

The Social Justice Ministry Committee is reforming at Prince of Peace, after a hiatus during the pandemic. Through this new effort, we hope to serve our community, encourage service among our congregation members, including our youth, grow our congregation's commitment to service, and reach out to our own members who may have needs. We are a group of about six people right now, and we welcome anyone who may want to join us in this endeavor. We are meeting on Zoom now, but we will reassess this as the situation changes. **Our next meeting will be Monday, October 18 at 6:30pm.** If you would like to join in, or simply get more information, please [contact Jennifer Maloney](#).

Our first priority is to support the Afghan Refugee Resettlement efforts at Lutheran Social Services in the DC area. They are the main resettlement organization for this area. There are a number of ways our congregation can help in this effort. [Here is the link](#). There are some opportunities to be aware of:

1. You can go to the LSS site and [donate for Refugee Resettlement](#).
2. LSS is looking for sponsors to help a family with apartment setup, and other needs that the family may experience in their new home. Right now it appears that LSS has enough sponsors for apartment setup. We may look at this as a possible future commitment.
3. There are [opportunities for mentoring and tutoring](#) and providing transportation to individuals, and these include high school students who can mentor their peers.
4. You can [buy necessities for Afghan Families](#) through Amazon and have items sent directly to LSS. There are links to the needs on the LSS website. They include, bedding, household items such as brooms, waste baskets and small electronics.
5. Advocacy for Resettlement efforts with Federal and Local elected officials.
6. Participate in an upcoming Prince of Peace fundraiser to purchase some of the more expensive items that are needed, such as laptops. More coming on that!

Please consider becoming involved in this effort in some way. This is an important service that will impact the lives of many people.

We also plan to continue with past projects, such as Gaithersburg Help, the Christmas Giving Tree and Gifts of Hope, as well as some new ideas for Christmas. Prince of Peace has always been a caring congregation, and we hope to make sure that you are aware of opportunities to care for our community all during the year.