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What Gwinnett Clergy Are Saying About Family Promise...

We are a small church, and couldn't imagine how we could fulfill Jesus' instructions to tangibly love our needy neighbors. We ran the risk of turning completely inward, never dreaming big dreams for ministry but worrying constantly about how to keep our church "alive." Little did we know how much life would come to us when Family Promise found us. By partnering with people of faith across denominational lines, our small contributions can make a huge difference. We feel strong in the Spirit -- like little David against the Goliath of poverty and homelessness in our own neighborhoods.

Rev. Katie Hays
First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) of Lawrenceville

I can't tell you how much we appreciate the Family Promise program. It has given our members a concrete way to show the love of Christ, it has helped people in our community, it has helped us to live out our calling as followers of Christ, and it has helped our families and individuals to work together in mission. Often the best way to engender spiritual and emotional health is to go beyond oneself, to think of and to help others, and in so doing, we find ourselves healed. Christ calls us to love one another and to show His love throughout the community. Family Promise is a way to do just that. As much as our congregation has had the privilege of helping others, it has helped us as well. It has fostered a new sense of community within our congregation, it has built new relationships inside and outside of the congregation, and it has helped us to be the church.

Dr. Dave Koppel
Christ the King Lutheran Church, Norcross

Our church has been richly blessed by Family Promise. The ministry connects our congregation with those in need of a home. The interaction is neither sensationalized nor pasteurized; it is real, authentic. Host churches and their guests learn much about each other and their faith.

Rev. Glenn Ethridge
Cannon United Methodist Church, Snellville

Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ tells us that when we feed someone who is hungry, we feed Christ, Himself. Berkmar UMC participates in Family Promise because we find great joy when we look into the faces of those we feed, house, clothe and grow to love. When we see them, we see the face of Christ, and it doesn't get any better than that!

Rev. Tamlyn Collins
Berkmar United Methodist Church, Lilburn

One of our goals at Grayson was to be involved in more "hands on" mission work. Family Promise has brought that opportunity to our doorstep as people who might not ever head off to Mississippi for the week have a chance to serve. The homeless are no longer an arm's length statistic, but faces and friends who might have lived on your street until they ran into difficulty. We have had "angels among us" when we have hosted Family Promise. It will be a blessing to the people of your faith community to open your hearts and your doors to this ministry.

Rev. Phil Schroeder
Grayson United Methodist Church

Simply put, participating in the Family Promise program has put a face on the issue of homeless families in our community and our member volunteers see this as the face of Jesus.

Rev. Kent Branstetter
St. Edward's Episcopal Church, Lawrenceville

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