

The monthly meeting of MCEF was held at 7:00 p.m. at the One Stop Shop. There were 17 in attendance representing 13 churches/organizations. The meeting was called to order by the President, Pat Hubert. Wendy Pursel, Secretary, opened with prayer. The agenda was adopted by general consent.

All Souls Episcopal, Rick Morrison
Black Creek Baptist, Debbie Ward
Broadus Baptist, Neil Turner
Cool Spring Baptist, Ann Kennedy
Episcopal Church of the Creator, Sandy Wainright
Fairfield Presbyterian, Nancy Gallihugh, **Client Services Coordinator**
Fairmount Christian, Lisa Cecil
Fairmount Christian, Wendy Pursel, **Secretary**
Gethsemene, Mary Britton, **Vice President**
Messiah Lutheran, Gladys Hubert
Messiah Lutheran, Pat Hubert, **President**
Northside Baptist, Trudy Carlton
Restoration, Carol Lynne Dean
Shalom Baptist, Linda Wade
Walnut Grove Baptist, Charlie Rasnick, **Sr. Rides Coordinator**
Karen Tucker, **Treasurer**
Leigh Negvesky, **Clothing Coordinator**

OFFICER AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Minutes of the August meeting were approved as posted. Please check the website for the monthly minutes as they contain good information to report to your church. Be sure to give Wendy Pursel any updated contact information if changes occur.

CLIENT SERVICES REPORT/Phone Reps

MCEF has been providing bags of food and informational flyers to the Dept. of Social Services location on Bell Creek Rd. for families who are in need of a food source on Fridays, to carry them through the weekend until they can get to an open food bank. Nancy checked with them and they did not need any additional bags, as they had 3 that were previously delivered. Nancy also attended a Hanover Food Network meeting by zoom. At this meeting, a guest speaker addressed changes in SNAP benefits and Medicaid. It was suggested that if any clients had questions regarding these programs, they should be referred to the Dept. of Social Services for this information.

There are currently 4 phone representatives that are rotating on a 3 week schedule, but more help would be welcomed! The number of calls being received has declined since financial requests are being made by email to Karen. Approximately 12 calls were received over the past 3 week cycle, mostly for general information. If you are interested in being involved in answering the

MCEF phone, please contact Nancy at innigalli@comcast.net. A notebook of information, training, an answering machine, and WiFi are provided along with the phone.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE ACTIVITY

During the month of August, there were 30 requests for financial assistance and 13 were helped, with 4 pending.

Information for requesting financial assistance may be found on the website, and those requesting assistance must send the information requested through email. Those requesting assistance must live in the 23111 or 23116 zip codes. Financial help of up to \$500 is given once every 2 years, if eligible.

TREASURER'S REPORT

August 2026 income/expense accounting:

Income- \$11,402.24

Expenses- \$13,758.49

JULY Bank Statement Acct Balance - \$87,848.02

Certificate of Deposit at Edward Jones - \$200,000.00

Karen reported that there were many individual donations that were received during the month of August. She has also started working on the 2027 Proposed Budget, which will be voted on at the October meeting. There was a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report subject to audit. The vote was favorable.

HANOVER SENIOR RIDES

During the month of August 2026, MCEF gave 138 (one-way) rides in Mechanicsville and ACES provided 20 (one-way) rides in the Ashland area. Overall, Hanover Senior Rides provided a total of 158 (one-way) rides for the month of July.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Totals
MCEF-	96	114	154	141	112	148	114	138					
ACES -	<u>23</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>55</u>	<u>38</u>	<u>31</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>20</u>					
Total -	119	164	209	179	143	170	128	158					

We currently have 103 riders (MCEF has 74 and ACES has 29 riders). We currently have 31 volunteer drivers (24 with MCEF and 7 with ACES).

Lori Kaeberle our Operations Manager and our Ride Coordinators are doing a great job in managing the daily operation of the program by scheduling rides, providing information, and communicating with the riders and our volunteer drivers.

Please continue your prayers for Aimee West as she continues in hospice care. Also, please pray for family or Tom Hassell, as he has recently passed away. He was a driver who provided 131 rides over 3 years while struggling with illness.

ONE STOP SHOP (OSS) ACTIVITY FOR AUGUST

Total sign ins –156 (representing 503 persons in household)

Total new clients –5

Total # bags of food given out – 225

Total # bags for second helping –20

Total # people receiving clothing – 98

Total # people receiving linens –26

Total # people receiving socks/underwear - 42

**DONATIONS OF FOOD AND CLOTHING ARE ACCEPTED
THE 1ST AND 3RD SUNDAY OF THE MONTH FROM 2-3:30.**

FOOD PANTRY/VOLUNTEER

Current Needs For The Food Pantry

We are currently collecting items for our Thanksgiving Bags:

Green Beans, Collard Greens/Mixed Greens, Carrots, Boxed Mashed Potatoes, Stuffing, Gravy, Pumpkin, Cranberry Sauce, Brownie Mix, Shampoo, Body Wash, Hand Soap, Toothpaste

A new refrigerator is being donated to the One Stop Shop from the Chickahominy Health District in Ashland to replace the older one in the kitchen area.

CLOTHES CLOSET (and linens)

Leigh reported that fall and winter clothing are now being accepted. Leigh was contacted by the ARC to ask if we were interested in any extra bras that they are unable to sell, and Leigh agreed to receive them as this is a frequent need for our clients.

Current Needs For the Clothes/Linens Closets

Men's Small and Medium underwear

Men's jeans and t-shirts - all sizes

BACKPACK MINISTRY

Both New Song and Grace To Go backpack ministries are under way and sending home food for students on Fridays to help them to get through the weekend when they are not being fed at school. Ann Kennedy reported that a school counsellor told them that one of the students that received a backpack looked inside and exclaimed, "This is all for me?". Thank you for all the donations that come in to meet this critical need.

FUND RAISING

- Kroger - Please connect your Kroger Plus Shopping card to MCEF #GD661 on your Kroger profile.
- NASCAR - The race was held August 14-15, 2026. The money donated by the Raceway has been received, and will be used for egg purchases. Karen will be sending an email expressing a number of concerns that arose from this event, including compensation for additional hours and increasing their donation payment next year due to the conditions and additional services that were provided.
- The 9/11 Benefit Concert for 2026 went very well. There were 147 in attendance. We collected 225 lbs of food and \$1,174. The money will be split with the Hanover orchestra, with \$587.50 going to MCEF.

NEW BUSINESS

- 50 for 50 (50 Dollars for 50 Years) Fundraiser Campaign is under way! Any donations that are received during this 50 day campaign (Sept. 1 - Oct. 20) will be considered as part of this fundraising effort. This is a one time fundraiser celebrating MCEF's 50 years in the community. Flyers have been posted on our Facebook page, emailed to all supporting churches and posted on our website.
- The Nominating Committee consisted of Leigh Negvesky and Neil Turner (Broadus Representative). Leigh Negvesky presented the following names into nomination for the executive offices:
Pat Hubert - President
Mary Britton, Vice President
Karen Tucker, Treasurer
Wendy Pursel, Secretary
A request for nominations from the floor was presented. As there were no new nominations, there was a motion to accept the Executive Committee nominees, and the vote was favorable.

NEW BUSINESS

Thanksgiving Needs - A flyer was handed out to the church representatives listing the items that are being collected for our Thanksgiving bags. This list will also be emailed to churches, and posted on our website. From this list, we will give clients a choice of 8 items for their bag. We are asking that the donations be delivered to the OSS by the end of October, as we will be giving clients their bags beginning October 26. We will accept donations after that, but it would be most helpful to be stocked early. We also appreciate paper bags that are decorated by the church groups to be used for the Thanksgiving bags, as they are an encouragement to our clients. Please remember that donations are accepted on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month, from 2:00-3:30.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/EVENTS

- Sept. 1 - Oct. 20, 50 for 50 Fundraising Campaign
- Oct. 10, 10-2, Studley Community Fall Festival, Salem Presbyterian Church, rain date Oct. 11, 12-4.
- Oct. 24, 4-6, Fall Festival, Broadus Church, Petting zoo, music, food, Bungie Run, etc.
- April 2027 - Black Creek will be celebrating 250 yr. Anniversary, Save the Dates coming soon.
- Neil Turner brought attention to the Richmond For Life organization as well as the upcoming constitutional amendments on the ballot.

The group shared any prayer concerns followed by the Lord's Prayer.
The meeting was adjourned.

Please remember that the MCEF meetings are the second Monday of the month , unless otherwise notified. (put it on your calendar)

Next Meeting - Oct. 12, 2026 at the One Stop Shop – 7:00 p.m.

Wendy Pursel, Secretary