

# November—2013

## Our Daily Bread of Bradenton

710 18<sup>th</sup> Ave. West

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

KITCHEN HOURS 6:30am till noon Tel. 745.2992



[www.ourdailybreadofbradenton.org](http://www.ourdailybreadofbradenton.org)

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

#### PRESIDENT

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Deacon Phil Davis

Richard Garland

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Tammy Woodward

*"If you pour yourself out for the hungry and satisfy the desire of the afflicted, then shall your light rise in the darkness and your gloom be as the noonday."*

*Isaiah 58:10*

The summer has been very busy with our meal count staying in the 250 range daily. The volunteers have been fantastic and we have been extremely fortunate with more and more people calling or coming in to see if they can help. Our mission to feed the poor and needy in our community would not be possible without our partners which include the volunteers, the Churches, the civic clubs, companies, foundations and individuals!

We are going to have our "Seven Days of Christmas" starting on Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup> running through December 21<sup>st</sup>. Once again this year wonderful groups of volunteers will distribute much needed items to our clients including underwear, socks, blankets, gloves, hats, toiletries, T-shirts and toys for the children. This is a very special time of year for both our clients and volunteers. I am sure we will be posting some pictures of the wonderful week's events on our website.

With Thanksgiving just around the corner and Christmas fast approaching we at Our Daily Bread would like to wish you and your families a blessed holiday season and may the New Year bring you wonderful health and happiness.

God Bless all of you for your help throughout the years.

Mark E. McLaughlin  
President

**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.**

## 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

## WORKERS

Kirk Goethe      John Green  
Bryan Owens      Ruthie Williams

## SPECIAL THANK YOUs

**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.**

Brye Charitable Foundation  
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Christ Church Longboat Key  
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Rotary Club of West Bradenton  
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St. Mary Star of the Sea Women's Club  
Sam's Club 5300 30<sup>th</sup> St. East  
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Melissa Wiese

# ***PENNY'S PANTRY KITCHEN REPORT***



We have a new cook, Ruthie. She is a blessing to the kitchen. With the changing of the weather, I am starting to see some of our Northern volunteers. I would like to welcome them back. It was a long summer, but I see a pickup in donations. I would like to thank everyone for their hard work.  
Thank you, Penny.

Meals prepared during a typical week:

Monday Hamburger rice and gravy, green and fruit salad

Tuesday Sausage and beans, green and fruit salad

Wednesday Potato soup and sandwiches, green and fruit salad

Thursday Spaghetti , green and fruit salad

Friday Pork with boiled potatoes, green and fruit salad

Saturday Tamale pie, green and fruit salad

Sunday Chicken, mashed potatoes , green and fruit salad

We serve pastry and juice with all meals.

God has blessed us and we share our blessings. Our partnership with Habitat continues to strengthen and we had two opportunities to assist. First we filled two more new homeowner's refrigerators with food and then we helped a woman obtain an I-Pad to better communicate. Two more hopes at Hope Landing will be completed in January and we'll stock the pantries once again.





So many things are happening at the One Stop Center as cooler weather patterns begin. We are seeing people's clothing needs change from lightweight cotton clothing to more substantial shirts, sweaters and sweatshirts. This includes children, so we appreciate the continued donations to the children's closet of nice, cool weather clothing articles and shoes.

In October Turning Points began our newest program, our Yellow Ribbon Program which targets our veterans and veteran families. The program provides supportive service assistance to help vets and their family members get housing, employment, and connect with the many services available to assist them in our community. The grant we received for this program enables us to hire two full time staff devoted to working with vets, and we are also coordinating with Goodwill Manasota to use the expertise of their employment specialists and veteran's services representative.

As we look forward to the holiday, we have several major activities planned. We work closely with Our Daily Bread to provide items for individuals and families that can really make a difference in their day to day struggles, conveying the celebration and "reason for the season." This could mean a food bag with something special in it, a donated toy that is just right for a child, or a donated coat

Adell Erozer  
Executive Director – Turning Points

or shoes that keeps the wearer warm and fashionable. Seeing the joy these things can bring reminds us, daily, to be grateful for what we have and that sharing generously with others is what brings real joy!

We are excited our upcoming major fundraiser of the year for Turning Points, the interactive dinner theater presentation of "A Bradenton Christmas Carol" at the Riverhouse Reef & Grill in Palmetto on Tuesday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>. This community theatre presentation of the beloved tale that is as relevant today as when it was written promises to be a fun and entertaining evening. Some unique and desirable live and silent auction items include exclusive golfing opportunities, hotel stays, and gastronomical delights! Tickets are available online at [www.tpmanatee.org](http://www.tpmanatee.org) or at the One Stop Center.

Please know your support is greatly appreciated by everyone working at the One Stop Center as we do our best to respond to those in our community who need help. The slow pace of economic recovery is taking a toll on people as they continue to struggle to find work, affordable housing and stability. We are grateful to you for making our services possible. Best wishes for a blessed holiday season!



# KEEP CALM AND VOLUNTEER

## **ABOUT VOLUNTEERING**

A volunteer provides a service through a formal organization, by choice, without financial remuneration and for the benefit of the community. Volunteering can deliver a wealth of benefits. Self-worth, great fun, friendships and job opportunities can all be a part of getting involved with your community. Volunteering may be an outlet for your natural talents, a road-test for your new career, or simply a handy way to meet new friends. Your strong beliefs and values may inspire you to volunteer.

Here's just a few of the goals that volunteering can help you achieve:

- ❖ A means of building self-esteem or confidence.
- ❖ A great way to learn or develop new skills.
- ❖ A pathway to enhancing work experience.
- ❖ To gain improved health and be active.
- ❖ A way to meet new people or broaden your social set.
- ❖ To make a difference in someone's life.
- ❖ A way of expressing gratitude for help you have received in the past or 'giving back.'
- ❖ An opportunity to support a cause you feel strongly about.
- ❖ Feeling needed and valued is satisfying in itself.
- ❖ To make a difference within one's own community.

Did you know that Volunteering can also benefit your health?

Over the past two decades we have also seen a growing body of research that indicates volunteering provides individual health benefits in addition to social ones. This research, which is presented by the Corporation for National and Community Service in report titled "The Health Benefits of Volunteering: A Review of Recent Research," has established a strong relationship between volunteering and health: those who volunteer have lower mortality rates, greater functional ability, and lower rates of depression later in life than those who do not volunteer. Some of these findings also indicate that volunteers who devote "considerable" amount of time to volunteer activities (about 100 hours per year) are most likely to exhibit positive health outcomes.

To help you decide how you'd like to get involved as a volunteer, ask yourself"

"What do I enjoy?"

"What skills and talents can I offer?"

"How can my skills and talents help a community organization?"

"What values and experiences would I like to explore?"

It is never too early nor too late to start thinking about how you can support the ministries of Our Daily Bread. We need volunteers for everything from being a friendly face greeting clients, to serving on the Board of Directors.

## **THE STORY OF OUR DAILY BREAD**

Deacon Phil Davis—from Oct. 2003 report

### **Normal Day**

- a. The weekday begins at 6:30am with Penny and three part-time street people as well as volunteer cooks and van drivers to collect at various stores. The meal that was prepared yesterday is readied for serving.
- b. At 8:30am choppers, dicers, peelers and cutters arrive to prepare food for following days. The cooks are busy.
- c. At 9am the servers arrive to prepare for the 10am clients.
- d. The doors are open and there is already a long line. No one is turned away! There are no requirements to eat at ODB. We only count by man, woman or child.
- e. At 11:30am we are normally done but if all are not fed we stay open until they are.
- f. The cleanup begins and the cooks continue until by noon we might be done.
- g. Everyone is treated with courtesy and most say "thank you" or "we appreciate this."

**The Big Question?** WHY DON'T THEY GET A JOB? Would you hire a man who has not bathed in a week, whose clothes were dirty, torn and he smelled. How about if he had not had a haircut in three months and his fingernails had not been cleaned in a long very long time? How about if he/she wouldn't look you in the eye and simply always looked down and defeated? What if he or she cried?

We now have a relationship with the Coalition for the Homeless and their Open Door Day Resource Center, and we are providing showers, bathrooms, employment counseling, telephones, washers and dryers and clothing.

**Just a few more statistics of interest:** I estimate that there are more than 18,000 volunteer hours each year at Our Daily Bread. We've just paid off our mortgage so we are virtually debt free. We have only one full time employee and three former homeless part-timers. We will provide about 60,000 meals this year, an increase of 500 meals a month. At least half of our donations are about \$25 and may include notes wishing they could do more. We have 32 affiliate churches.

**We need to offer them home and direction.** But most of all we must offer them God's love and affection and dignity. I frequently am asked to pray for someone and most often it is for someone else, not themselves. I very strongly suspect that these are the same people that Jesus spent His time with. Could we do any less? Come and visit us.

## Coach's Note

It's nice to be back in Florida, as with many of our volunteers I usually head north for the summer months. Thanks to Mark for filling in my absence.

During the summer we got a new floor in the dining room to replace a soft tile flooring which was impossible to keep clean. Financially we broke even due in part to a large gift from Mosaic. Our individual contributions are down by 30% this year. Our meal counts are the same as last years and average 250 per day.

Graham Bergquist again made calls on thirty local churches who support our mission financially, with food drives and volunteers. Thank you Graham. I have been reporting on our three vital parts or our mission: financial, food supplies and volunteers. Our volunteer base since inception has been our church partners. Over the years other groups have filled in from mobile home parks, schools, social clubs and individuals. In the beginning each day was assigned to a church (some had more than one day) but over the last 30 years the original group has broken up. On an average day we have 6 to 10 people on our serving line, another 4 to 6 volunteers are in the kitchen prep area, there is one in the van and one is in the office. On Fridays and Monday 2 to 4 are busy in Project 5000 Food Bag distribution program. Most of the volunteers are in at 9am and gone by noon. From our year end summary of time cards we know a total of 360 cards are filled out

during the year, half are here only once or twice (church groups on week-ends), 150 volunteers are here monthly, 30 are here once or twice every week. The total volunteer hours during the year:

One timers	7000 hours
Monthly	4000 hours
Weekly	<u>4000 hours</u>
TOTAL	15,000 hours

In this newsletter is a report "About Volunteers" and a story from Deacon Phil Davis from 2003. Volunteers are the heart of Our Daily Bread.

Recently there was a news story about a woman with four children who picked up groceries and walked out without paying. The police caught her in the parking lot, she didn't have any money to pay for the food, the office paid for the food and issue her a warning, a happy ending. Why anyone who needed food wouldn't go or didn't know of Our Daily Bread, it our mission to feed the hungry. If you know of anyone or a family that needs food please tell them about Our Daily Bread. If they can't come in, pick up a bag when you are here for them. Many people don't know that food is available, no one should go hungry in Bradenton.

Merry Christmas—a time for a new beginning.

*Robert Eikill*

**NOVEMBER 2013**

**OUR DAILY BREAD  
P.O. BOX 9544  
BRADENTON, FL 34206**



**CONTRIBUTIONS ARE GREATLY NEEDED**

**Make checks payable to: *Our Daily Bread of Bradenton, Inc.***

**Mail to: P.O. Box 9544**

**Bradenton, FL 34206-9544**

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**City** \_\_\_\_\_ **State** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip** \_\_\_\_\_

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**Thank you for your generosity**