

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

MAY 2023

www.ourdailybreadofbradenton.org

**FOR I WAS HUNGRY AND YOU GAVE ME FOOD,
I WAS THIRSTY AND YOU GAVE ME DRINK,
I WAS A STRANGER AND YOU WELCOMED ME.**

MATTHEW 25:35

Our Daily Bread's mission statement is to provide help to the most needy and hungry is defined by the Bible verse above.

Thanks to our incredible volunteer base, we are able to continue to support the least fortunate around us. We never would have been able to meet our goal to help these folks, since 1984 without them. They show up 364 days a year to prepare and serve the food to all our clients who are welcome at our door.

Another area where we have been blessed is by the multitude of food donations we receive at Our Daily Bread. Whether it is from Feeding Tampa Bay, Meals on Wheels, grocery stores, restaurants, clubs or individuals our refrigerators, freezers and shelves always seem to fill up. It is always great to go to Our Daily Bread to have Angie, our kitchen manager, say "we just got a wonderful donation".

The final piece of the puzzle is our donors. Whether big or small, we couldn't meet our objective without their continued support. With some of our equipment aging, replacement is becoming necessary and due to our donor's generosity, we have been able to keep up repairs or replacement.

Thanks to all who share their time, talent and treasure with Our Daily Bread.

God Bless,
MARK E. MCLAUGHLIN



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DIRECTORS NOTES

Congratulations! we heard that you are Pregnant!

So, the friendly questions begin, "Do you want a Girl or a Boy?" To which most automatically answer, "We don't really care as long as it is Healthy."

What if your automatic answer does not come true? What if you may not know for many years that your beautiful bundle of joy comes regrettably with something that you were not expecting? Then you and your child try to cope with something that neither of you understand, nor know how to handle. Basically, the blind leading the blind...

We now hear names we don't understand like ADHD, Anorexia, Manic Depression, Bipolar, Schizophrenia, PTSD, OCD, AIDS, drug use, sexual peer pressure, the names and letters go on and on.

As parents you are not prepared to deal with this, nor is your child. The parents and children dealing with some of the names and alphabet sequences soon realize very early on something is not right. Sadly, a large number with these diagnoses try to self medicate. What do they choose? If you guessed illegal

street drugs you are 100% right. Some start with what is known as the gate-way drug, Marijuana, and some progress to other more addictive and stronger drugs over time which sadly can be deadlier trying to stop the noise and cope.

You and your child no matter the age are now dealing with the illness of the mind, and or an addictive substance abuse combination. These are some of the people we see in the neighborhoods throughout our communities many have left their lives, homes and families to try to cope on their own. However, they all have needs too, one of which is hunger. Compassion dictates that we can help by serving them a hot meal daily.

We at Our Daily Bread of Bradenton will continue to serve our community with a hot meal daily, warm smiles and compassion ... no matter what you may be dealing with we are here for you... thanks to all of you in our communities that continue to donate foods we are able to keep serving Gods Children...

Sincerely,

MONA HARTMANN



COACHES NOTES



Spring in Florida is the time for new grass and new leaves on trees, but everything needs water and sunshine. We have plenty of sun and no water.

At Our Daily Bread our mission is the same all year, feeding the hungry. Our daily count numbers are down this year, especially on the weekends. Downtown Ministry has their breakfasts on both Saturday and Sunday. Our numbers at Loaves & Fishes are over 100 every day that we are open. We are so blessed with fresh produce, frozen meats and other food items that all the shoppers leave with all they can carry.

We were blessed with a dishwashing machine from Vista-Serv as a gift 15 years ago. It has served us well, but the booster water heater broke down and a replacement is going to cost \$3,000.00. We have 12 old refrigerators and 5 freezers which all need repairs. It seems like every month the service men are

here repairing something and our budget for maintenance and repairs has doubled over the last 3 years.

Manatee County has given us formal notice that the fiscal year (Oct 1, 2021 – Sept 30, 2022) balance due of over \$10,000 will not be paid and the fiscal year 2023 grant of \$18,750.00 will not be paid. All our efforts to provide the County with the demographic information they require were not enough. We were not allowed to apply for a grant for 2024. So, we lost close to \$50,000 from the County because of the demographics issue.

Spring is a new beginning, rebirth and as Paul often said being born again. May He be with you in the coming year.

Thank you for your time and talent.
Thank you for your financial support.
Thank you for your prayers.

BOB EIKILL

VOLUNTEER'S NOTES

Monday morning starts early, very early! The gates are open by 7:30am. Volunteers quietly arriving and greeting each other. The banter begins as we start to put out our donations of food to fill the shelves for those who will come to Loaves & Fishes Pantry today to shop. We are a spirited group led by Brittany, our fearless leader! We so enjoy working together as we serve our client from the community.

The need is great, but I see thankfulness and gratitude on the faces of our regulars and our new clients. As they leave with

the boxes of food that they have chosen for their families, we see many smiles and get lots of thank yous. Since I started six years ago, I have learned the meaning of True Joy in helping others as I serve weekly.

"Doing nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but to the interest of others." Philippians 2: 3-4

Sincerely,

HOLLY BRAUN



LOAVES & FISHES NOTES

Hello Summer,

Safe travels to all our volunteers who head north for the summer season. Thank you all again for another fabulous season of service! We look so forward to seeing you this coming fall.

As summer quickly approaches our pantry gets extra busy, mostly families with school aged children finishing up the school year. With our seasonal volunteers returning home for the summer we need volunteers to help get us through this time. Can you help? If so, please contact me and I'll introduce you to our fun team. I look forward to hearing from you.

The food pantry has seen an increase in clients. We are seeing a high demand for jelly, jams, ramen noodles, canned meats, mac and cheese, condiments and boxed cereals. All donations are so appreciated by our clients. Thank You!!! Thank You!!!

We are running very low on baby supplies, our baby section is nearly empty. We need diapers in sizes 3,5 and 6 always in high demand, baby formula and baby wipes.

Again, If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, or know of anyone, please email me at britney@ourdailybreadofbradenton.org. We have fun! I look forward to hearing from you.

Stay Healthy, Happy and Blessed,

BRITNEY



DID YOU KNOW...?

Did you know that Our Daily Bread of Bradenton now has a presence on Facebook?

Please help us build our social media presence by doing the following:

1. Visit us on Facebook@ourdailybreadbradenton
2. Like the page
3. Under "Following" tab, choose "See First" (instead of default)
4. Invite your family, friends and associates too...



We would love to print your Volunteer's Notes in our newsletter. Please let us know if you would like to express what being a Volunteer means to you. Also, if your church, club or organization is in need of speakers, we would be happy to come share the programs we offer at Our Daily Bread of Bradenton.

ANGIE'S KITCHEN NOTES

Hello May,

I would like to give a Special Thank You to all our volunteers. Thank you for all your energy, passion and your big hearts that you bring to each service. You are all remarkable human beings and I am very grateful for each and every one of you. Seeing you each day warms my heart as well as our clients. I'm so very proud of our team. Thank You!

If you would like to join our FUN team please contact me at 941.745.2992/8-11am daily or email me at angie@ourdailybreadofbradenton.org.

Wishing you all a Beautiful Spring!

Thank you and God Bless,

ANGIE

SAMPLE LUNCH MENU...

MONDAY	Hamburgers, Green Salad, Fruit Salad and Dessert
TUESDAY	Spaghetti with Meat Sauce, Green Salad, Fruit Salad and Dessert
WEDNESDAY	Yellow Rice and Chicken, Green Salad, Fruit Salad, and Dessert
THURSDAY	Chili Cheese Dogs, Green Salad, Fruit Salad and Dessert
FRIDAY	Beef Stew over Rice, Green Salad, Fruit Salad and Dessert
SATURDAY	Shepherd's Pie, Green Salad, Fruit Salad and Dessert
SUNDAY	Beef Taco Salad, Fruit Salad and Dessert

...all meals are low sodium, high protein that include 2000 calorie a day diet

HOUSE NOTES...

We never Call asking for Donations

We Do Not use Professional Fund Raisers

We only use your Address for mailing Thank Yous and our Newsletter

We would like to establish an email data base for volunteer's information and setting up schedules. If you are interested in receiving our newsletter electronically (please be patient we are working on finalizing our list) and/or "what's happening" please email us at, [blessings@ourdailybreadofbradenton.org](mailto: blessings@ourdailybreadofbradenton.org)

The mission of Our Daily 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. We achieve this by providing a daily soup kitchen and food pantry.





941-745-2992

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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 | Angela Vela
Loaves & Fishes | Britney Vela
Off-Site Volunteer | Jenn Cecere

WORKERS

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THE MISSION OF OUR DAILY 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. WE ACHIEVE THIS BY PROVIDING A DAILY SOUP KITCHEN AND FOOD PANTRY.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU

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

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|---------------------------|-------------------------------|--|
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| Carol Berg | Joanne Burgoon | Christ Church of Longboat Key |
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| Robert Firkins | The Sertoma Club of Bradenton | Bradenton Chapel |
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