed the safe and fun atmosphere at Camp Love & Learn! Our campers made new friends, participated in dramatic plays and arts and crafts, and learned about different cultures through weekly themes. Field trips this year even took campers to the cinema to a summer movie series, Incredible Pizza, and skating! Campers at both the St. Anne and St. Paul locations visited a book fair sponsored by International Paper. They were so excited to see all the books available to them! Daily reading time is a part of the Camp Love & Learn curriculum and parents were excited to see how their child was excited to read after camp!

The dedicated teachers and staff of Camp Love & Learn worked tirelessly each day to show campers that learning is FUN through a variety of activities and lessons. These enthusiastic educators work to stop the summer academic slide through the curriculum. We already can’t wait for next summer’s Camp Love & Learn to see what amazing things will happen!
After the closure of Genesis House in March 2016, Genesis Homeless Services opened at 1325 Jefferson Avenue on July 1, 2016. The beginning of the fiscal year was also the beginning of a new venture at Catholic Charities and what a new year it was!

Genesis Homeless Services is a Rapid Rehousing Program that works to provide needs assessments, permanent housing placements, temporary financial assistance, and case management services to one of the most vulnerable populations in Memphis and Shelby County. The targeted population includes literally homeless individuals who may suffer with mental health/alcohol or drug related issues and victims of domestic violence. Moreover, Genesis Homeless Services provides assistance to homeless veterans and their families who do not qualify for VA sponsored programs.

The program director works closely with two case managers and a program coordinator to ensure monthly one on one case management sessions (via home or office visits) and updates are completed with each of the clients being served. Additionally, the program director and the case managers work with different management companies around Memphis to find suitable and affordable housing for the clients. Each client receives a detailed individualized housing and financial stability plan and works closely with their assigned case manager to ensure success in the program.

Over the course of the 2016–2017 fiscal year, Genesis Homeless Services provided assistance to over 100 clients, exceeding their initial goal by over 35%. Many of these clients have carried over services into the new 2017–2018 fiscal year. Over two-thirds of the clients served in the initial year of Genesis Homeless Services were placed in permanent housing, an amazing feat from a young venture.

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The work of Catholic Charities is rooted in the belief in the dignity of the human person. The services Catholic Charities provides to the community are an expression of this belief and a way of living it out. The beginning of 2017 was full of hope at Catholic Charities.

The first half of this year was filled with exciting events, like the conclusion of the initial year of Genesis Homeless Services, Camp Love and Learn 2017, and new Parish Social Ministries opportunities. It has been a pleasure to witness and experience these events as the Interim President/CEO of Catholic Charities of West Tennessee.

As Interim President/CEO, I have had the opportunity to see, firsthand, the vital importance of Catholic Charities of West Tennessee services to the people of Memphis and surrounding areas. The staff at CCWTN are all working towards a bigger and brighter future for our clients, and throughout the Diocese of Memphis, a future full of hope. I invite you to join us in empowering change in the Diocese of Memphis through the work of CCWTN.

Reverend John J. Hourican
Interim President/CEO

Catholic HEART Workcamp Volunteers

Each summer, we host a group from Catholic HEART Work Camp. Our goal for this summer was to have the group work with each program at Catholic Charities. What an impact they made!

Feeding the Hungry

This past year, our Food Pantry served 16,385 unduplicated clients. We want to encourage healthy eating habits amongst our clients, and aim to serve as much fresh produce as possible. It costs around $1,000 each week to feed our clients fresh produce. For only $20, you can sponsor a family of 5 to receive fresh produce.

Would YOU help us feed our clients fresh fruits and vegetables?
Contact Christine Hash at 901-722-4759
Immigration Services and Catholic Charities of West Tennessee are **thrilled to welcome Megan Race, Esq.** Ms. Race serves as a staff attorney for Immigration Services. We are so excited to have Megan join the staff at CCWTN!

Immigration Services is open from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday, at 1325 Jefferson Ave and the first Monday of the month at St. Mary’s in Jackson, TN. The following services are available:

- Naturalization Application and Preparation Classes
- DACA - Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals and renewals
- Employment Authorization Documentation (EAD) I-765
- Adjustment of Status (I-485)
- Petition for Alien Relatives and Alien Fiancé (I-130 and I-129)
- Travel Documents (I-131)
- Waivers
- Affidavit of Support
- Translation Services (Spanish/English)

**Call 901-722-4730 for more information.**

**We would like to thank the following organizations for their generosity & support:**

- International Paper Foundation
- Hilton Worldwide
- FedEx Corporation
- Buckman Charitable Trust
- Community Foundation
- Suntrust Foundation
- Wells Fargo Foundation
- Thomas Briggs Foundation Trust
- Dollar General Literacy Foundation
- Speer Charitable Trust

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**Mission Statement:** Following the teachings of Jesus Christ, we provide help to those facing chronic poverty and bring hope through intervention, counseling and case management.

**Service Overview:** Catholic Charities of West Tennessee serves people regardless of religious beliefs, socioeconomic status or ethnic background. Catholic Charities is not just for the Catholic community, it is from the Catholic community.

**Visit us at CCWTN.org**

Catholic Charities of West Tennessee is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Your donations are deductible as allowed by law.