



THE FRANCISCAN KITCHEN

748 South Preston Street
Louisville, KY 40203

Dedicated to providing for the nourishment of God's family.

**November
2023
Issue**

Our Enduring Christmas Giveaway tradition



A tradition begun and passed on for several decades by some of our most dedicated volunteers continues this year as the Christmas Giveaway will once again take place on Monday, December 25 from 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. (See the volunteers behind the scenes this year on p. 2.) The items needed are hoodies of all sizes, men's white crew or tube socks, new or gently used men's winter gloves, all sizes of new men's boxer or boxer briefs and small, medium, and large sizes of ladies underwear, new or gently used backpacks, new blankets or throws and new or gently used winter coats. Personal hygiene items needed are bar soap, feminine hygiene products, deodorant, lotion, shampoo, conditioner, razors, shaving cream, sunscreen, toothbrushes, and toothpaste. A sack lunch will also be provided to our guests.

To contribute any of these items, you can drop them off any weekday between 8:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. prior to Saturday, December 16.

You can also volunteer to help us prepare and set up for the Giveaway on Saturday, December 23, and participate in the Giveaway on December 25 by going to our SignUpGenius schedule, which is easily reached on our website or Facebook page.

If you have a question or would like more information, please call and leave a message at 502-589-0140 and someone will get back to you.

Thank you for helping to bring the Christmas spirit to those in need!

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2023 STATISTICS

161,562 meals
served (through
10/31/23)

The trio providing service beyond meals



The team of three volunteers working on this year's Christmas Giveaway share a common foundational experience - they are all Presentation Academy graduates. Pictured above, l. to r., Mary Scheiber, Jan Heeb, and Norma Thieman have joined together to provide an extra measure of care and concern for our neediest guests this Christmas and throughout the year. Norma and Mary met Jan during the 2021 Christmas Giveaway set-up. Working in the toys area, they saw the need for greater coordination and how they each could contribute their talents to sorting and organizing the basic clothing and toiletries stored in the attic. In January of 2022, the trio took the lead in managing what the Kitchen distributes, including the Christmas Give-A-Way. With Executive Director Chuck Mattingly's permission, the team began working on a weekly giveaway. Each Thursday, guests can receive the basic clothing items and toiletries that are available. They have implemented a system that tracks and monitors what is distributed in an organized manner. The ladies express the sentiment that it's gratifying to be able to fill unmet needs that our homeless guests have, noting that the items provided are ones that can't be purchased with food stamps or WIC coupons. They receive constant feedback about how grateful our guests are. We at the Kitchen are for the service of this great group of "Pres Girls."

Thanks to all the volunteers who helped with our deep clean on Metro United Way's Day of Action



Volunteer Profile - Kathy Wine & Angie Jones



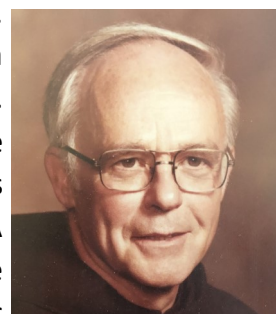
Two regular volunteers, Kathy Wine (left) and Angie Jones (below), first united in the mission of feeding the hungry as members of God's Girls, an organization started by a good friend of Kathy's. The group served more than 100 homemade meals on Wednesdays at the First Unitarian Church on York St. until the pandemic brought the effort to a close. In the summer of 2020, Kathy responded to our appeals for volunteers and Angie joined her soon after.

Kathy's relationship with Franciscans goes way back. Her mother's brother, Fr. Arnold Dearing (r.), was a Conventual Franciscan who taught at the Mount St.

Francis seminary and ran the "Companion" magazine

office in the 1950s. Her father, Al Lawson, would print the Companion inserts which asked for donations and prayer lists in his small basement print shop. A cousin, Dick Dearing, helped with that work and later as a seminarian at the Mount, assisted Br. Jim Fields as he got the soup kitchen up and running. Other long-standing connections to Kitchen volunteers include the Paul and Barbara Schmitt family (Barbara is a first cousin), and her aunt Betty Dearing, who was one of the first volunteers.

Kathy is an Assumption High School grad who has memories of many great family picnics at the Mount throughout her childhood including when a cousin was baptized in the lake by Fr. Arnold. She usually joins Angie as a Thursday volunteer, but also shows up at least one other weekday.



Angie's route to the Kitchen began with friends at Middletown Christian Church that were involved in God's Girls. In addition to her regular Thursday shift at the steam table, the U of L and Waggener High school grad stays busy as a volunteer with a number of charitable causes. She has been a weekly volunteer at the Ronald McDonald House for the past 18 years and currently serves at the Ronald McDonald Family Room at Norton Women and Children's off Dutchman's Lane, which provides a home away from home for mothers of babies staying in the NICU. She also has decorated trees for the Festival of Trees and Lights benefiting Norton Children's Hospital for the past 18 years. She missed this year's festival due to her son's wedding in Thailand that weekend.

Both ladies miss their work with God's Girls and the wonderful relationships they had there. Angie says "It is so nice to show up at the Kitchen where more hands make light work - it's warm and inviting and everyone is so fun and kind to work with. I like that the staff and board are not afraid to make changes as needed or try new ways and that everyone involved does everything they can to help those in need with kindness, dignity, love, and compassion."

A Reflection from the Franciscan Spirit Blog

Rev. Jovian Weigel, OFM

Beginning Again with St. Francis

“Let us begin to do good, for as yet we have done little.”

—St. Francis of Assisi

Francis spoke these words at a time when most people already considered him a saint. In his mind, there was no plateau in life where he could feel he had “made it” and could coast into heaven from then on. He did not compare his love with that of other men but with that of Christ; hence, he always saw an infinite expanse into which he could still go, becoming more and more like his Lord.

(If) you are looking, like Francis and with Francis, into that vast expanse of Christ’s love, and you desire to share it more deeply, ... your Christian life will now be given a particular coloring and direction by Francis and the traditions that have grown from his life and words. You’re beginning again, and you will continue to begin again for the rest of your life.

We often think that God’s call comes to us when we have achieved a level of spiritual perfection, when we are worthy of so great a calling. But the reality for most of us is that we get hints and suggestions of a new direction for our lives at the most unexpected (and occasionally inopportune) times. It was this way for Jesus’ first apostles. And it was this way for St. Francis of Assisi and many of the saints.

In your spiritual life, you must be satisfied to progress gradually. Usually you will not notice your growth. Sometimes it may even seem you are growing backward as you discover your weaknesses and failings. But trust in God. Allow God to lead you through your spiritual companions ... (and) through your own study and prayer. Week by week, ... turn your attention from one aspect of the spiritual life to another.

It’s like painting a picture: a touch here, a dab there, and gradually the masterpiece emerges ... reflection, study, and prayer, ... (are) just the beginning of a deeper and more fruitful life with God. No deep understanding of Jesus, Francis, and Clare can be reached without God’s direction through prayer.

Make each action part of your prayer life. Invite the Holy Spirit to lead you not just to mental knowledge but to a deep spiritual understanding that will result in your conversion. Conversion is the ongoing process of learning to live the gospel way of life given to us by Jesus and revealed to us by Francis and Clare.

Prayer

Lord, you promise to make all things new.

As I discover St. Francis’s way to you,

I ask you to renew

my faith, my hope, and my love.

Amen



Together we give.

Nov 28, 2023

GIVING
TUESDAY



Though perhaps not as well known as the Black Friday and Cyber Monday consumer events following Thanksgiving, **#GivingTuesday** has brought increased awareness of philanthropy in all its forms during the holiday season. We once again join with thousands of organizations around the globe on **Tuesday, November 28**, to encourage gifts of time, talent, and treasure that help make our communities better places to live. Since our founding in 1980, the Franciscan Kitchen has relied on volunteers that cook, prepare and serve the meal, as well as financial contributions that come mostly from individuals like you, and the donations of food items from organizations, businesses, and people from throughout the area. All three factors are vital to sustaining our mission of feeding the hungry.

We ask you to consider making a gift at <https://franciscankitchen.org/donate> (or use the enclosed envelope), sign up to help us serve on the SignUpGenius site, or share a story on social media about why you believe in and support the mission of the Franciscan Kitchen. Let this special day be an opportunity to acknowledge all we are grateful for and do something for those in need.

Thank you!



Signing up to help serve our daily meal to the hungry is easy! Go to our website (www.franciscankitchen.org), click the Volunteer with SignUpGenius button to see the latest schedule, and make your selection. There are also regular posts on our Facebook page to access the calendar. If you have a large group or have questions, call Chuck Mattingly at 502-643-8400.

**We are blessed in receiving the ongoing support from the
following donors:**



**We are also grateful for the supporting of these
organizations:**

**Emergency Food and Shelter National Board Program
(EFSP) thanks to Metro United way**

The Kentucky Chapters of Women of the Moose



SAVE THE DATE!

SATURDAY, MARCH 23, 7:00 - 10:00 pm HOLY FAMILY GYM

Memorial and Honorary Gifts (received through November 8)

In memory of Bud Bouchard

Mr. & Mrs. James Gries

In honor of Joan Bouchard

Mr. & Mrs. James Gries

**In honor of the Catholic Heart
Work Camp teen volunteers in
June 2023**

Tim Simodynes

In memory of Bridgette Dearing

Ruth Hendrickson

In memory of Joe Fallahay

Joseph Doug Pohl

John Walsh

In memory of George Gast, Sr.

Mr. & Mrs. William Hunton

**In honor of Rachel Kurzer
Givens**

Teri Boydston

In memory of Sissie Henderson

Rose D. Allen

In memory of Dr. John M.

Karibo

Ed Garber

In memory of John Kirchner

Laura Kirchner

In memory of John Koetter

Janice Koetter

**In memory of Rev. Gregory M.
Kollros**

Mary Ann Kollros

In memory of Joseph Lee & Anna

Lil Laemmle

Mr. & Mrs. James Laemmle

In memory of Christopher Lane

Ron & Bonnie Lane

In memory of Charles Luther

Heather Benjamin

In memory of Raymond J. Martin

Deborah Allen

In memory of Charlotte Ann

Mattingly

Thomas Mattingly

In memory of Thomas Patrick

McShane III

Alice Reising

In memory of the Noonan family

Kenneth Noonan

In memory of Ann Petty

Oleta Christensen

In honor of James & Maureen

Reader

James Reader

In memory of Billy Richardson &

Joseph L. Cecil

Howard Pearson

In memory of Helen Sample

Mary Ann Smith

In memory of Laurie Ann

Schiavone

Dr. & Mrs. Robert Schiavone

In memory of Dr. Guy Silva

Elizabeth Banet

Janet Clampitt

In memory of Corey Smith

Angie Evans

In honor of St. Anthony

Clara Bacallao

Phillip & Janine McIntosh

Robert O'Bryan

In memory of John R. Stowe

Mrs. Lucy Stowe

In honor of Roy Talley

James Heath

In memory of Chris Tisheaur

Anonymous

Frances Anselmo

Sarah Chism

Earth First of Kentuckiana, Inc.

Theresa Tisheaur

In honor of Lisa Walz

Kenneth Noonan

In memory of Robert Joseph

Watkins

Mrs. Marilyn Watkins

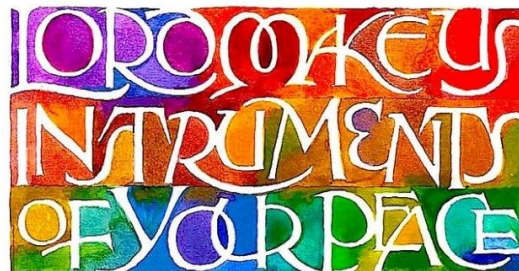
In memory of Bill Weber

Meredith Haynes

Kenneth Wooton

In memory of Ray Wilberding

Laura Kirchner





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748 South Preston Street
Louisville, KY 40203

Dedicated to providing for the nourishment of God's family.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT ORG.
US POSTAGE
JEFFERSONVILLE, IN
PERMIT #92

Mailing Address Line 1

Mailing Address Line 2

Mailing Address Line 3

Mailing Address Line 4

Mailing Address Line 5

The Franciscan Kitchen Mission

In the tradition of St. Francis,
which recognizes we are all brothers and
sisters, we are dedicated to providing for
the nourishment of God's family.

We will maintain an environment of
trust and fellowship to build mutual re-
spect and beneficial relationships with
our guests, co-workers, suppliers, and
community.

These efforts will strengthen our organi-
zation and enable us to provide a much-
needed service to our community.

Franciscan Kitchen Staff

Chuck Mattingly	Executive Director	Noel Richardson	Maintenance
Brent Coomes	Business Manager	Debbie Clark	Accountant
Tony Perito	Advancement	Marty Ford	Warehouse Manager

Franciscan Kitchen Board

Fr. Stephen Banet	Mary Carol Kelly	Fr. Vincent Petersen
Susan Bolton	Alice Kimble	Gary Roth
Lilli Burton	Ken Kinderman	Br. Jaime Zaragoza
John Hauber	Alan Kissel	
Leo Hauber	Jeremiah Malone	