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# Fruit of *the Vine*

**HUNGER HURTS... WE CAN HELP!**

## Bread

We give away a lot of bread at our food pantry. Every week we give away loaves and rolls to whom-ever needs it. Sometimes we have more bread than we can give away.

I like that. Bread is important. It was so important in the time of Jesus that the word “bread” appears 62 times in the four gospels. It was a common but important food. In Matthew’s gospel Jesus multiplies bread to feed 5, 000 people, and on another occasion 4,000. Jesus knew how essential bread was to people’s well-being.

He also knew that people hunger for more than food for their bodies. They hunger for love, for a life that matters, for truth, and to be free from the fear of death. Jesus came to meet all of these needs,

and in John 6:35 Jesus says, “I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty.” We know he was not referring to physical hunger and thirst because later in the same gospel he prepares a meal of fish and bread for his disciples. Instead, he is declaring that He is the answer to our deepest hungers and longings. Jesus wants to give us a new type of life that will last forever.

Do you have that kind of relationship with Jesus? Would you like to? Anyone wearing a nametag at our Saturday morning food pantry can help you get started.

Bill Paxton,  
Executive Pastor



## How Are We Doing?

This Year through September 30, 2009

- Families Served 7,755
- Pounds of Food Distributed 338,186
- Number of New Families 1,683

# Fruit of

*Overheard: Your food shelf has the best food! I think you care about me as much as you serve the food. I needed this to get me through my problems. - Anonymous*

## Volunteer Corner



### You are invited!

Come and exercise the weapon we have against the enemy... Prayer!

Every Saturday morning at 8am we meet to intercede in prayer for the Church community, our leaders, the Fruit of the Vine ministry and its community (our neighbors) and our nation. We also focus on praying over the requests that come into the ministry.

We eagerly listen to voice of the Lord to see if He highlights anyone or situation; these are moments when the Kingdom breaks in and we are blessed

with a divine encounter, being the hands and feet of the Lord. Listening is one of the characteristic we need in "partnering with the Lord."

Praying for our community is as powerful as the deeds we perform as volunteers (James 2: 14-17). You can make a difference in our community and the life of someone the Lord brings to you. Be a world changer... pray!

Before volunteering on the Saturday morning stop in at 8am, you will be blessed!

Brian Geraty

## Celebrate Recovery

Celebrate Recovery Has come to our church. It began Tuesday, October 6th at 7 pm with a kick-off Bar-B-Q. Regular meetings are running every Tuesday from 7 to 9 pm. Childcare is provided. **WHAT'S MOST IMPORTANT IS THAT YOU CAN DECIDE ANYTIME THAT YOU WANT TO BE PART OF THESE EVENINGS. SIMPLY SHOW UP AND MARY KOVACS WILL MAKE YOU FEEL RIGHT AT HOME.**

**Celebrate Recovery** is a 12-step program based on Christian principles - the 8 beatitudes (go to Mathew's gospel ... Chap. 5, Versus 1-12 ... to find them listed). **Celebrate Recovery** is for whatever stands between you and God, and you and people. Everyone is welcome. "Has your life flat-lined?" **Celebrate Recovery** is a healing ministry of the Holy Spirit that will jump start your life. The program will run through the middle of May. Commit this time to Christ and be amazed at how He can transform you!

If you have any questions or would like to talk more about these very special evenings, please contact **Mary Kovacs** at 952-423-3929 or by email at [recovery@smvineyard.org](mailto:recovery@smvineyard.org).

# the Vine

*It happened: A few weeks back one of our volunteers prayed for work for a couple of our guests. They were both "out of work" PCA's (Professional Care Assistants). A few minutes later, another women in the line came over to one of them a said, "My sister is looking for someone to take car of one of her children." Let's hear it for prayer.*

## Compassion Ministry

The **Fruit of the Vine Food Shelf** will be open to the community starting Wednesday, November 4<sup>th</sup> from 6:30pm to 8pm. This mid-week distribution and ministry will be an extension of our every Saturday food shelf operation.

Our guests have the option of picking up food either on Saturday or Wednesday night under the same policies of one visit per month.

We believe the Lord has provided the Wednesday night food distribution to reach part of our community that is not able to come on Saturdays;

and to give our Saturday community an additional option to their normal monthly pickup.

The Fruit of the Vine will have ministry volunteers available to assist our neighbors and pray for their needs, trials and/or afflictions.

**If you are interested in volunteering** for the Wednesday night distribution please contact Ann Krenn at ([fotv@smvineyard.org](mailto:fotv@smvineyard.org)) or Brian Geraty at ([brian@smvineyard.org](mailto:brian@smvineyard.org)).

We ask the Lord of the harvest to provide the workers and provisions. Amen

### Healthy Flu Prevention Habits

- Cover your nose and mouth with a when you cough or sneeze. Throw the tissue in the trash after you use it. If a tissue is unavailable, cough or sneeze into your shoulder or elbow ... not your hands.
- Wash your hands often or use hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth.
- Get the seasonal flu vaccine and/or 2009 H1N1 flu vaccine, if recommended.
- Try to avoid close contact with the sick.
- Keep sick children at home.
- If you have flu-like symptoms (fever cough or sore throat), stay home for at least 24 hours after you are free of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications.

## Thinking about Volunteering?

We need help on Saturdays from 9 to 11:30 am. And we need people to come in on Fridays to stock shelves and bag groceries. We also need people available during the week to pick up food at various locations in our area. If this is something you want to be a part of, please contact Diana Dailey at [dailey.diana4@gmail.com](mailto:dailey.diana4@gmail.com).





# Bread Plus

## PRAYER NEEDS



I sort of want to pick-up where Bill left off in his article on the front page. When we see the people coming in each Saturday morning, it's easy to see both the expectations and the joy as people leave with at least part of their food needs met for the week.

The part we don't see are the other struggles that are so present in the families that come through our doors. I recently took a look through the prayer requests that people take the time to leave with us. Here's a sampling of what I found ...

*Liver cancer, auto accident, diabetes, job, laid off, getting off of drugs, financial freedom, provide for our family, rent money, a healing for blindness, seizures, family getting a divorce, cancer, no health insurance, health and happiness for our children, blood cancer, emotional healing, work, pay bills, a place to live, kidney failure, son in the military, good health, need a job, a guide to my future, back injury, peace and stability for my family, chronic pain, legal issues, swine flu virus, addiction, loss of a loved one, blood transfusion, job ... rent ... favor in court, drugs, jobs, financial stability, job for my husband, bills (especially mortgage), that my son will call me, leg pain, head injury, job, we lost the van we were living in, healing, work,*

*bone marrow transplant, rough times ... health-wise, depression, stage four thyroid cancer, hip replacement, getting through each day, husband being deported, son in the military, hard times, cervical cancer, stop smoking, out of work, jobless, kidney problems, job loss ... divorce, seeking residency, husband in Teen Challenge, help with money, job loss, depression, baby's health, find a home, major dental work, finances, mother in the hospital with heart illness, health ... employment, mom's surgery, diapers, knee replacement, healing from a heart attack, health ... family ... work, cataracts (needs surgery), addiction to prescription drugs, arthritis, get my job back, pain, job loss, car trouble, financial hardships ... divorce ... job loss, healing for a bad back, hepatitis, quit smoking, financial struggles, peace in the home ... less anger, help in keeping our home, strength to stay sober, neck problem, health and peace, family members who don't know Jesus, son in Iraq, daughters life choices, peace, car need, family safety, good grades in school, finish school and find a job, a place to stay ... keep my job, eye-sight, cancer, broken back, infidelity, depression, loss through suicide, 10 years of chronic illness, job, chest pain, job, cancer, financial relief.*

Recently, Pastor Greg reminded us that **only God can turn a crucifixion into a resurrection. Prayer is the answer.** Lets all of us lift up these needs to the Lord on a regular basis.

- Provision for Families affected by job loss and home loss
- Healing and Spiritual Growth for our Guests
- Wisdom for our Leaders
- Strength and Health for our Volunteers
- More Storage for Food
- God's continued Provision for Food and Goods
- For our new Wednesday evening distribution time.

We would like to say that **Prayer** is what supports the growth of the Food Shelf and wellbeing of our Volunteers and Guests.

We invite Church Members, Volunteers, and Guests to join us from 8—9 AM every Saturday morning for Prayer. We also have **Prayer Cards** available at the Hospitality Counter for our Guests to be able to write down their Prayer Needs. Each card will be prayed over individually. We are privileged to **Partner with God** in this way ...

Kim Geraty

## South Metro Vineyard Church

- Sunday Worship Service at 10:00 am
- Vineyard Kids (Infant & Toddler Nurseries, Preschool and K-5th Grade) every Sunday during the Worship Service
- Student Life Ministries (grades 6-12) Wednesdays 7:00—8:30 pm
- Prayer & Intercession Saturday mornings at 8:00 am.

### Fruit of the Vine Food Shelf

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