



Lehigh Valley Outreach Depot

<http://www.lvoutreachdepot.org/>

1866 Auburn Street, Bethlehem, PA 18015

610-861-7373



A mission of Wesley Church, a United Methodist community



Depot volunteers prepare gifts for distribution

Project You Are Love

Connecting People—Connecting Community—Creating Visions

Shelly Barchanocvitz Goldberg stopped by the Depot to donate some housewares and asked if our guests might like to receive a small gift of items that would be used in a kitchen. She and several other women were working together to give people in need a gift around the holidays; they decided that the Depot would be one of their target recipients. What a nice gesture! Of course we would love to offer this to our guests.

Several weeks later, Shelly arrived with 30 bowls/strainers filled with kitchen utensils, pot

holders, hand towels, and other items for the kitchen—all wrapped in plastic and topped with a small bow. We were so grateful and immediately started distributing them to every guest who came to the Depot. She returned with another 20 or so gifts several weeks later! The guests were so thankful.

These women were selfless and generous in all they were doing. We pray that God's presence in their lives continues to show that they are loved and that He is with them as they continue to pay it forward.

Depot receives generous grant from anonymous donor

Not long ago, Depot volunteers decided to refuse donations of used mattresses and large appliances to account for shrinking storage space. (See those details on page 2.)

Shortly thereafter, we were invited to apply for a grant to purchase new mattresses that would be made available to Depot guests. New mattresses are much easier to store, so we decided to apply.

In December, 2015 we learned that we received a grant for \$40,000.00 to purchase twin and queen mattresses, box springs and adjustable frames for guests of the Depot who do

not have beds. We are so grateful for this generous donation and the ability to help individuals in need. We know that a good night's sleep is one of the most important basic needs for health and well-being. God has once again touched our lives and the lives of our guests.



- Twin- and queen-sized bedding to go with the new beds the Depot will acquire with grant money.
- Dressers—always a need but especially now! Let a Depot volunteer know if you have one; we will be happy to pick it up.

God Moments



They happen every day...

A young woman and her daughters recently stopped by the Depot to donate some linens and two doll strollers. Typically we do not accept children's items, so I started to explain our policy. As soon as I looked at the little girls, though, I said: "We will take them! I am sure there are little girls or boys who will love to have the strollers." That was a quick recovery of what could have been a negative experience for the girls.

FAST FORWARD ... Not long ago, a little girl—about 3 years old—came to the Depot with her mother, who was selecting furniture for their newly acquired apartment. The little girl saw the one remaining doll stroller and enthusiastically pushed it around while her Mom was busy. When they were ready to leave, we offered her the stroller. We then watched the little girl happily push the empty stroller in the parking lot as her Mom took her picture.

Depot tackles puzzle; reduces space by 1/3

In our line of work, there is never enough space.

People always have needs, and the Depot strives to fill as many needs as we can.

Imagine the challenge when we recently discovered that we had to reduce our space by one-third. What a puzzle.

We occupy space in a sizeable warehouse. Over the years, we've managed to expand—with the owner's blessing—into unused warehouse space adjacent to our own. Even so, a company that also occupies the warehouse needed to expand; since they are paying customers, we needed

to find a way to fit our inventory back into our own official space.

We put our heads together and got to work:

- We consolidated shelves for housewares.

- We organized furniture in the center of our space.

- We agreed to stop accepting mattresses, beds, and large appliances. (See how

this plan changed on page 1)

- And we consolidated the intake/waiting area to create extra space.

We are back in business and open every Tuesday and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. to serve our customers and welcome your donations!



Don't talk to us about old ...



You have to have a sense of humor when you work at the Depot. One day when our guys were out doing pickups, one homeowner said: "Now that I'm 60, I don't move furniture anymore."

Little did *he* know that only one of our men was younger than 60—and just barely. The other two? They are approaching 80!



Remember the Depot when you do your spring cleaning. We always need dishes, pots and pans, bedding, dressers and towels.

33,200 shoes speak louder than words

Remember our drive to collect shoes last spring? Wesley Church collected about 500 pairs of shoes to be sent overseas to places where often small shops sell used shoes to those who can't afford to buy new ones.

Mission Central—who coordinated this project—ultimately shipped 33,200 pairs of shoes abroad to support these micro-businesses!



Thanks once again to everyone who donated shoes.



Donations to the Depot are always welcome!

**Send yours to:
1866 Auburn St.
Bethlehem, PA
18015.**

(You may make your check out to LVOD)

Every Third Sunday!



Don't miss the Depot truck at Wesley Church, 2540 Center Street, Bethlehem. Bring your donations, and pile them in!

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Hours:
Tuesdays
& Saturdays
9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

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