

## **Outreach Commission Appeal**

The Deanery Strategic Plan included a goal of engaging more deanery parishioners in community outreach. The Outreach Commission was formed in 2012 and includes representatives from St. Benedict (Susan Hall), St. Patrick (Paula Pelland and Julie Bowers), St. Margaret Mary (Jack Meany), St. Mary-of-the-Woods Village (Sue Heck) and St. Joseph University Parish (Tom Kuhl, Linda Sturtevant and Jenny Piker). The goal of the commission is to identify, communicate, encourage and coordinate participation in deanery community ministries.

Following a deanery-wide parish survey, the focus was to identify all the deanery-supported food ministries. A comprehensive list including all other community food ministries can be viewed by clicking on the various links next to the **Help the Hungry** icon on the **Home Page** of this website. This is a valuable tool to those ministering to the hungry in our community and provides information for those wishing to donate and/or volunteer.

Responding to emergencies and disasters was ranked second on the survey. The Outreach Commission is currently developing plans to address this priority and is seeking a volunteer experienced in emergency and/or disaster relief and preparedness to join the Commission. The new member would help lead the project and implementation at all deanery parishes beginning with family preparedness and development of parish emergency plans.

The Terre Haute Deanery is rich with volunteer opportunities in many outreach ministries. To volunteer, to join the commission or to initiate an outreach ministry in your parish contact Jenny Piker (dpthi@frontier.com).