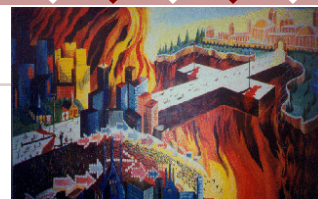


Believer's Assembly Church

131 Church Ave. North
P. O. Box 621
Beach City, Ohio 44608

Phone: 330-756-2900
www.bac-beachcity.org

August 17, 2010



Food Pantry update

Recently the numbers for the Kindergarten classes at the local school for the 2009/2010 school year were released. The number of students whose families are living at or below poverty level is at an all time high of 80%. As we all know, the number of needy families and individuals in our communities is still growing at an alarming rate. While all of us are susceptible to hard times, children and the elderly are at the most risk.

There had been a vision for a food pantry at our Church for many years but the time was never right. In 2008, it all 'fell' together and after much prayer we felt lead to move forward. The focus of this ministry would be to help those families who live in southern Stark and northern Tuscarawas counties. In December 2008 we were accepted as a member organization to the Akron Canton Regional Foodbank (ACRF) with purchasing rights as a small distribution member. Then in January 2009 we officially opened a food pantry and began distributing food and essentials to families in need, free of charge.

We saw a slow start in January with only 8 families in the area taking advantage of the ministry. The word soon spread that we had opened a food pantry in our Church. We have seen steady growth and by November and December 2009, we distributed food to over 60 families each month. Over the last six months, through this new ministry, we have blessed an average of 185 individuals each month. Approximately half of these are either under the age of 18 or over 60.

Our status with ACRF was reviewed in August 2009 and we were redefined as a medium size ministry in under a year. As we were applying to the ACRF for membership, we were approached by The Stark County Hunger Task Force (SCHTF). This organization had been looking for a way to help families in the area where our Church is located. Shortly after, we were added to the ministries supported by the SCHTF. With this support, they pay a portion of our monthly bill to the ACRF. With the support of these two agencies and direct donations from the community we purchased over 36,000 lbs of food in 2009. Most of the items distributed have been purchased at discounted prices from the ACRF.

This has brought many people into the Church that otherwise would not have stepped inside the doors. From this ministry we have been able to share the love of Jesus and witness to many people. Some have stayed and asked for prayer, a few have just needed someone to talk to, and others are just there for a handout. We pray for them as well.

We ask that you keep us in your prayers as we go forth to spread the Gospel and feed the hungry.

Tim Cooper

******In 2010 we were blessed with two donations from the 'Area Pastors Association' that will help pay for 8 months worth of food at our present distribution numbers. We have also had to remodel and enclose the picnic shelter to be used as the Food Pantry. This has given us more space for food storage and eliminated carrying the cases of food down the stairs for storage and then back up for distribution.

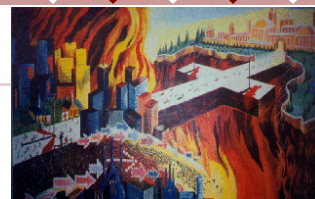
Matthew 25: 35- 40 For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me. Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink? When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee? Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee? And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.

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Food Pantry update page 2:



Step 1- We remodeled a picnic shelter, pored a concrete floor, wired for lights, fans, refrigerators, freezers, heat and A/C. Hung drywall and pored a sidewalk.



Step 2—Shelving was built and refrigerators and freezers moved in. Then it was time to stocked with food.



Step 3—Time to fill the boxes and bags for the families that will be arriving soon.