

St. George Food Pantry

We Feed His Sheep

Letter from the Director



This issue of our newsletter will be highlighting the special abilities of the many people who contribute to the daily operation of the St. George Food Pantry (SGFP).

Individuals from Beau Vita West have been volunteering a few times each month

for two years. Read about their contributions to the pantry in the article below.

A group of retired people who have daytime availability work at the Food Pantry every Wednesday morning. They stock shelves, sort food and pick up large food orders from the Foodbank.

College students help with the distribution of food in the evenings when

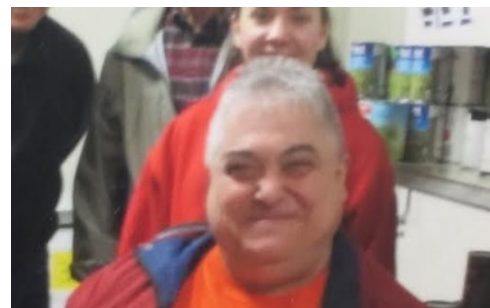
we're open. Parents with their children can be counted on to volunteer for our Christmas programs and our "Clean Out the Pantry" events.

So, as you can see, we are most definitely a village of many people who bring their skills and abilities to the SGFP. For each of them, I am most grateful.

Janet Cavanaugh

Beau Vita West Makes a Mural

Beau Vita West is a day program for adults with developmental and intellectual disabilities that promotes living full, responsible, and productive lives. The members have been volunteering at the Food Pantry three to four times monthly for about two years. They bag a large variety of items including sugar, beans, diapers, donuts, laundry detergent and pet food while at the pantry. Their current project is painting a mural on one of the pantry walls to brighten it up for clients and volunteers. Check out their progress below.



Meet Chris Stepanian

Chris first learned about the pantry through Fr. Joe Rigali and has been faithfully volunteering for 10-12 years. Chris joins the Mount Auburn Presbyterian group and volunteers on Wednesday mornings. His favorite part about serving at the pantry is helping and seeing people who are in real need get what they can. Chris states that he also enjoys working with Janet. When items are low in the pantry, Chris thinks about Matthew 13:8, "And other seeds fell upon good ground: and they brought forth fruit, some a hundredfold, some sixtyfold, and some thirtyfold..."

When Chris is not volunteering at the pantry, he enjoys PC's and electronics.

Hollister House



Hollister House is a 24 unit independent living apartment complex located on East McMillan Street. Hollister House is specifically designed for senior and disabled residents and its mission is to enhance the quality of life of the residents. This is done by addressing the needs of greatest concern, including employment, education, health, and safety. Hollister House provides a Services Coordinator for 20 hours per week to assure that the residents are linked to the specific support services they need to continue living independently.

All new residents are referred to the St. George Food Pantry and currently about 19 of the residents receive monthly food bags from the pantry. One of the residents (see “Meet Chris Stepanian” on Page 1) even gives his free time by volunteering at the pantry.

Mount Auburn Presbyterian Volunteers

Meet the Mount Auburn Presbyterian group who has volunteered faithfully for many years.

Jane and Bill Hopewell, the longest serving members of the group, have been volunteering for about 20 years. The Hopewells started volunteering soon after they moved to Cincinnati and became members of Mount Auburn Presbyterian Church, where they learned about SGFP. They had been involved at a food pantry when they lived in New Jersey and enjoyed it very much, so they were happy to find a nearby pantry where they could help.

The rest of the MAPC group learned about the Pantry through Mission Fairs at the church. Dan Parsley has been volunteering for nearly 16 years, Elaine Stenger has been volunteering for 8 years, Judy and Norm Lindblad have been volunteering for 6 years, and Patty Muhleman has been volunteering for 5 years. The newest member of the team is George Ten Eyek who recently learned about the Pantry through the Hopewells. See the whole crew pictured below.

Part-time volunteers from MAPC include Pat Basler, who helps deliver the monthly food donations from the church, as well as Randy Williams, Clark Gay, David Chalk, and Pete Tuff who assist as needed by going in the van for pick-ups. Two folks who volunteered with the group for a number of years until recently are Bernie Bernardino, who volunteered for about 9 years, and Mike Shryock who volunteered for about 7 years.

While at the Pantry, the group stays busy breaking down cardboard, restocking shelves, sorting through donated items, and bagging donated bulk items into smaller bags so they are ready to give out to the clients. All of their hard work gets the Pantry organized and ready for the doors to open to clients.

As for why they choose to volunteer? They see great satisfaction in filling the empty shelves and knowing that those items are going to meet the clients' needs. Overall there is a sense of camaraderie and this ‘family’ of volunteers has fun doing a good deed. We thank them for all of their many years of service and all the hard work they put in to make the Pantry a great resource.



From left to right: Elaine Stenger, Janet Cavanaugh, Patty Muhleman, George Ten Eyek, Jane Hopewell, Bill Hopewell, Judy Lindblad, Norm Lindblad, Chris Stepanian (front middle)

Saint George Food Pantry
Dennis Street off Calhoun, Corryville

Mailing address:
SGFP, 328 W. McMillan St. Street
Cincinnati, OH 45219
(513) 751-8771

Hours:
Monday & Tuesday - 6:00pm - 7:30pm
Last Fridays - 1:00pm to 2:30pm
Last Saturdays - 10:00am to 11:30am

E-Mail:
stgeorgepantry@zoomtown.com

Prayer Requests

We placed a prayer request box in the pantry in September 2014. We encourage our clients to write down their prayer intentions so we can pray for their needs. The prayer requests are then sent to the volunteers and board members, and are included in four local church bulletins so our clients can be included in their prayers.

Our prayer box is typically full and it is nice to see clients take a quiet moment to write their prayer requests while they visit the pantry. For the clients we serve, food security is sometimes only the tip of the iceberg when it comes to their concerns and needs. Please pray for the intentions of our clients and remember to always keep them in your prayers!

"Please pray for me and my family. Pray for spiritual, financial, and health strength. Pray that every chain and curse in my life is broken. Please pray that me and my family get the money needed to pay taxes so my mother's house won't get auctioned. Amen. Thank you

"I would like to pray for all of my clients. My family. My brother who is depressed. My daughter and myself to getting over my drug addiction. God Bless you. Amen."

"That the world becomes better for our children and the ones to come after them"

"Pray for my family's strength. That we can set aside differences and be one."

"I need financial help with bills. I need a job. Pray for me and my family."

"I pray to have my life back from drugs and alcohol. I wish to get a good job and marry."

"Pray for health and prosperity"