



Connections

“The making of new disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.”

First UMC Bethany

February 2014



Food Ministries Make A Difference



Most of us take our food for granted, don't we? We reach in the frig or cabinet and prepare or eat what's there. If we want something special, we usually put it on our grocery list to buy it the next time we shop. And most of our family and friends do the same thing. Oh, sure, there are some things we want to buy that are a bit too pricey, so we just buy them occasionally or not at all. When we're hungry, we eat.

But did you know that the food scarcity rate for Harrison County is 20%? Food scarcity means that 20% of kids and adults in our county aren't sure where their next meal will come from. Not everyone we know just reaches in the frig or cabinet and finds something to eat. One out of five kids and youth may look in the cabinet but not much, if anything, is there. They may be told that we'll eat in the morning but it's only late afternoon. Kids go to bed hungry sometimes. This is reality for 20% of our neighbors who live in Harrison County.

Two years ago, we began thinking food for folks who just need a little believe it, needing a little help can separation or divorce, death in a occur that change our situation. just need a little help sometimes to



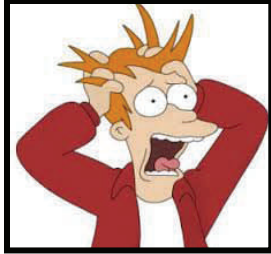
about what we can do to provide help. Even though we might not happen to all of us. A job loss, a family and a long list of events can This is what happens to folks who just get by.

Not only did we begin thinking about the food scarcity rate, we began praying about it and talking with each other to come up with ideas of how we can provide food. Jeff and Renee Wagner talked with me in January 2012 and from there we talked with you and by summer 2012 our Lunch Box Ministry was born. That summer we provided 3,000 meals from the day school got out until the day before school began. We continued the lunches 2 days a week through the fall and then our Grocery Box Ministry began throughout the winter. Two times a month folks received a box full of groceries.

We continued the Lunch Box Ministry last summer and our Grocery Box Ministry continues this fall and winter. In the last 2 years we have prepared and delivered over 6,000 lunches and given out over 300 boxes of groceries and on February 3 we will fill boxes with food again for 15 families representing 42 adults, youth and kids.

Thank you for your generosity for these ministries; the offering of your money to provide the food, your time to fix lunches and deliver them and packing the food boxes, for your prayers and your continued support of “doing the right thing.” We're not patting ourselves on the back for “doing good.” We're just doing what one human being does for another, walking together so that all have enough...

LOOK TO THE FUTURE WHERE ARE WE GOING?



**ALL CHURCH GATHERING
Feb 9, 3-5 pm**

**Your ideas are needed to evaluate the past
and plan for our future.**

Where are we going? Why do we exist? How do we follow in the footsteps of Jesus? Join us for an all church gathering on Sunday, February 9 from 3:00-5:00 p.m. to talk about our present and future ministries. We need your ideas to evaluate the past and plan for our future. We will have great snacks, singing, brainstorm ideas and dream about where God is leading us...

UPCOMING EVENTS

Feb 3 Grocery Box Ministry 9:30 am
 Feb 9 All Congregational Meeting 3-5 pm
 Feb 12 Birthday Party at BCC 1:30 pm
 Feb 12 JAM 3:30-5:00 pm
 Feb 15 Delightful Decadent Party 5:00 pm
 Feb 16 Full Breakfast 8:30am-9:15 am
 Feb 19 Mary Martha Circle 9:30 am
 Feb 19 Church Council Meeting 6:30 pm

February Food Pantry
Canned Fruit

Bethany Area Blood Drive
Friday, February 7 11:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
105 N 25th at the Bethany Community Center

PRAYER CONCERNS



Phil Fish– Health concerns
 Ernie Hintz-Health concerns
 Jeff Wagner –Health concerns
 Dan & Ann Barnett– Health Concerns
 Nolan Landes - Health Concerns
 Marilyn Jamis-Health concerns
 Nadine Watts-Health concerns-Chemo
 Marvin Stanton-Continued health concerns
 Residents of Bethany Care Center/Crestview

SUNDAY SCHEDULE
 9:30 am Worship
 10:40 am Sunday School

February 2014

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|---------------------------------|---|---|---|-----|--|
| | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 9:30 Worship 10:40 Sunday School | 3 Grocery Box 9:30 | 4 9:00 Prayer Team 9:30 Prayer Shawl 3:30 Worship Meeting | 5 | 6 9:30 Prayer Shawl 7:00 Singles | 7 | 8 |
| 9 9:30 Worship 10:40 Sunday School <i>Look to the Future 3-5 pm</i> All Congregational Meeting | 10 | 11 9:00 Prayer Team 9:30 Prayer Shawl | 12 1:30 Mary Martha Birthday Party @ BCC 3:30-5:00 JAM | 13 9:30 Prayer Shawl 7:00 Singles | 14 | 15 5:00 Delightful Desserts and Dinner |
| 16 Full Breakfast 8:30-9:15am 9:30 Worship 10:40 Sunday School | 17 | 18 9:00 Prayer Team 9:30 Prayer Shawl | 19 9:30 Mary Martha Circle 6:30 pm Church Council | 20 9:30 Prayer Shawl 7:00 Singles | 21 | 22 |
| 23 9:30 Worship 10:40 Sunday School | 24 | 25 9:00 Prayer Team 9:30 Prayer Shawl | 26 | 27 9:30 Prayer Shawl 7:00 Singles | 28 | |

Birthdays

| | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Feb 5 Julia Harris | Feb 13 Andrew Slagle | Feb 24 Amanda Faulkner |
| Feb 7 Beverly Butler | Feb 16 Linda Jones | Feb 24 Grant Shields |
| Feb 8 Paul Van Swearingen | Feb 18 Emma Fordyce | Feb 24 Kenneth Everly |
| Feb 12 Grant Casebeer | Feb 23 Ethan Fordyce | Feb 25 Aiden Slagle |
| Feb 13 Renee Wagner | Feb 23 Carl Spainhower | Feb 27 Annabel Terry |



The First
United Methodist Church
of Bethany, Missouri

2703 Crestview Road
 Bethany, MO 64424
 660-425-3570

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



The 4 D's at First UMC Bethany



Join us on Saturday, February 15 at 5:00 p.m. for the 4 D's.

What are 4 D's you ask? Well, delightful, decadent desserts and dinner of course! We will have a GREAT time enjoying a delicious (oh, does that make it 5 D's!) dinner of lasagna, garlic bread and salad. That's wonderful by itself. But then, after dinner, we will have amazing desserts, yes delightful and decadent! Dinner is provided and if you would like to bring a delightful dessert so share, please do! Our theme is Valentines' Day and our dinner is for kids, youth and adults. And of course, this is a GREAT time to invite friends to get to know us. Some folks may be more comfortable being invited to an event before they are ready to attend worship. So, not only is this a great fellowship time, it's also a time of outreach to our friends and family to see how following in the footsteps of Jesus can be fun, too. So mark your calendars for February 15 and join us for great food and lots of fun!



Pastor Susan and my friends at the Bethany Methodist Church,

Thank you for the visits, fruit plate, food and all the other kind things you do all year. It is appreciated.

Anna Wyant

ATTENDANCE - SUNDAY SERVICE

Jan 5 88 Jan 19 99
 Jan 12 83 Jan 26 84

Radio Ministry Sponsors

Feb 2 - Ron & Christine Hunt
 Feb 9 - Rand & Jane Slama -In Memory of Dorothy Goodrich
 Feb 16 - Debbie Chambers - In memory of Paul & Lena Sims
 Feb 23 -Fordyce Family -in Memory of Thelma Sanders

Thank you to all of our radio sponsors throughout the year for being a part of this important ministry! Please contact the office with any special radio ministry Sundays that you would like to sponsor for 2014.