

Woodstock Pantry ENews Brief

30 October 2022

This weekend, we helped to feed 284 people, despite the Oregon sunshine! Thank you!

November Sign Ups

I am experimenting with QR Codes for the signup sheets. I'm not sure it's working correctly yet. If you know how to do these, I welcome your support! Here's the link as well.



[Sign Up Sheet November](#)

The Big News This Month - Our Holiday Plans

We will do the weekends of November 18-19 and 25-26 differently to accommodate for Thanksgiving.

On November 18-19, we will serve our drive-through neighbors one regular, one holiday and one produce bag. And we will serve our unhoused neighbors as per usual. So, work on every shift that weekend will be doubled.

We need extra help for all the shifts.

The following weekend, November 25-26, we will NOT serve groceries to our drive-through neighbors. So, many of the regular shifts will be cancelled.

However, on November 26, **we will serve our unhoused neighbors**. Our plan is to provide one-stop-services to our unhoused neighbors. We will work together to serve groceries, hygiene and clothing. It will be a chance to learn about our other programs and to meet other volunteers. And it will be fun!

We need a few more volunteers for that shift.

Finally, we are seeking donations of food that we can't get from OFB, i.e., small boxes of sugar, 29 oz pumpkin cans (for pumpkin pies), boxes of stuffing, pumpkin pie spice. Donations can be put in the blue tub in the main entrance to the church.

NEW Volunteer Opportunities

Testing Out Other Programs

Terry tested working in Hot Meals this weekend. In the coming months, we will need more volunteers for Hot Meals. Meantime, if you are interested in testing out a shift with Hot Meals, let me know.

News from the Shifts

Receiving – This Friday, a small team of us moved 3,596 lbs. of food! Receiving is good for those who like to lift and carry food and get a workout!

Packing – We had a small packing team this week. But they worked hard and got all the bags packed. The Packing Team is perfect for folks who don't do heavy lifting and who like a bit slower pace.

Distribution – Our distribution teams did a great job getting the food out, despite the rain! Siv and Torsten joined us. Welcome and we hope you come back! Distribution is fast-paced and requires that team members work tightly in sync with each other. It is also the shift wherein we have the closest contact with our neighbors, so customer service is the name of the game!

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Link2Feed - Tim gathered even more data this weekend! Janet and Agnes are entering the data as fast as we collect it.

We will go live with Link2Feed (L2F) next weekend. Emily, from OFB, will join us to help. We will use iPads to give our neighbors L2F ID numbers and conduct intake. We hope the new process will speed up distribution for our neighbors. L2F also provides valuable aggregate information about the demographics of our neighbors. I am already using the data to write grant proposals and customize the food we offer.

Fighting Food & Housing Insecurity

Providing food to people is critically important, especially as our economy worsens and more people experience food and housing insecurity. Changing the structures and systems in our society that cause poverty and food/housing insecurity is equally important. Here are a couple opportunities to engage in this important work.

1. All Saints' Social Justice Committee has adopted fighting food insecurity as one of its platforms from which to advocate and take action. If you are interested in the Social Justice Committee, please let me know.
2. Kevin Nye is coming to All Saints to lead a conversation on ending homelessness. This event will happen November 12, 6-8pm. All are welcome! See the last page of this newsbrief for details.

Learning Opportunities

Building Trauma-Informed Food Sites

[Register HERE](#)

November 9, 2022 | 1:30 – 3:00 p.m. Zoom

Busy pantries can have a frantic energy with lots of noise and chaos. Chaotic spaces are counter to what's good for our nervous systems. If we move from chaos to more healing-centered spaces, we can better meet the needs of clients. Begin shifting your physical space from one of chaos to calm.

Ramping Down & De-Escalation Practice

[Register HERE](#)

December 7, 2022 | 1:30 – 3:00 p.m. Zoom

Navigating challenging clients, negotiating conflicts, and communicating with compassion are core skills that can be helpful at food assistance. In this workshop, we will use a trauma-informed lens to navigate difficult situations. We will also share additional resources to ensure successful resolution of conflicts.

The Pantry (Shed/Container)

Those of you who work in the pantry (shed/container) know how cramped it is in there. The good news is that we moved the freezer out of the pantry and into the church basement. It now holds frozen goods and we got vital space back in the pantry!

Woodstock Pantry – a Sustainable Program

All Saints started the WP as a response to the pandemic. This summer, they committed to transforming it into a sustainable program. First, they created the Outreach Coordinator position and hired me. We then initiated a program development plan,

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which you all have experienced first-hand, e.g., FIFO, teams, team-lead training, new processes, Link2Feed, new food sources, etc.

We are also actively seeking funding. We all know the pantry/shed/container is insufficient to support our efforts. So, Andria and I are writing grant proposals to complete the physical structure.

We secured a grant that covers 1/3 of the costs. We will submit two more proposals to cover more of the costs. Shortly after that, we will submit a proposal to initiate a program for ongoing pantry funding. After the new year, we will submit yet another proposal for the physical structure. If you are interested in details let me know. Otherwise, I'll keep you informed as we move forward. Meanwhile, we will continue to develop the pantry operations.

Shifts

Please sign up for the week's shifts by Wednesday so I can plan. Thank you!

[Sign Up Sheet November](#)

COME & JOIN US FOR
A BOOK LAUNCH +
READING, AND
PANEL DISCUSSION
ON ENDING
HOMELESSNESS

● KEVIN NYE
*Author of Grace Can Lead Us
Home: A Christian Call to End
Homelessness*

Saturday, November 12, 6-8PM
at All Saints Episcopal
4033 SE Woodstock Blvd
REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

In lieu of an entry fee, we ask that you
bring one or more of the following items
to support All Saints Hygiene Outreach:
Socks, Toilet Paper, Gloves, Hand
Warmers, or Dental Hygiene Items.

GRACE
CAN LEAD US
HOME
A CHRISTIAN
CALL TO END
HOMELESSNESS
KEVIN NYE

It Takes a Community, And We Are It!