

Brett and Elizabeth Brown were looking for a way to serve those in need while staying safe from the coronavirus, and Margaret Stromecki (vestry member and fellow choir singer) suggested New Hope Housing which oversees several homeless shelters in Northern Virginia.

New Hope has a system that allows people to make bag lunches at home and deliver them to one of the shelters for the residents. Brett and Elizabeth signed up for a specific time, made 50 lunch bag meals (sandwich, chips, water, treat), and delivered them to the Arlington shelter last Wednesday. It took about 4 person-hours of time altogether including purchase, assembly, and delivery, and about \$100 in materials. They really valued the opportunity to help and plan to do it again soon.

For those who might be interested in serving, here is the link where you can find more information: <https://www.newhopehousing.org/get-involved/volunteer/volunteer-application/>. You can also find information on our website: <https://www.thefallschurch.org/community>

A couple of pro tips from Brett & Elizabeth:

- Wear disposable gloves and mask while preparing, handling and delivering the food.
- Put the bag lunches into boxes or grocery bags that you can just leave at the drop-off point –that way you are in and out in about 60 seconds.
- Plan on 2 to 3 ounces of meat per sandwich.



Wow! Thank you Brett and Elizabeth for this Story of Hope and for reminding us of a wonderful way to give back (safely) during this isolating time.