



SHARE of McLEAN

Fall 2022

Spotlight

McLean Baptist Church



It's hard to imagine how Share could provide its clients with such a vast array of services without the help and financial support of its faith-based donors. In fact, lay representatives of sixteen such organizations came together in 1969 to found Share, believing that such interfaith cooperation could respond both to the needs of people facing short-term emergencies as well as those needing support for a longer period of time.

The McLean Baptist Church was one of those initial sponsors and its support of Share has never waned. From the start, it supplied Share with much-needed space to store food, clothing, and other supplies, provided a safe space for clients to obtain such services, and allowed Share to host holiday events in its facilities. Thanks to the McLean Baptist Church, Share can securely house its food pantry, clothing room, and storage for donated food, and provide a welcoming place for clients to pick up much needed supplies. The Church also has provided space for a technology lab where donated computers are refurbished for clients, and use of the youth hall to distribute back-to-school supplies and gift cards for Thanksgiving and winter holiday celebrations. Share and the McLean Baptist Church have also partnered on particular projects over the years, including supporting two Afghan refugee families as they transition to life in the United States. During COVID, the Church turned over its entire basement to allow our volunteers to pack boxes of food and supplies for our clients to pick up outside.

Nicki Watts, co-chair of the Food and Clothing Rooms, stated that "During my three-and-a-half-year tenure at Share, the staff of the McLean Baptist Church has helped in whatever way possible to further the mission of Share. This is

consistent with the church's 50+ year commitment to assisting Share's clients with kindness and generosity."

At Share's 40th anniversary, Rev. Michael Catlett of McLean Baptist Church gave a keynote address, and his moving words are worth repeating: "Share cannot be described with words or with numbers, no matter how lovely the vocabulary or impressive the figures. Statistics can paint a picture, but it's a paint-by-number canvas devoid of depth and feeling....Knowing how many cans of food the scouts delivered is far different from watching the scouts collect and deliver that food to Share....Knowing Share delivered furniture to a house is far different from seeing an empty home transformed by a sofa, chairs and tables. Learning Share sometimes helps clients with utilities isn't the same as seeing the light reflected in the eyes of a man who lived far too long in darkness....Behind every number there's a face; behind every word there's a story. Share is about people. Some of us need to give; some of us need to receive. Some of us walk into Share and are changed; some of us walk out of Share and are changed. All of us are needy, and all of us have needs met through Share....we are community....When kindness and compassion are exchanged each person is strengthened. When goodness is our currency, everyone is rich."

Our heart-felt thanks to the McLean Baptist Church and the many other faith-based organizations that have assisted Share in helping our clients for so many years!

Photo Credit: [McLean Baptist Church website](#)

Share Helped Kids Get Back to School



Thank you to all the donors who made the Back-to-School supplies distribution a success, to all the volunteers who helped count supplies, pack bags, and distribute them, and to McLean Baptist Church for their constant support.

Between August 8 and August 24, Share distributed back-to-school string bags filled with grade-appropriate school supplies and gift cards to a total of 239 students, broken down as follows:

Grades K-3: 82 students
Grades 4-6: 44 students
Grades 7-12: 92 students
College: 21 students

This number far exceeded the 140 students who had pre-registered in June.

After distribution began, another 99 students registered for school supplies and thanks to generous donors, we were also able to provide them with back-to-school bags. In addition to the bags filled with loaded pencil cases, notebooks, folders and the gift card, students were able to select additional miscellaneous items including binders, more notebooks, folders, staplers, and other office/craft supplies.

We are still receiving requests from SHARE students and local schools for backpacks and other supplies. To meet that need, we will continue to collect school supplies throughout the year. Most critical items are new backpacks, highlighters, sticky notes, dry erase markers, markers, pens, pencils, and notebooks. Please contact Abbey Ayanian or Robyn at robyn.share@gmail.com if you would like to make a donation, or you can drop off school supplies in the outside storage bin located next to the side entrance of McLean Baptist Church at any time.

Photo Credit: Robyn Smith

New Dominion Women's Club Honors Share

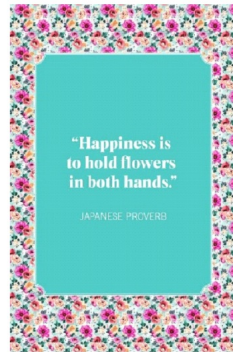
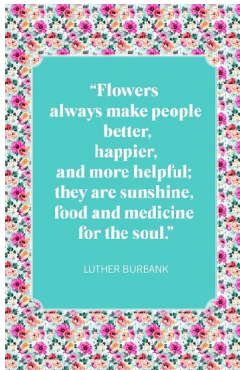


Share's Nicki Watts accepting a check from NDWC President Jenn Longmeyer-Wood

Share is grateful to the New Dominion Women's Club (NDWC) for its recent generous grant of \$7,100, which will support Share's mission to provide assistance with food, clothing, linens, furniture, and emergency funding. NDWC is a civic organization based in McLean, which is committed to promoting, encouraging, supporting, and cultivating the civic, cultural, educational and/or environmental welfare of the community through volunteering and/or financial contributions while providing an opportunity for fellowship among women.

NDWC has long been a supporter of Share, not only in making multiple grants over the years, but also in sponsoring food drives and helping with Share's holiday celebration with its clients. We are so grateful for NDWC's many contributions to our community, including the many NDWC members who are also faithful volunteers in our programs!

Share Selected Again by Giant Food in McLean for the October “Bloomin’ 4 Good” Program



"Flowers are like friends; they bring color to your world." (author unknown)

Bring lots of color to your world by picking up some flowers during the month of October at Giant Food (1454 Chain Bridge Road, McLean location), and they will donate \$1 for every \$12.99 Bloomin’ 4 Good Bouquet with the purple hanging tag. Make someone’s day, and Giant will help Share to help our neighbors!

A Big Thank You to New Community Partners!

When Lidl first opened in McLean in June, it announced an initiative where, among other things, for every customer that downloaded the myLidl app and set the new McLean store as their home store during grand opening weekend, Lidl donated \$1 to SHARE, their chosen local food bank partner. That pledge provided \$1632.00 to Share, and they have also provided ongoing support, delivering food (including meat) about three times a month. This help is particularly valuable as inflation makes affording groceries all that more difficult.

Additionally, the Fresh Baguette, which just opened in McLean next door to Chipotle’s, sold coupon books to benefit SHARE. They recently sent Share a check for \$1,250 ... that’s a lot of bread for selling bread!! We are so grateful to our neighborhood stores for giving back to their community. Please keep Lidl and the Fresh Baguette in mind as you shop in McLean!



Share's Donald J. Frickel and Nicki Watts receive a check from Lidl's Manager, Oleg

Share's Technology Services to Expand

Thanks to the efforts of London Russell, Nicki Watts and Isaac Wolf, Share is improving its technology services! In addition to the existing client computer repair services and client laptop deliveries, in the coming months the program will improve Share's internal IT support, redesign the website, and extend Share's social media outreach. The program is seeking donations of laptops, powerful desktops, and a router for the lab; if you have these items to donate, check the [Technology Page](#) to see if they meet the requirements. For questions, please contact London at londonr@shareofmclean.org.

To assist us in achieving these important goals, we need an Adult Sponsor to oversee these activities. Preferred qualifications include:

- Computer literacy to include a basic, non-technical knowledge about computers and how to use them, familiarity and experience with computers, software, and computer systems
- Desire to provide leadership and to be a positive role model to young people
- Willingness to research and network to secure donations of laptops and printers
- Ability to communicate effectively
- Commitment of at least one-year to position

Once an Adult Sponsor is in place, Share will recruit volunteer interns who can help with software and web development; sales, finance, and donation procurement; and improving our processes and documentation. Please fill out the [Interest Form](#) if you have these skills and a few hours a week to help Share in this important effort: .

Finally, Share will be naming the Technology Program lab in honor of longtime Share volunteer Harry McAlpine.

Share prepares for the Holidays....

Share has some wonderful traditions that help our clients celebrate the holiday season, and also offers our supporters a chance to offer their support as well.

Here is what is coming up in November and December:

Gift Cards for Thanksgiving - Share provides grocery gift cards for each of our clients who sign up, which allows them to prepare for the "extras" that come along with this holiday meal. If you want to help us with this service, feel free to make a [Donation](#).

Share's Holiday Giving Tree is located in front of the customer service counter in the Giant of McLean (1454 Chain Bridge Rd). To participate in this important event, please select an envelope from the tree, and purchase the enclosed gift card to provide a needed item by one of Share's clients. It's easy, fast, and *so very appreciated*. (The tree is up from November 24 (day

after Thanksgiving) to December 25, 2022).

Holiday Presents – Share also provides gift cards to our registered clients to help them with holiday purchases. We welcome any [donations](#) you would like to make to support this wonderful tradition.

Get Involved

Volunteer

Furniture Program Welcomes Volunteers



Jim Bittner and Dave Konstantin deliver beds and hope to clients

Want to help a family start a new life? Share volunteers pick up gently used furniture from local families and deliver them to our clients. We are looking for a few new team members who might be interested in riding along one Saturday to see for themselves how gratifying it is to deliver beds to a family that has been sleeping on the floor, or a table and a few chairs to a formerly homeless individual who has been eating standing up.

It's fun work and no prior experience is needed! All we ask is that volunteers are comfortable carrying boxes or picking up one end of a kitchen table and carrying it up a flight or two of stairs. The program takes about 5 hours on a Saturday working from a list of pickups and deliveries prepared beforehand by our volunteer scheduler.

Not surprisingly, volunteer support for our furniture program waned during COVID and has not returned to levels that fully support this program, which is vital to many county residents. Please help!! If you have any questions or are interested in arranging a "no commitment ride-along," please contact Randy Glantz (randy@shareofmclean.org or cell: 703.297.7299) or Stew Lingley, Share Furniture Chair (slingley@aol.com or cell: 703.629.8670).

Photo credit: London Russell

Share is looking for a Community Outreach Coordinator! We are looking for someone interested in connecting Share with community leaders, businesses, and faith-based organizations which might be able to further Share's mission. Can you help us attract new volunteers of all ages? This role likely wouldn't take more than a few hours each week, and you can work on your own time as convenient for you. Please contact Randy Glantz [here](#) if you are interested in filling this significant role.

Food and Clothing Pantry



Food Pantry Needs

With schools and other organizations not meeting during the summer months, Share's shelves have run a little low. Please consider purchasing a few items on our [List](#) the next time you are at the store. Donations can be placed in the outside storage bin located next to the side entrance of McLean Baptist Church at any time. They can also be dropped off with a Share volunteer on Wednesday and Saturdays from 9:30AM - 12 noon.

Our clients will be so grateful!

Most Needed Items:

- Canned fruit or fruit cups
- Canned tuna/chicken
- Canned beans (chickpea, black, kidney, etc.)
- Toilet paper
- Diapers - Size 5, Pull-Ups (size 4-5T)
- Shampoo

Please remember: NO GLASS, NO OVER-SIZED items, and no items past their 'best-if used by' date.

Note: Share would welcome reusable grocery size bags.

Note: Share can now accept



Winter is Coming! Share Needs Your Used Clothing and Linens/Bedding

Please think of Share if you have long sleeved pants and shirts, sweaters, jackets, and other fall and winter clothes and shoes/boots to spare. Share also welcomes gently used household items and bed linens, towels, blankets, bedspreads, and comforters that are new or gently used, clean and reusable. Please bag linens and mark the bed size.

Donations can be placed in the outside storage bin located next to the side entrance of McLean Baptist Church at any time. They can also be dropped off with a Share volunteer on Wednesday and Saturdays from 9:30AM - 12 noon. Our clients are so grateful for your support!

refrigerated and frozen goods such as chicken, fresh produce, yogurt, cheeses, and eggs but only by prior arrangement
(sharevolunteers1367@gmail.com)

Donate

Share relies entirely on donations. We do not receive any county, state, or federal funding. Please consider making a tax-deductible gift using the button below. In the past few weeks, we have experienced a large increase in requests for rental and utilities assistance in our service area. If this higher level of need continues, which rising inflation levels make likely, our budget will be severely strained. In some respect, this denotes a red flag similar to the end days of the pandemic when our community so generously responded. Our clients could make good use of that extraordinary generosity as we enter the winter months.

Donate

About Share

Share, Inc. is a non-profit organization, staffed by volunteers and supported by individuals, as well as a long-standing coalition of local religious and civic organizations, to meet the emergency needs of our lower income neighbors. For more information, please see our web site at www.shareofmclean.org or contact us via email at info@shareofmclean.org.



Share This Email



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