

OUR DAILY BREAD OF BRADENTON

Humble stewards of other people's generosity and grateful courier of a stranger's kindness

KITCHEN HOURS

6:30am - Noon

LOAVES & FISHES

Mon & Fri 9 - 11am

NOVEMBER 2020

www.ourdailybreadofbradenton.org

PRESIDENT'S NOTE

As I write to you my first concern is for everyone's wellbeing. In these uncertain times, I hope this note finds you and your loved ones in good health and safe. Certainly, a crisis like the Covid-19 pandemic has a way of bringing things into focus, both hidden strengths and weaknesses. In this time of hardship and challenge we hope and pray that you discover a source of comfort during all the craziness!

I am using more of the newsletter than my fair share this publication because of my story below. But here are couple of highlights since May's note that I would like to share:

- 1) Our new refrigerated van is on the road seven days a week picking up from many grocery store and restaurant locations in Bradenton and Palmetto.
- 2) Our partnership with Goodwill Industries continues and we have received 35,000 pounds of food through their Food Barrel Program at many of their locations since March.
- 3) Thanks to donations from many throughout the community our mission continues to be fulfilled. During these most difficult times donations from churches, individuals, civic groups, trusts and foundations are up year to date.

My Story....Our Daily Bread and How I Got Here!

It was a very bad accident in 1988 that initially brought Our Daily Bread into my life. While I was still in the hospital, the Christ Episcopal Church congregation took in my family, taking them to and from services while I was recovering and providing food and comfort for them. As I convalesced, I started attending the Church and began looking for ways to give back. I learned that a team of Christ Church members staffed the 14th Street center regularly, a group that included people of all ages from lifelong Episcopalians to teenagers. I decided to join them and began volunteering weekly at Our Daily Bread. I have not stopped.

I cannot possibly tell you about all the blessing that Our Daily Bread has received throughout the years, but one of the absolute highlights has been the ongoing partnership between Christ Episcopal Church and Our Daily Bread. Let me give you some background. Our Daily Bread was founded in 1984, in response to the Bradenton community's need to feed the hungry in its midst, regardless of race, color or belief. From the very beginning, we have been a community driven organization, and Christ Episcopal Church was one of the four founding churches committed to help in our endeavor. From the outset, we were an ecumenical organization focused simply on the need to serve the least among us.

We started out with a small storefront on 14th Street West in Bradenton, operating seven days

a week, including holidays. Ten years ago we moved our facilities to the One Stop Center, 710 18th Avenue West, so now our clients have ready access to all kinds of services, including housing and utility assistance and health and dental care from dedicated professionals, many of whom donate their services.

The mission of Our Daily Bread is a simple one: provide for the nutritional needs of the poor and needy of our community. We have been able to accomplish our goal thanks to the generosity of many in our community. This generosity is highlighted both by donations and by the many volunteers who have donated their time to serve the less fortunate in our community. Since our beginning, many folks have been at Our Daily Bread's side to help us complete our mission. We are open 364 days a year and since those early years even with extremely limited resources and space, we have served over 2,500,000 meals. That's two and a half MILLION meals! Pretty amazing for a small non-profit that has no administrative costs.

My connection to Our Daily Bread is simple and clear. Jesus said, "I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me" (Matthew 24:40)

I encourage you to find a volunteer position that allows your talents to shine; I promise you will find joy and fulfillment as you serve.

Happy Thanksgiving & Merry Christmas.

God Bless,

MARK E. MCLAUGHLIN

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COACHES NOTES

It was the best of times or was it the worst of times? Six months ago I thought we would be back to normal. Now I don't know if we'll ever get back to the old normal times. We are still doing carryout meals at Our Daily Bread. The good news is it is requiring less labor, 4 people instead of 8, the bad news is it cost about \$1000.00 per month more. Volunteers are still in short supply which increase our labor costs. During the month of September we had six days with no volunteers and three days with only one or two volunteers.

We are using less help on the serving line but we now find ourselves having to clean up the neighborhood of the carryout containers every day before closing. In the best of times we had more volunteers than needed. It's a much smaller pool of folks now with the pandemic. Your safety is our top concern. We have been blessed in increased support from individuals, churches and grants. This has helped cover our increasing costs.

Loaves & Fishes has stayed open every Monday and Friday from 8:30am till 11:00am, serving double the amounts of food, fresh produce and frozen meats this summer. Britney is now full time at Loaves & Fishes, receiving goods, stocking the shelves with inventory has become a daily task. The volunteer staff has held up all summer. Thank You! The foods from Feeding Tampa Bay, USDA, fresh produce from Meals on Wheels, the Goodwill Industry barrels and frozen meats we pick up from local grocery stores have been a blessing. Every shopper now leaves with plenty of goods for their families. It has been the best of times at Loaves & Fishes.

FAITH AND VALUES NOTES

Dr. J. Phillips, a senior pastor at the First Baptist Church of Palmetto, Florida recently wrote an article for the Bradenton newspaper, below is part of that article for you to Enjoy.....

I think Jesus had a different expectations of how His people are to act. People in our culture may not know much scripture but they know that Christians are supposed to be loving, kind and gracious. And yet, here we are lost in social media fighting with someone over whether kids should be vaccinated or the pros and cons of homeschooling versus public schools.

We end up personally attacking people based on the fact that they share a different opinion than us. I don't think this is the way it's suppose to be. I don't think this is the way Jesus intended for us to act.

Jesus said in Luke 6:27: "I say to you hear, love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you."

Loving people who believe differently than us will never be easy. But at some point we have to come out from behind the anonymity social media offers and just be kind to people.

October 1, 2020 we renewed our data base (we keep records and dates of all shoppers for 30 days) the list was over 3,700 shoppers if they haven't been in 6 months their names were removed. The new list is 1931 shoppers. We have added 100 new shoppers to the list each month since October. Why are seeing the increase we aren't certain, it has always stayed the same in years passed.

We completed our purchase of the property in our parking lot across the street. We are in the process of installing double doors on the south side of the building, removing some of the partitions inside so we can use the building for additional storage space. Work has begun on the property with the removal of a small storage building and cleaning up the lot, we are ready to do some filling and grading for additional parking. This will be completed by years end.

The last six months have been the best of times because of our financial blessing we have received. No team member or the public we serve has had Covid-19. We have been able to feed our clients as we always have. It has been the worst of times because it is not like it was before Covid-19 and may never be the same again. May the Lord bless you, your family and keep you safe. Wishing you all a Happy Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas.

Thank you for your Time and Talent
Thank you for your Financial Support
Thank you for your Prayers.

BOB EIKILL

We have to take the words of Jesus seriously and be gracious to people. We have to understand that there are more important things in the world than being right. Thank you, Dr. J. Phillip

Four Kinds of Love in Greek..... What "God is Love Actually Means".....

EROS.....Romantic love, erotic desire, intimacy, Infatuation with another's beauty.

PHILIA.....Brotherly love, friendship, affectionate regard for loyalty to friends, family and community, requiring virtue, equality and familiarity.

STORGE.....Familial love, affection, natural empathy for ones family, country or team.

AGAPE.....Unconditional, self-sacrificial love, charity, God's unconditional, self-sacrificial love for humankind and humankind's love for a good God and for others.

VOLUNTEER NOTES

During this time when so many things are uncertain, one of the thing I can depend on is the "good feeling" I get from working at Our Daily Bread of Bradenton. Whether it is helping to prepare the daily meal, helping to serve the daily meal, or simply donating much needed clothing or food, I feel I am making a valuable contribution to a worthy cause. It's a reminder to us all that during these times, there is always someone who can use your help. Valerie Beechy

Thank you Valerie for you support and being a valued volunteer in our great community.

HOUSE NOTES

We never Call asking for Donations

We Do Not use Professional Fund Raisers

We only use your Address for mailing Thank You's and our Newsletter

We would like to establish an email data base for volunteers information and

setting up schedules. If you are interested in our News Letter and Happening and would like to be included please email us at...

[blessings@ourdailybreadofbradenton.org](mailto: blessings@ourdailybreadofbradenton.org)

TURNING POINTS NOTES



Why did Jesus send out the disciples in pairs? Wouldn't individuals cover much more ground much more efficiently? Perhaps Jesus may have been thinking of the power of shared ministry, the added impact when two or more people work together toward a shared goal.

Our Daily Bread and Turning Points have been working together to lift up individuals and families in our community most in need for over 25 years. We encourage each other, support each other, and hold each other accountable as partners in ministry. This changes lives.

Zoey is a 23-year-old veteran with a precious 8-month-old baby. Fleeing domestic violence, she came to Turning Points for emergency housing. Everything got significantly harder when she later tested positive for COVID-19. She needed food and diapers for her baby but could not leave the hotel. She called Edwin in a panic and this is where the magic happens.

Edwin grabbed Shorty for help, and he took Edwin directly to ODB. Penny jumped into action packing a box of food and baby formula. Janet in Open Door provided feminine products and diapers. Within 40 minutes Edwin dropped this large package at Zoey's hotel room door. He called and watched from his car as she opened the door and saw the box. Pure relief! She feared she would have to go back to her violent boyfriend because she was out of options. But together, we showed her otherwise.

We are not alone in our efforts to serve each other and serve the Lord, and this makes all the difference.

Regards,

KATHLEEN CRAMER

Executive Director, Turning Points

12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

Celebrate the "Twelve Days of Christmas" by FILLING A BOX. We are asking You as well as your Neighbor, Church, Community Group, or Club to fill a box with the most needed items for Loaves & Fishes.

We are happy to drop a box to you if more convenient. Thanking you in advance...

Day 1 - Jar of Peanut Butter

Day 2 - Jar of Jelly

Day 3 - Box of Pasta

Day 4 - Jar of Spaghetti Sauce

Day 5 - Canned Corn

Day 6 - Canned Green Beans

Day 7 - Box of Mac'N Cheese

Day 8 - Box of Cereal

Day 9 - 2lb. Bag of Rice

Day 10 - Canned Soup

Day 11 - Canned Meats

Day 12 - Roll of Toilet Paper, Bars of Soap

LOAVES & FISHES NOTES

First and foremost I would like to thank our Loaves & Fishes team for your dedication each and every week through this Covid-19 Pandemic, we appreciate you all. Our number of visiting clients is on the rise and you each make their experiences so enjoyable, Thank You! A special thank you to Goodwill Industries for their weekly donations. Your support and generosity has helped Loaves & Fishes greatly through these challenging times.

We recently have changed our shopping period for our clients from 28 days to 14 days for the Holiday Season. We will resume our 28 day shopping schedule January 2021.

Loaves & Fishes will be open Wednesday December 23rd, 2020 instead of Friday December 25th, 2020 for shopping so our volunteers and clients can enjoy Christmas Day with their families.

Loaves & Fishes is in need of canned vegetables, cereal, peanut butter, baby products, diapers size 6 months to 4 toddler, formula and baby wipes. Any donations are greatly appreciated.

Please call Penny or Britney at 941.745.2992 between the hours of 8:30 - 11:30am. Monday through Friday or email Penny at penny@ourdailybreadofbradenton.org (Kitchen) or

PENNY'S PANTRY

I would like to thank all the volunteers that have helped us during these challenging times. Though challenging for all of us, you all bring much needed joy to our clients. We are continuing to serve carryout, to-go meals to the community practicing safe distancing, it's working out very well. Luckily our volunteers are returning and we appreciate you more than words a very BIG Thank You! With the Holidays quickly approaching we ask that you keep us in mind for an unwrapped toy for our annual Kids Christmas Party. Wishing you Peace, Joy and a Healthy Holiday Season.

Sincerely,
PENNY



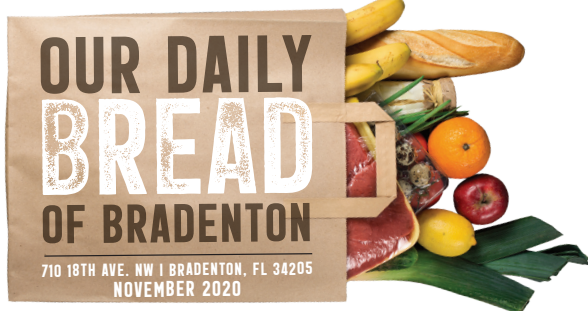
THIS WEEK FOR LUNCH

MONDAY	Chicken Patty Sandwich , mixed green salad, fruit salad, juice, and pastry
TUESDAY	Spaghetti , mixed green salad, fruit salad, juice, and pastry
WEDNESDAY	Beef and Noodles , mixed green salad, fruit salad, juice, and pastry
THURSDAY	Shepherd's Pie , mixed green salad, fruit salad, juice, and pastry
FRIDAY	Beef Chili , mixed green salad, fruit salad, juice, and pastry
SATURDAY	Chef's Choice , mixed green salad, fruit salad, juice, and pastry
SUNDAY	Chicken and Potatoes , mixed green salad, fruit salad, juice, and pastry

Britney at britney@ourdailybreadofbradenton.org (Loaves & Fishes) if you wish to volunteer or know anyone looking to volunteer. Come join our Team!

Wishing you all a Joyous Holiday Season,

BRITNEY



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NEWSLETTER EDITOR

The purpose of this newsletter is to inform both volunteers and supporters of the activities and happenings at Our Daily Bread. Please address your comments and suggestions to Bob Eikill.

OUR STAFF

Coach | Bob Eikill | Volunteer
Kitchen Manager | Penny Goethe
Office | Jenn Cecere | Volunteer
Loaves & Fishes | Britney Vela

WORKERS

Kirk Goethe
Richard Davis
James Polite
Julio Rodriguez
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Daniel Pevy
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THE MISSION OF OUR DAY BREAD IS TO PROVIDE FOR THE NUTRITIONAL NEEDS OF THE POOR AND NEEDY OF OUR COMMUNITY IN THE CONTEXT OF COMPASSION AND AFFIRMATION OF THEIR HUMAN WORTH AS CHILDREN OF GOD

A SPECIAL THANK YOU

We are grateful for each dollar of financial support we receive. We try to be stewards of your generosity. In this newsletter we only have limited space to acknowledge the gifts we receive and do send thank you notes to each donor. Our base support is from churches, individuals, community groups, businesses, estates, trusts, schools, and county government.

Palma Sola Presbyterian Church
Christ Church of Longboat Key
Church of World Services (Crop Walk)
Gloria Dei Lutheran Church
St. Mary Star of the Sea Catholic Church
Trinity Lutheran Church

Christ Episcopal Church
First United Methodist Church
Longboat Island Chapel
St. Bernards Catholic Church
Trinity United Methodist Church
Harvest United Church

Roser Memorial Community Church
Kirkwood Presbyterian Church
Redeemer Lutheran Church
First Presbyterian Church

Carolyn Brye Charitable Foundation
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Community Foundation John Manson Fund
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