

SPOTLIGHT

A newsletter from New Life Ministries

Issue #41 October 2018

BENDIX CVS

Over the summer, local company Bendix gave funds for renovations at the new Life House for Women with Children. They helped us to complete yard renovations and to put up a new fence around the property. We will also be installing a playground in the spring.

We would like to say thank you to Bendix for their funding and to all of the individual volunteers (Woodland Baptist Church, ft. in last month's newsletter) who came out to help with these renovations!



New fence around Life House

DINNER WITH BOB

This month we had the opportunity to sit down with Bob Burnsworth, director of the Meal Ministry, and ask him some questions about his time as director, as a long-term volunteer, and about the Ministry itself.

Q: Has there been a defining moment for you in your time at the Meal Ministry?

A: I don't know if I would say there is one moment that has made it all worth it. There are good things and bad things. I guess I would say that volunteer moments are meaningful. There was a family who wanted to donate some leftovers from an event they were having. I met them at the Meal on a Saturday shortly before serving time. What I didn't realize was that the scheduled serving group cancelled, and we didn't have a replacement. Once I found out, the family offered to stay and serve with me, because I had no team ready to help. They came in, we used the food they donated, they helped serve, and cleaned up. Afterward they told me how much it meant that they got to see exactly where their donation went. And I think that's important for a lot of people, a lot of donors. It meant a lot to me.

Q: Would you like to see more people who donate come down and serve?

A: Absolutely. Being able to see how your donation helps – whether it's paying for a meal, kitchen appliances, or keeping the lights on – is such an awesome thing donors don't always take advantage of. Just come down for a night, it's not so much for us, we have a great volunteer network and are never short for help unless something happens unexpectedly, like I just mentioned. We want to be transparent, show people how much they are helping, and let them meet some of the people they are feeding every night.

Q: Last question: what are the current needs of the Meal Ministry?

A: What we are hurting for the most right now is the money and material to be able to do some vital maintenance work on the roof. I can happily say our donors and volunteers keep us stocked on food. But this is an old building. The roof has several leaks in it, we have patched quite a few already. But we need a long term solution, no more quick fixes. Once that is taken care of, we'll be in good shape.

“We want to be transparent, show people how much they are helping, and let them meet some of the people they are feeding every night.”

LAST MONTH'S NEED HAS BEEN MET

We at New Life Ministries have the best partners. From time to time we have a setback. Something major breaks down or stops working. Our latest need was a replacement washer and dryer because of the damage caused by the basement flooding due to intensive rain. We put the information about what happened in last month's newsletter, asking our partners for help. And, like I said, we have the best partners.

The very next morning after the newsletter went out a call came in. The voice on the phone said, "I'll take care of the washer and dryer situation." Wow! Thank you!! Like I said, New Life



Ministries' partners are amazing. By the way, the residents at the Life House are very thankful as well.



GOLF OUTING WAS A 'HOLE-IN-ONE'

Saturday the 6th was the day of the rescheduled annual golf outing and everyone had a great time. Over 15 teams and 60 people came out to participate. The rain held off until everyone was back in for lunch and, best of all, John Emshwiller got a hole-in-one! John was also a hole sponsor for the outing. Rob Hooker provided raffle prizes for everyone, no one got stung by the crazy amount of bees, and two people walked away with gift cards to Eddie Merlot's. A big thank you to everyone who came out and golfed for our cause and congratulations John!

Thrift-or-Treat

This year for Halloween the Thrift Store and Meal Ministry will both be passing out candy. They will be open to trick-or-treaters from 6-7 on Halloween night, coinciding with the city's trick-or-treat hours.



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BENEFIT AUCTION

The annual Benefit Auction is coming up next month on November 8th. Tickets are now available. Cost for adults is \$10, for children 7-12 it is \$5, and kids 6 and under are free. The cost of a table for 8 is \$80. There will be light refreshments provided before and during the auction.

If you are interested in purchasing tickets for the auction or donating something, contact the Ministries' office number at (260) 519-1664.