



SHARINGS

Volume 6, Issue 1

Christian Service Center

Winter 2017



Spaghetti Dinner Time

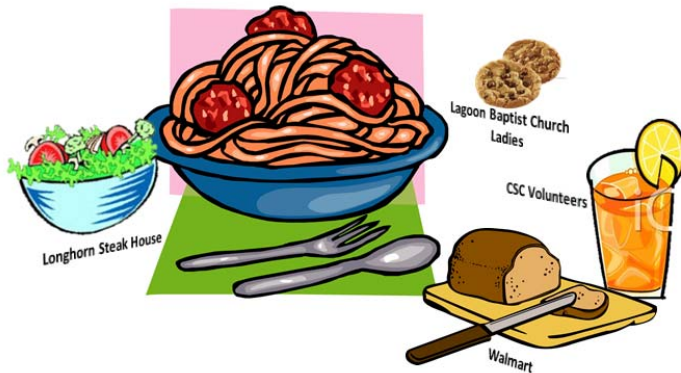
By Kay Herrin

I am a 38 year old single mom. I have a daughter 12 years old and a son 8 years old. My ex-husband is in Birmingham. He does odd jobs and will send \$50 or \$100 every now and then. We get \$82 in food stamps.

I was cleaning condos for one of the large realty companies in Gulf Shores when I had a chance to move to the reservations office. This way I could plan better about being with my children. My son has epilepsy and I have to take him to the Seizure Clinic at Children's Rehabilitation in Mobile. The Center has been so helpful in giving us a gasoline voucher for those trips.

My concern today is my power bill and the rent. My hours have been cut to 12 to 15 a week. My mother use to help in these slow times but she died two months ago. I have no other family who can help. I am going to be able to do deep cleanings of the condos my company manages, but that does not start for two weeks. I need \$124 for my past due power bill and I am short \$200 on my rent which is already late.

The Center takes care of my children at Christmas and on their birthdays. We also are able to get food when the food stamps run out. I don't know what my family would do without the Christian Service Center.



... so Pat Ward said, "Linda, you need to have a Spaghetti Dinner". This was shortly after Linda Chappelle became President of the Christian Service Center when the two of them were discussing financial needs of the Center. And, so it began. That was 16 years ago. Last year's Spaghetti Dinner served 700 compared to approximately 200 to 300 at the first one. This year's dinner on February 21st is being planned for 800 diners.

But what does it take to pull off something like this? Would you believe 135 pounds of spaghetti noodles? Take a look at these ingredients: 70# beef, 30# sausage, 12# chopped onions, 10# green peppers, 40 ozs Italian seasoning, 20 ozs minced garlic, 10 ozs black pepper. And that's just the spaghetti. There are also 80 loaves of bread supplied by Walmart to be buttered. Not to mention the salads that Longhorn Steak House restaurant and employees provide.

And, then there's the dessert! Those wonderful cookies so lovingly prepared by the ladies of Lagoon Baptist Church. Of course, iced tea - gallons of it! Whew! But wait, we haven't even mentioned the planners, coordinators, cooks, servers, dishwashers, wait staff, clean-up crew, ticket sellers and certainly the wonderful people who attend and enjoy the results of this massive effort. Let us not forget the steady support of all our Sponsors. Without them, there could be no Spaghetti Dinner.

Betty Patton, Susan Coyne, and Ruth Moran preparing to feed the masses!



PRESIDENT'S COLUMN



**Linda Chappelle,
President**

CSC was founded by the Pleasure Island Ministerial Association in 1991 as a central screening agency for Gulf Shores, Fort Morgan, and Orange Beach to provide emergency aid and food for those in need. In 1991, the Center assisted 170 clients, representing 420 individuals. In 2016, through November 30, we saw 1,507 clients, representing 4,412 individuals. This has been done with an all-volunteer staff with funding from donations and grants. The Center's facilities have grown to accommodate this increase in assistance provided. When I became President in 2002, the Food Pantry was in the administrative building. We have since expanded twice to have a separate food pantry and warehouse!

The CSC Food Pantry is now the "go-to" agency for Feeding the Gulf Coast (formerly Bay Area Food Bank). Our volunteers pick up food regularly at Publix, Winn Dixie, and WalMart in Gulf Shores and Orange Beach. They also pick up from Longhorn Steak House, Pizza Hut, and Barge-In Chevron as well as area restaurants from time to time. That food is then shared with more than a dozen area agencies and churches that have food pantries or provide meals to those in need.

As the food pick-up volume has steadily increased to the current massive level, we recognized the need for a van to make the process more efficient. A van holds more than twice what a pick-up truck will hold. Food Pantry Chair Stan Moss located a good deal on a used van with only 34,000 miles on it. We then received an anonymous donation for the purchase. The van has proven to be a huge asset for the Center. We are truly blessed.

What A Difference A Van Makes!!



To paraphrase the unofficial creed of the United States Post Office, "Neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night" stay CSC food pick-up volunteers from the swift

completion of their appointed rounds. That's our crew, 365 days a year, led by Stan Moss.

Most readers are familiar with the Christian Service Center Food Pantry. We help feed the community by giving out food and facilitating the movement of donated food through various service groups who distribute food to those in need. BUT, that food doesn't just appear on the shelves. Usually, CSC volunteers pick-up the fresh food donations and bring it to the Pantry. At the pick-up, food must be put into boxes, placed in the vehicles and delivered to the CSC Food Pantry. The Pantry volunteers sort the food which is then picked up and distributed by the various groups. Some food is kept for the immediate use of the pantry.

Bread pick-up from Publix is on a regular schedule with regular volunteers. Yes, the stores are closed on Easter and Christmas, in which case the bread must be picked up the night before the holiday, which frequently turns into early the morning of the holiday. But the food pick-ups from other stores are random, and can create a scramble. Stan mans the phones until he finds someone available to do the pick-up, and if no one is available, he does it himself.

A couple of years ago during the night before Easter bread pick-up at Publix in Orange Beach, it was storming, raining sideways like it does here in the South. The volunteers were in a pickup truck with an uncovered bed. The not very effective solution to keeping the bread dry was to put the bread into large plastic bags. Of course, by that time it was early Easter morning, but the bread still had to be delivered to the Center and unloaded. After many more soggy food runs and situations where multiple trips had to be made because there weren't enough trucks, the Center purchased a used van for the Food Pantry. Now food pick-ups are much dryer and easier to manage.

THANK YOU bread pick-up volunteers: Rod Chappelle, Bill Coyne, Danny Grant, Jane Hanners, Don Harms, Sue Koehn, Tom and Mary LaHae, Norm Lacy, Hunter McClure, Bill McGary, Harriet and Joe Slaughter, Larry Smith, Merrill and Wil Webb and Preston Williams. Many of you have been doing this for years. We couldn't do it without you.



Bread before loading



Loading up the van



Bread loaded in Van

CHURCH

CHURCH of GOD

A WORLDWIDE ASSOCIATION, INC.

By Janice Moss

For the third year in a row, the Church of God, a Worldwide Association, met at the Orange Beach Events Center. Described as a “vibrant community of mission-driven believers from around the world, dedicated to giving all humanity the good news of the Kingdom of God and teaching Christ’s disciples”, the group once again chose the Christian Service Center as the recipient of their outreach. Their desire is to bless the communities where they meet and each day of their meetings, the group collected food, household supplies, personal hygiene items, baby supplies and cash donations for the Center.

As a result, 4,175 pounds of food and supplies were contributed, as well as their generous cash donation which will allow the Center to purchase more than 8,000 pounds of food from the area food bank. All of this was accomplished in just seven days.

CSC volunteers call the group, “Visiting Angels”. These Angels came from all over the world including Texas, Minnesota, New Zealand, Florida, Wisconsin and Georgia. Their gift is far and away the single largest contribution to the Center’s Food Pantry – not only this year but for three years in a row.

When asked where they heard about the work of the Center, Food Drive Coordinator, Lonnie Gjesvold said they were pointed our way by a city official three years ago when they had their first meeting here.

PARTNER

Gulf Coast Media

The Islander

By Judy Fraser

The Islander newspaper has been an important partner in helping the Christian Service Center serve the people of Pleasure Island since its beginnings 20 plus years ago. *The Islander* has always been generous and cooperative in providing coverage of events benefiting CSC by recognizing individuals and companies who have supported its work.

The Islander is part of Gulf Coast Media. Gulf Coast Media includes *The Baldwin Times*, first published in 1890; *The Courier*, established in 1894, covers the Eastern Shore; *The Onlooker*, established in 1907, covers Foley and the northern communities of the County while *The Islander*, established in 1977, provides news coverage of events on Pleasure Island. All of these papers have strong bonds with the communities they serve. *The Islander* is published on Wednesdays. *The Baldwin Times*, which goes to the combined circulation of all the Gulf Coast Media papers, is published on Fridays. Up to the minute news of events in Baldwin County is available on a continuing basis on its website, GulfCoastNewsToday.com. Two specialty magazines, *Beachin’* and *The Gulf Coast Visitors Guide* are published by the company as well.

Osteen Publishing, based in Sumter, S.C. purchased Gulf Coast Media from Bern Mebane in July 2014. Osteen publishes a daily paper, *The Item* in Sumter, as well as newspapers in Jacksonville, FL, and New Mexico. Osteen consolidated the operations of Gulf Coast Media in a new office building in Foley in 2015.

The Christian Service Center is grateful for partners like *The Islander* who help serve the needs of the residents and neighbors in Gulf Shores, Orange Beach, and Fort Morgan.

VOLUNTEERS



John and Kathi Henderson

By Janice Moss

What a team! Innovative, creative, resourceful and dedicated — that’s John and Kathi Henderson, long time volunteers in the Food Pantry. And, flexible! In addition to keeping inventory of the food in the pantry, they help stock the shelves, make food pick-ups (even at 11 p.m., if needed), work mobile pantry food drops, help with Christmas box distribution, deliver food to shut-ins, and deliver aluminum cans to a recycling site.

The Hendersons are native Alabamians who met while students at Auburn University. They graduated and married in 1983, then moved to Baldwin County where they have lived since. They have owned several businesses such as a clothing store, a bed and breakfast, and numerous other property endeavors. Of particular interest is Stacey Drugs in Foley which they owned and operated from 1990-2003. John renovated it into an Old Tyme Drugstore and brought back the soda fountain. He bought and installed the old fixtures and became a soda jerk! It was a great but demanding adventure.

Since then they have traveled and “piddled”, according to Kathi. They especially enjoy their rescue dogs, Domino and Jackson, which fits right in with their love for repurposing discarded items and renovating old homes.

With such a diverse background and their giving spirit, the Center is truly blessed to have them as a part of our volunteer team. Thank you, Kathi and John!

MEMORIAL GIFTS

William E. Colvin

Rod & Linda Chappelle
 Stan & Janice Moss
 Tim & Jennifer Jackson
 Diane Urban

Lance Criswell

Hanner's Enterprises

Scott Crosly's Father

Hanner's Enterprises

George Donaldson

Gary L. & Bente Howe

Anne Griffiths

Mary Jo & Russ Berver
 Margaret Jane Branemmer
 Rod & Linda Chappelle
 Stan & Janice Moss

Jacob Hawk

Hanner's Enterprises

Bernie Heinrich

Ellie Heinrich

Carter Jones

Davis White Salon, Inc.
 Kelly & Deborah Johnson
 Michael & Marcia Jones
 Diane C. Milligan
 Stan & Janice Moss
 Diane Urban
 Robert & Carol Walls
 Sally L. Wentworth

Rev. Stephen Kurtz Nephew

Phillip & Toni Turner

**Claude Laurier**

Rod & Linda Chappelle

Chris McDonough

Rod & Linda Chappelle
 Jerry & Faye Cook
 Judie & Sissy Flanigan
 W.R. & Julia G. Harland
 Don & Mary Lee Harms
 Tim & Jennifer Jackson
 Diane Urban

Ed Morelock

Ellie Heinrich

Ramona Jane Morgan

Rita C. Morgan

John Palmer

Agape Circle, GSUMC
 Airport Safe Storage
 John E & Melanie M. Balzer
 Susan K. Beaver
 W.R. & Hope Becklund
 R.T & B.K. Bennett
 Wade Bradford
 John & Rebecca Brennan
 Jerry & Karen Brown
 Bill & Nicole Browning
 Timothy J. Budden
 Rod & Linda Chappelle
 Jerry & Faye Cook
 George & Kathleen Donaldson
 John W. & Sandra Fisher
 Judie & Sissy Flanigan
 Ken & Amelia Fletcher

John Palmer *(continued)*

GSUMC Fellowship Class
 James E. & Pamela Gutshall
 W.R. & Julia G. Harland
 Don & Mary Lee Harms
 Kay Herrin
 Mary Hoefie
 Danny & Susan Kennamer
 Thomas & Diane Kleczwski
 Scott & Carol Kozlowski
 Eileen Krause
 Randy & Carol Krup
 Rev. Colton & Lana Langford
 Darlene M. McQuen
 John & Jan Morgan
 Stan & Janice Moss
 Sandra Kay Palmer
 William & Sandra Palmer
 Shirley Paulus
 Thomas & Susan Schmitz
 Alexander & Hilda Smth
 James D. & Janet L. Stenseth
 Thomas & Carole Strong
 Diane Urban
 Robert W. & Carole C. Walls
 W. G. Buzard Trust

Phil Royal

W.R. & Hope Becklund

Kenneth Thomas

Rod & Linda Chappelle
 Mary Lee Harms
 Stan & Janice Moss
 Shirley Paulus

Howard Zimmerman

Janet P. Zimmerman

HONOR GIFTS

**Her Children**

Helen P. Bolton

Paul & Nancy Heitenan

Gregory R. Bell

Stan Leiser

Jerry L. McGhee

A MERRIER CHRISTMAS FOR MANY



Lots of planning, busy hands and generous hearts made the Christmas season brighter for many families in our service area. Food Boxes were distributed to 275 families while over 600 children received gifts that they would not have otherwise received. The joint effort by area churches, local clubs, businesses and community members continued an eleven year tradition.

Sunny 105.7 FM co-sponsored the annual toy drive. New, unwrapped toys were brought to various drop-off points including Lulu's, Gulf Shores Family Pharmacy, Canal Road Animal Hospital, both locations of Wolf Bay Lodge, Moe's Original Bar-B-Q, McCarron Insurance, Franco's, Merrill Miller Interiors, Cox Pools, Benedettos, Old South Gold, all Tacky Jack's locations, Fanatic Fanz, The Hardware Store at GNG Plumbing, Wildflowers Boutique, Gulf Shores Insurance, Riviera Tire, South Baldwin Urgent Care, Sweet Repeats, The Meat Mart, Woodson Barge N and the Sunny 105 Studios.

In addition, Wildflower's Boutique and Fisher's Restaurant brought locals together to support the program. The event featured hors d'oeuvres, music by Jesse Duncan and a fashion show and raised more than \$9,000.

For the fourth year in a row, Terry Long and daughter Candace Duncan of Wildflowers Boutique along with Johnny Fisher of Fisher's Restaurant hosted "Locals Night" at the restaurant to support the program.



Even a group of Marines representing Toys for Tots showed up for this special event.



A great day of fellowship and fishing for red snapper last summer netted over \$2,000 for the Christian Service Center. In addition to Capt. Joe Nash hosting the trip, Rhual Knight and Ben Knight donated their tips, and Zeke's Marina donated fuel for the day. Joey Ward put forth a special effort to fill the charter. Capt. Joe Nash has hosted this annual fishing trip for several years and plans to do it again next year.



The children of Gulf Shores First Presbyterian Church Bible School chose to collect groceries for the Christian Service Center as their Mission Project last summer. Rev. Steven Kurtz is Pastor.



Sherry Dusko (l) and Betsy Savage (r) recently joined the CSC volunteer team to co-chair the Fundraising Committee.

Already at work on the Spaghetti Dinner, Dusko recently retired from the Gulf Shores and Orange Beach Tourism Association while Savage retired from the Coastal Alabama Business Chamber in 2015.

Welcome! You have accepted an enormous task.



Pictured left to right: Janice Moss, Vice President of the Christian Service Center, Larry and Teresa Luginbill, Teanna Nelson, Shirley Nelson, Ethan Nelson, Julie Martin, Cody Martin, and Lonnie Gjesvold representing Church of God: A World-wide Association

CHRISTIAN SERVICE CENTER

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If you prefer to receive the CSC Newsletter by email, please furnish your email address to cscenter1991@gmail.com.

**2017
 CALENDAR OF
 EVENTS**

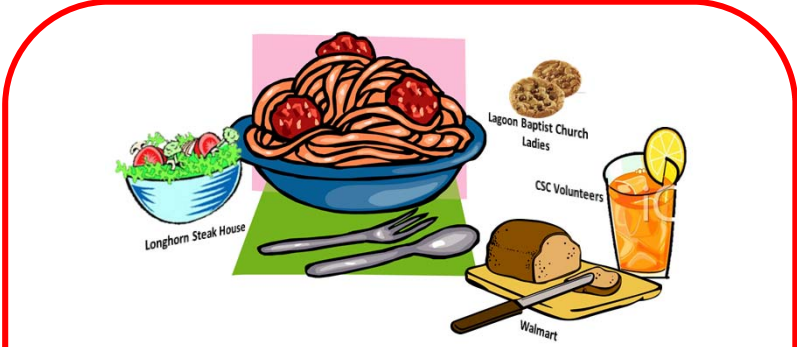
January	9	Board Meeting
	16	In-Service
February	11	Grace Lutheran Church Pancake Breakfast
	13	Board Meeting
	14	Snow Bird Bowling Tournament
	21	Spaghetti Dinner
	28	Office Closed: Mardi Gras
March	13	Board Meeting
April	10	Board Meeting
	14	Office Closed: Good Friday
May	8	Board Meeting
	29	Office Closed: Memorial Day
June	12	Board Meeting
July	3,4	Office Closed: Independence Day
August	14	Board Meeting
September	4	Office Closed: Labor Day
	11	Board Meeting
October	9	Board Meeting
November	13	Board Meeting
	22, 23, 24	Thanksgiving
December		No Board Meeting

December 18-January 1, 2018:
 Office Closed
 Tuesday, January 2, 2018:
 Office re-opens

**5th Annual All-States Snow Bird
 Charity Bowling Tournament**
Tuesday, February 14th, 2017 - 1 p.m.

Proceeds to benefit Christian Service Center
 Entry forms available at Gulf Bowl.
 For more information, contact tony at 251-970-3411
 Or email lintonpark@gulftel.com

**Hosted by The Wisconsin Club
 and Gulf Bowl**
 2881 S. Juniper Street, Foley AL
 Behind the Tanger Outlet Mall



16th Annual Spaghetti Dinner
Tuesday, February 21, 2017
Gulf Shores United Methodist Church
Building B Auditorium
4:30-7 p.m.
**Tickets (\$10) available at the Center
 & GSUMC Building B**
9 a.m. – 12 Noon Monday – Friday

Thanks!

PRINTING
 "We Don't Just Make Copies - We Make Friends"
ZONE

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