

*Annelle Delorme-Hagerman Food Pantry
& Rev. Alden Burhoe Meal Ministry & Clothing Ministry*
at the Church of Our Saviour
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2015 - Year End Report

A New Approach:

This year we took a different approach to our budgeting and finances process. Although we have three “separate” ministries (food pantry, meals, and clothing), they run together, and are viewed by the community as one. So, we decided to combine our financial and reporting processes.

We also spent some time to try to discern what God wanted us to accomplish this year. The following is our list.

- Pantry: Provide the following - groceries to families in need each month; turkeys at thanksgiving; a friendly, welcoming environment; “fixings” at thanksgiving; a thank you party for volunteers; microwave groceries to motel families
- Meals: Provide the following – a meal at each distribution; a friendly, welcoming environment; a cookout and Thanksgiving meal
- Clothing: Provide clothing to families in need at each distribution

General Discussion:

Since we are an all-volunteer group, our time and monetary resources are limited and we realize that all we have listed may not be possible.

With that in mind, here is what we were able to accomplish:

- We did provide groceries to families in need each month by having three grocery distributions per month. With assistance from United Neighbors of Fall River, we also supported several additional distributions over the summer specifically for the motel families.
- We did provide turkeys and a thanksgiving meal to our guests at thanksgiving.

- As part of our regular grocery ordering process we now specifically shop for items that are microwave friendly for our guests from the motels.
- We did not provide a cookout for our guests.
- As part of providing a welcoming environment we started using china instead of paper products at our meals.
- We did provide a warm meal at each distribution.
- We did provide clothing at our “boutique” at each distribution.
- As part of providing a welcoming environment we started to investigate a covering for the ramp leading into our pantry building. We will try to complete this in 2016.
- Our thank-you party for our volunteers was in planning for the fall but, because of other commitments, we will be making plans for this in the upcoming year.

Our Guest Demographics:

We thank God that we were able to provide food, meals and clothing to 647 distinct families representing 1,006 individual guests. With the help of staff, parishioners, and local businesses, churches, and organizations, we received donations that allowed us to provide services to an increasing number of guests. Although we registered 220 new families in 2015, our total guest attendance decreased by 8%.

For the 7th year in a row we averaged over 200 households each month. Because of the added distribution we actually averaged 227 households attending our distributions each month.

In 2015 we registered our 2,899th household and our 8,032nd guest. Our guests came from 15 nearby communities ranging from Tiverton to Taunton and from Bristol to New Bedford. About 28% are from Somerset and Swansea, 52% come from Fall River,

and the remaining 20% are divided among the 12 other towns represented.

Although no formal records of ethnicity are kept, our guests represented at least 9 different ethnicities. The age range of the guests we provided food to was from infant to 100 years old with 22% being under 18 years old, 53% being between 18 and 64, and 25% being 65 years old or older.

The number of active guests fluctuated between 743 and 784. During November, when we distributed turkeys, we served 372 different households representing 897 different guests. For Thanksgiving we also gave away over 375 turkeys to our guests.

Food Pantry Information:

GENERAL:

Each month we distribute groceries three times. Our guests are allowed to attend one of the distributions each month. The "regular" distributions include one Friday evening, and two Saturday mornings.

FOOD:

We conservatively estimate that we picked up, sorted, stocked, and distributed about 85,200 pounds of food at an estimated value of over \$91,000. The place we acquired our groceries is shown in the table below:

Received From	Pounds
Greater Boston Food Bank *	57,079
Postal Workers Drive	6,239
Businesses	6,217
Organizations / Churches	3,352
Schools	3,266
Individuals	2,599
Scouts	1,022
Purchased Turkeys	3,395

* Mixture of free and purchased

PEOPLE:

The list of people deserving thanks is huge. This year there were 220 different volunteers of all age ranges who helped at the pantry. The volunteer effort that supported the pantry is about 2,573 hours with an estimated value of \$36,300.

Below is a breakdown of how those efforts were spent:

Tasks	Hours
Pantry Administration	67
Grocery Distribution	1,301
Maintenance & Repair	17
Grocery Pickup	260
Registration	344
Stock-sort Groceries	584

Clothing Ministry Information:

GENERAL:

At each distribution we distribute clothing that has been donated to us by parishioners and many others in our community. It is inspected, sorted and hung on racks for display and distribution. Any clothing not taken after several months is donated to other charities.

CLOTHING:

Guests attending each grocery distribution are able to select up to 5 items per household to take. This year we estimate that we distributed about 6,000 articles of clothing to our guests in need. Using Salvation Army's value guide, we estimate that the value of clothing that we distributed this year was \$83,000.

PEOPLE:

This year we were fortunate to have 24 different volunteers give over 619 hours to help sort, display and distribute clothing in our "boutique". We estimate the value of that time to be \$8,733.

Meals Ministry Information:

GENERAL:

The meal ministry provides a hot meal at each of the 3 monthly grocery distributions. At thanksgiving we also provided a Thanksgiving turkey meal for all of our guests. Our guests are allowed to attend all of the three meals each month.

FOOD:

The food we prepare comes from the Greater Boston Food Bank as well as purchased from local sources. About 5,200 pounds came from the Greater Boston Food Bank and about 3,400 pounds were purchased locally.

This year we provided about 5,740 meals to our guests and volunteers attending the food pantry. Of these 4,550 were breakfasts at the Saturday morning distributions and 1300 were dinners at the Friday evening distributions. An additional 110 meals were served for the Thanksgiving meal. That is an average of 490 meals provided each month. Even at \$6.50 per meal the total value provided is over \$38,200 value for the year.

PEOPLE:

This year we were fortunate to have 16 different volunteers give over 1,100 hours to help pickup food and supplies, prepare the meal, serve our guests and cleanup. We estimate the value of that time to be \$15,520.

Financial (for all Ministries):

Between food, maintenance, supplies, utilities, and the truck, our expenses this year were about \$16,435. Our expenses are broken down into the categories we discerned at the start of the year. They are detailed in the table that follows:

Expense Item	Cost
Groceries to families in need	\$8,779
Turkeys @ thanksgiving	\$4,399
Meals @ each distribution	\$2,899
Thanksgiving meal	\$232
Clothing @ each distribution	\$126
TOTAL:	\$16,435

It cost us an average of \$6.02 to provide several bags (about 32 pounds) of groceries, a hot meal, and 5 items of clothing to a family each time they go through the pantry.

With contributions from parishioners, individuals, organizations, churches, businesses, and grants, we took in about \$20,400. By applying for a grant from Case Trust and requesting donations to help with thanksgiving turkey expenses, we took in about the same as last year. A breakdown is shown in the following table.

Income Item	Amount
Individuals (includes parishioners)	\$9,527
Grants —Case Trust, Project Bread, Crop Walk, Hathaway	\$6,541
Organizations, Businesses	\$3,000
Churches	\$1,353
TOTAL:	\$20,421

Summary:

We estimate that we provided a value of \$273,000 for the \$16,000 of expenses that we incurred. The following table gives the breakdown.

Item	Amount	Estimated Value
Food	93,800 pounds	\$129,200
Clothes	6,000 items	\$83,000
People	4,290 hours	\$60,550
TOTAL		\$272,750

Thanks:

We are extremely grateful for all the Church of Our Saviour volunteers and parishioners who regularly support our efforts. We are also extremely thankful for the efforts of those folks in our community who support us with their time as well as monetary donations. We especially thank our friends from Christ Church Swansea for their continued involvement and support. We realize that there are many other demands on your time and money and we are honored that you share yours with us.

Who We Are:

We are a mission of the Church of Our Saviour. We are also a member agency of the Greater Boston Food Bank. This allows us to purchase much of our food at a reduced price. We are also certified to receive United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) food, and Mass Emergency Food Assistance Program (MEFAP) food at no cost. Because of our involvement in these programs and the generous contributions of our community organizations, churches, and businesses, we are able to use our limited resources to provide a good amount and variety of food to our guests.

Regular distributions are normally three times a month. We are open on one Friday evening (Usually the second Friday of the month from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm), and on two Saturday mornings (usually the last 2 Saturdays of the month from 9:00 am to 11:00 am). Depending on other activities at the church this general schedule may change.

A hot meal is provided in conjunction with the grocery distribution. A dinner is served on Friday night and a breakfast is served on Saturday morning prior to the distribution. Our clothing "boutique" also operates during our grocery distributions. Gently used clothing donations are accepted, sorted, and distributed at each grocery distribution.

Clients are asked to attend only one of the regular grocery and clothing distributions each month but are encouraged to partake of all three of the meals.

The volunteers who operate these ministries contribute many hours and various talents to make the whole operation run. These efforts include ordering food, picking up food, sorting and stocking, registering guests, escorting guests, sorting and distributing clothing, as well as the various cleaning, maintenance, and administrative efforts required to support the actual distribution of food and clothing. Without the efforts of our precious volunteers the food pantry, meal ministry and clothing ministry's would accomplish nothing!

OUR MISSION STATEMENT:

Provide friendship, a spiritual home, and supplemental grocery, meals, and clothing assistance to any of our neighbors in the greater Somerset community who want and need it.

OUR VALUES:

Promote respect, dignity, and privacy for everyone we interact with.

Provide quality service for our clients, donors, and community.

Be friendly, open and honest in all relationships.

Our mission can only be accomplished with the help of God and the generosity of others.

Information / Contacts:

A plethora of useful information about the pantry can be found on the pantry website at:

<http://foodpantry.church-of-our-saviour.com/>

Anyone interested in getting involved can contact the Church at 508-678-9663, George Paiva at 508-677-3825 or John Little at john.adhfp@gmail.com

Pantry Leaders: George Paiva, John Little, Debbie Fiore, Joan Hoy

Meals Leaders: Paul & Pauline Ouellette;

Clothing Leaders: Nancy Little, Jean MacGrady

Leaders from Christ Church: Steve Carvalho; Sue Carvalho