

Below are a few examples of the ways in which ECMN faith communities practice faith through action.

Open Brunch

Each month St. Philip's Episcopal Church in Rice Lake on the White Earth Reservation hosts an Open Brunch. Originally started to help young families, the community meal became an instant tradition. They had no funding, but they had a plan. The first meal of baked eggs, fruit, sausage, ham and scalloped potatoes, turkey, pastries, and fry bread was set for a Sunday in January 2019. That day, the temperature dropped well below zero by noon, but the church filled up with families who brought food to share. Reflecting back on that first meal, The Rev. Jackie Bernacchi says, "It was heart-warming to see elders and young families sitting together to laugh and share and be as much of a blessing to each other as the Open Brunch was to them. And, yes, though we plan every detail of the meal and the community knows it is free, people still bring dishes to pass. What a blessing!"



Laundry for Love

Holy Communion Episcopal Church in St Peter, a faith community in southwest Minnesota, embraces a national ministry to hand out tokens at a local Laundromat to wash a load of clothes for free. Recently the Mankato Free Press [wrote an article](#) about their ministry.

Hands Across Duluth

St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Duluth hosts the annual Hands Across Duluth Service Program for teens. In 2018, youth from St. Paul's and from Ascension Episcopal Church in Stillwater performed 540 hours of service in and around Duluth. Teens from Duluth, on Lake Superior in northeast Minnesota and those from Stillwater, about 2 two hours south of Duluth, enjoy gathering each summer to meet new friends and reconnect with old ones. [Learn More](#)

Helping One Person at a Time

St John's Episcopal Church in St Cloud realized they couldn't help every homeless person in their community but they could make a difference for one person. They built a mobile tiny house with the help of the technical college and local businesses. This house allowed a member of St. John's to move from living on the streets to a more sustainable, self-reliant lifestyle. They have since sold the first house and now have a second house on their property. [Learn More](#)

Project Home

St. John the Evangelist and Messiah Episcopal Church, St. Paul, partner with the Interfaith Action of Greater St Paul to host Project Home. Project Home provides emergency shelter in local churches for those experiencing homelessness. Faith community members volunteer as evening hosts, greeting guests, serving healthy snacks, visiting, and playing and reading with teens and children. Other hosts stay overnight ensuring that the guests enjoy a safe environment and quiet sleep. [Learn More](#)

Community Breakfast

Every Sunday during the program year, St Paul's Episcopal Church in Winona, a Mississippi river town, hosts a community breakfast open to the public. This hearty breakfast includes fruit, fried potatoes, scrambled eggs, bacon or sausage, French toast or pancakes, and choice of beverage. Typically between 50-90 people share a meal together. [Learn More](#)