



# Raising Faith Resources

# raising faith resources

## **Purpose**

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We know this past year has been challenging on many levels for you and your faith community. We wanted to create some easy to use resources that you can utilize both virtually and in-person in your faith community.

## resource topics



### **About Chatham Habitat**

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We want to be able to share with you who we are and what we do in your community. We have staff and volunteers willing to share with your community what we do via video conferencing or in some cases, in person or use the provided fact sheet to share with your congregation.



### **Prayer**

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We know that prayer is so important both in the work we do and in your faith communities. We have created a prayer resource that will guide you through a prayer time for Chatham Habitat and the families we work alongside.



### **Activities**

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We have created a couple of activities that can be easily done at home, in a small group, or even in a larger setting. These are great way to engage everyone from youth to adults in support of affordable housing in Chatham County.

# about chatham habitat

## Our Organization

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Chatham Habitat for Humanity has been around since 1989 and we have built 145+ homes! We work in partnership with God and people to create self-help opportunities for families to own affordable home, improve their lives, and strengthen their communities.

## How it Works

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Habitat relies on the volunteer efforts and donations of individuals, businesses, faith groups, foundations, communities, and other networks to meet our mission. Funds are also raised through revenue from our two ReStore which sell donated household furnishings and building supplies.

Qualifying homeowners work alongside volunteers and staff, contributing 350 hours of “sweat equity” before their homes are completed. They also attend classes that prepare them for successful homeownership.

Habitat then sells them their home with an affordable, zero percent interest mortgage, making a 20-30 year commitment to each new homeowner and the community where they live. House payments are recycled to build more Habitat houses.

In sum, we coordinate all aspects of Habitat home building in our local area – fundraising, land acquisition, site selection, partner family selection and support, house construction, and mortgage servicing.

## Who We Serve

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We partner with families of all backgrounds, races, and religions who earn 25 to 60% of the area’s median income and who meet the following criteria:

- Are they in need of a safe, decent, affordable place to live
- Are they able to commit to a 20-30 year 0% interest mortgage
- Are they willing to contribute 350 hours of labor or “sweat equity”

# Prayer

## **a prayer for chatham habitat**

Oh God, we ask you to look upon the whole human family, that we may break down the walls that separate us from each other and that we may learn to love one another as you, O Lord, love us. Help us to strive for justice and peace among all people, and to respect the dignity of every human being. (BCP)

We pray for families whose greatest hope for their children is to live in a safe, affordable home. We pray for the staff and volunteers of Chatham Habitat – home builders that bring families and communities together.

And we praise and thank you, Lord. We thank you for the materials to build a house-- for the trees that provide the wood for walls, for clay from which we make bricks, and for sand to form concrete. We thank you for clean water, for clean air, and for the birds that fill our shade trees with song.

Amen.

## **other prayer topics**

- Safety for staff, volunteers and homeowners on the construction sites
- Safety and health with COVID-19 for the Habitat and Chatham County community
- Pray for our Partner Families progress-it is a rigorous program and each family works very hard to complete their sweat equity hours, homeownership courses, and more. Pray for energy and stamina.

# Activites

## About

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Looking for a way to get any age group involved? Utilize any or all of these activities to make a difference in your community through your support of affordable housing. Of course there are many other activities you can do, but these are just some simple activities great for any age group!

Every activity, every prayer, every snack bag makes a difference because it support this incredible community in Chatham County.

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### Prayer Drawings

When you spend time praying for Chatham Habitat, you can draw a picture of you praying, write out your prayer, or draw a picture of what you are praying for. This is a great activity for any age and a great way to get creative! If you send in any drawings to the Habitat Office, we will hang them up to display!

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### Snack Bags for Habitat Volunteers

Even if you can't get out to the construction site or the ReStore to volunteer, you and your faith community can still support volunteers across the organization by creating snack bags! You can be as creative as you'd like and even write notes to volunteers. Snack bags could be trail mix, baked goods, etc.

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### Cardboard Insulation Baffles

Baffles are made from cardboard and are used to help insulate a home in addition to the traditional insulation. These are simple to make with cardboard you have lying around and is a great project to do at home. There is also plenty of space on the cardboard to write notes, prayers, hopes, and more for the future homeowners!

## Ready to Get Involved?

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If there is an activity that sparked your interest please reach out so we can give you more details about supplies or where to drop off your completed activities!

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