

## **Temple Emanuel, Davenport, Iowa Tikkun Olam through the Years**

Temple Emanuel has a long history of helping others through social justice and calls for social action. The congregation has always responded in times of need and is often on the forefront leading the way. These are just a few of the projects we have participated in or been instrumental in developing to create a stronger community and in support of our mission: “to repair the world.” Please join us in our efforts to help our community, our country and our world.

**Africa** – raised money to build water tanks in poor communities so women would not have to walk as far to retrieve fresh water for drinking/cooking.

**Anti-Hate Coalition** – created new community-based coalition to address the issues of hate among all peoples in the QCA.

**Argentina Jews** – sent school supplies to Argentina for poor Jewish communities without the basics like pencils, pens, paper, and crayons.

**Bridges of Faith and Women’s Interfaith Dialogues** - these programs were designed to bring together members of different faith groups in the Quad City communities for respectful and meaningful discussions on how a particular faith views their beliefs. Wildly successful these meetings have brought together members of the Jewish, Buddha, Hindi, Christian and Muslim faiths.

**Café on Vine** – a continuation from the John Lewis Coffee Shop of preparing and serving meals to homeless and low-income individuals, providing basic necessities.

**Coats for Kids** – collected and sorted coats that were distributed to needy children throughout the QCA.

**CSA’s – Community or Congregational Supported Agriculture** – initiative to support local farmers by purchasing weekly produce through direct delivery or punch cards at farmer’s markets. Partnering program with Edwards Congregational Church and the Unitarian Universalist Church to provide fresh food to resettled immigrants through World Relief in the Quad Cities and other needy families.

**CROP Walk** – for many years the Temple has been a leader in raising money and participating in the local walk to supply food pantries.

**Day of Unity** – Interfaith community day of worship out of respect for the tragedy on 9/11 with Christians, Muslims and Jews.

**Domestic Abuse Shelters** – raised money, cell phones, clothing, children’s books, made blankets, donated holiday gifts/clothing/gift cards for food, and also supplied toiletries.

**Ericsson Elementary School** – donated gifts/clothing/money for low-income, primarily Hispanic school.

**Equal Exchange Coffees** – Interfaith sale of cocoa bean products to support poor, individual coffee growers in countries such as Ethiopia, Mexico, Guatemala and Indonesia.

**“Focus On” Workshop Series** - these programs began as Focus On Ethics programs (Ethical Challenges Facing the Media and Ethical Challenges for End of Life Decision Making) and moved into a series of Focus On Health issues. Speakers and presenters were arranged for a variety of informational and educational programming for Temple members and the general public.

**Foreign Exchange Students** – supported the foreign exchange student program at Scott Community College in many different ways. Also raised funds so students could receive training in CPR and First Aid as they returned to their home countries.

**Guatemalan Art Sale** – fundraiser to provide money for low-income, handicapped children’s clinic in Guatemala in conjunction with members from the Unitarian Church.

**Habitat for Humanity** – built houses, prepared and served lunches/dinners for workers.

**Haitian Earthquake Relief** – raised money to send to earthquake victims.

**Hanukkah** – made felt menorahs for Jewish seniors and visited during the holiday. Gave up one night of Hanukkah to purchase clothes/gifts for underprivileged.

**Helping Hands Across the Table** – “getting to know you” dinner promoting racial, religious and ethnic harmony in the QCA.

**In From the Cold** – one of the founders of this program, this provides winter clothing to disadvantaged children in the Quad Cities.

**Kids Against Hunger** – organized a project for our Religious School-age children packaging highly nutritious foods that are life-saving meals for starving and malnourished children and their families. We packaged over 10,000 meals that were sent to Nicaragua, Haiti and delivered to Quad City area food pantries.

**Mayors' Hunger Luncheon** – raise awareness/money for homeless and poor.

**MAZON** – “A Jewish Response to Hunger”; donations encouraged to feed the hungry all over the world.

**Mitzvah Day** - various community service projects around the QCA including clean-up of Bridge to Ridge neighborhoods, Handicapped Development Center (planting and singing); painting, planting, visiting elderly, making dolls/blankets, helping at the local hospitals and assisting our elderly with projects around their homes.

**Place2Be** – drop-in center for local teenagers in Rock Island, Illinois. The committee has provided meals, snacks and volunteers to work directly with the students.

**Progressive Baptist Church** – partnered with their food pantry to provide food, non-perishable items, holiday meals, student/family back to school needs and more.

**Public Response to Negative Campaigning with Progressive Clergy** – public call to the media and politicians to promote positive campaigning strategies rather than negative campaigning strategies.

**River Bend Food Bank** – for many years, congregants have responded to Rabbi Karp’s hunger appeal to support our local food pantries. Temple members bring in non-perishable food items from Rosh Hashanah to Sukkot. This year we sent over 1,100 pounds to the food bank.

**Rock Island Primary and Intermediary Schools** – donated gift cards for food, collected everyday clothing, back packs, travel soaps and shampoos and warm winter wear for low-income primarily black and Hispanic schools in the QCA.

**Save Darfur Committee** – joined QCA committee to learn about Darfur crisis, educated members and call to action which included fundraising.

**Shoes for the Shoeless** – collected new and slightly used shoes for children.