

BOROUGH OF MENDHAM

MORRIS COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

PROCLAMATION

THANKING THE VOLUNTEERS OF THE ST. JOSEPH CHURCH YOUTH MINISTRY PROGRAM FOR THEIR "MENDHAM MISSION" SERVICE WORK TO THE MENDHAM BOROUGH COMMUNITY

WHEREAS, St. Joseph Church has been a spiritual presence in our community since 1853; and

WHEREAS, each year, for the past 12 years, volunteers with the Parish's Youth Ministry Program have helped improve the lives of working poor families in eastern Kentucky by purchasing building materials and performing much-needed home improvements, repairs and renovations to their homes; and

WHEREAS, earlier this year, a team of teenage volunteers and adult chaperones were signed up for a week's work in the Appalachia mountains of Kentucky, but with the coronavirus pandemic shutdowns and social distancing mandates that went into effect made the 10-hour trip and service mission impossible; and

WHEREAS, the teenagers of St. Joseph's Youth Ministry Program were determined to carry out an annual mission of service and began to plan outdoor projects that could be performed close to home and in smaller groups; and

WHEREAS, after reaching out to officials in Mendham Borough and the Mendham Area Senior Housing Board, a "Mendham Mission" was planned and organized; and

WHEREAS, work completed by the teenage crews in their "Mendham Mission" improved the lives of our senior residents living at the Mendham Area Senior Housing by making their neighborhood more pleasant by installing drainage piping and concrete pads that made outdoor seating areas safer and more usable, and by pruning back trees and bushes to allow more sunlight to enter the residents' apartments; and

WHEREAS, additional service work performed by the volunteers in their "Mendham Mission" made much-needed improvements to two parks in town. At the Scott Farm, a 150-foot fence was built along Mountainside Road using the same design and following the path of the site's original fence; the 'runs' of two chicken coops on the property were demolished and rebuilt for future community use; and, a beautiful rain garden was created as an environmentally-friendly solution to reduce runoff and improve drainage on the site. At the popular 'Mud Hole,' the roof of the trailhead kiosk was repaired and expanded to better welcome visitors and provide them with information that may be essential to their safety and enjoyment on the trail.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate and fitting for the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Mendham to issue this proclamation as an expression of our community's appreciation and gratitude for the hard work and dedicated spirit of the teenage and adult volunteers of St. Joseph Church's Youth Ministry Program who came together for the betterment of the Mendham community.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Mendham, on behalf of our entire community, that we express our sincerest and heartfelt thanks to St. Joseph Church for being a cornerstone of faith and support in our community since 1853, and to the Parish's Youth Ministry Program in its role in teaching our young people the importance of service to others, and with to and each and every volunteer who bettered our community through the "Mendham Mission."

Dated: September 24, 2020

Under the Seal of
THE BOROUGH OF MENDHAM
This 28th day of September 2020

Christine Serrano-Glassner, Mayor