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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**The Empty Bowl Project launches in September  
to benefit Diakonia and the Art League of Ocean City**

**OCEAN CITY, MD — Sept. 5, 2020** — The Empty Bowl Project, a benefit for the Diakonia food pantry and the programs of the Art League of Ocean City, kicks off in September with both in-person and virtual events. Sponsors are First Shore Federal Bank and Shore United Bank.

The Empty Bowl Project is an international grassroots effort to fight hunger and a unique opportunity to use art in a way that helps the community. The project is a collaborative effort between the Art League and Diakonia to raise awareness and funds for hunger through creative engagement.

The public — including families with children — can get involved by hand-making ceramic soup bowls at six hands-on bowl-making sessions at the Ocean City Center for the Arts on 94<sup>th</sup> St. No experience is necessary, and all materials are included in the \$25 price. Robbie Johnson, the Art League's pottery studio manager, will guide participants through the process.

The one-hour bowl-making sessions are on Sundays - Sept. 13, Oct. 4 and Oct. 18 – in two sessions each day. In the noon-1 p.m. sessions, participants will use raw clay to form their own bowls and imprint their own designs. In the 3-4 p.m. sessions, participants will embellish already-made bowls, hand-thrown by Johnson.

Registration is required by calling the Arts Center at 410-524-9433 or by registering at [ArtLeagueOfOceanCity.org](http://ArtLeagueOfOceanCity.org). Space is limited, and in-person sessions will practice social distancing and mask wearing. Children under six must be accompanied by an adult.

From Nov. 8 – 21, the Art League will offer another opportunity to support the Empty Bowl Project. More than 100 handmade bowls will go on sale online for \$25 on the Art League's website, [ArtLeagueOfOceanCity.org](http://ArtLeagueOfOceanCity.org).

*The Ocean City Center for the Arts at 502 94<sup>th</sup> Street is the home of the Art League of Ocean City, a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting the visual arts in the Ocean City area*

*through education, exhibits, scholarships, programs and community art events. The arts center is supported by memberships, corporate and civic funding, donations and sales of art.*

More information is available at 410-524-9433 or [www.artleagueofoceancity.org](http://www.artleagueofoceancity.org).

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EDITORS: Images attached of bowl-makers. IDs in file name.

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