



The BRICK Ministries

Quarterly Newsletter

Volume 9, 2016

From the Director—

One of our recent job applicants asked me an important question during the interview process: What is your favorite part of your job?

My answer was easy. I love telling our story. Whether I'm speaking at a church, chatting with a volunteer, or writing a grant – sharing what we do and how we serve is my great joy! The reason is simple – The BRICK does a fantastic job serving our community with food and emergency financial aid.

The reason is complicated, too. I tell our story to different sectors for different reasons. I'll make a presentation to a group to share the basics of our mission and ministry. I'll be a guest at a board meeting to clarify the specifics of our programming. I'll give a tour to help someone *feel* just how much we do. I'll crunch numbers and gush statistics in a grant application. But ultimately, those activities all have the same long range purpose – to get the good news out about how we serve.

What do I actually say when I make our case?

- First I bring awareness to the need – the hardships our program participants face and what that really looks like.
- Next I describe our service ministries – the food shelf program and the benevolence program – and show that those ministries meet the need.
- Then I share how The BRICK is doing these things – how we implement our programming. That's where all those statistics come in – folks are often surprised to find out how many people use our pantry and how much food we distribute. They're even more surprised to learn that The BRICK is "more than just a food shelf," that we help our participants with overdue bills so they can stay in their homes and keep their water running.
- After that I really get going: I share how The BRICK is doing these things and *doing them well!* I emphasize that The BRICK is continually working toward excellence at every level. We have high expectations of all our personnel, volunteers and paid staff alike, starting with our board members and on to the volunteer who cleans the cooler. We keep on track by using our strategic plan as a guide. Staff members are encouraged to take advantage of learning opportunities to stay on top of their game. Board members are taking the lead on essential administrative initiatives. Our volunteers are stimulated by our regular in-service offerings. We're always looking inside and making improvements to ensure that we're doing the best job we can to provide services.
- Most important, I always bring it back around to The BRICK's mission: **to live Christ's message to compassionately love and respect those in need.** That is our guiding principle – the how and the why of our service ministry. Without that core, we'd be nothing.

I am grateful for all who care so much about friends and strangers alike that they join with The BRICK to serve.

Thanks to our Lord who so abundantly cares for each and every one of us here at The BRICK and beyond!

Liz Seefeldt, Executive Director

BENEVOLENCE

PJ Hyde

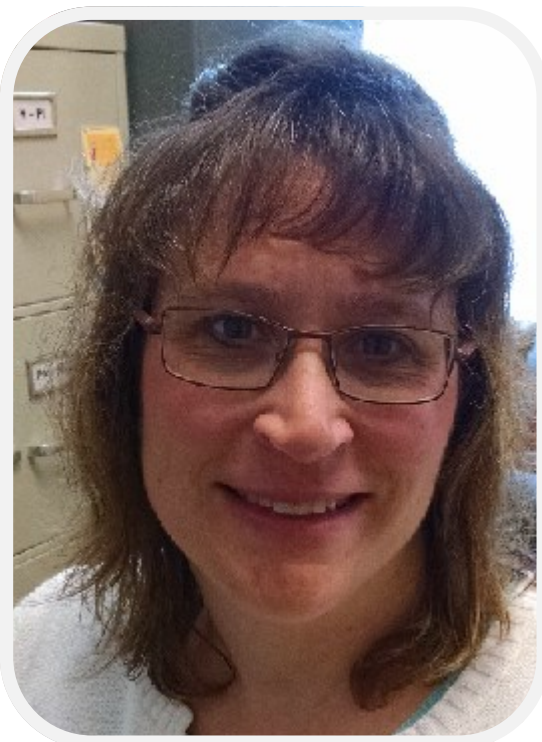
Benevolence Manager

Hi! I'd like to take a moment to introduce myself as the new Benevolence Manager here at The Brick. My name is Patricia-Jean Hyde. To make it easier for all, including myself, please call me PJ. I relocated last April to Ashland, WI from Lakeville, MN, just south of the Twin Cities, where I worked for the Schwan Food Company.

My education includes a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting obtained from UW-Parkside in Kenosha, WI. I spent much of my college term volunteering for different venues and activities. I found I had a passion for wanting to help people and do good things in my surrounding community, so when the opportunity to apply for the Benevolence Manager appeared, I was ecstatic to join The Brick.

My background includes 20 years of various accounting experiences and providing utmost professional customer service with exposure to various industries and collaboration with diverse individuals.

My down time is filled by my husband Vince and our children, Olivia and Devin. You will find us running to sports, enjoying the outdoors, visiting the local race track and spending time together as a family with my nieces and nephew in the cities.



DONATION FOR THE BRICK MINISTRIES, INC.

The BRICK welcomes your support in fulfilling its vision "To provide services and build relationships to change people's circumstances and lives through Christ." The BRICK Ministries, Inc. is a non-profit agency with 501(c) tax exempt status as determined by the IRS. 100% of your donation is tax deductible.

Enclosed is my gift of:

☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$500 ☐ \$1,000 ☐ Other \$ _____

Designate my gift to:

☐ Make A Difference Fund ☐ Food Shelf ☐ General

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____



Make checks payable to:
The BRICK Ministries
420 Ellis Ave
Ashland, WI 54806

Thank you

Office Manager

Emily Heald



My name is Emily Heald and I am excited to be the new Office Manager here at The BRICK! I grew up outside of Chicago, and have since lived in Ashland (to attend Northland College), the UP of Michigan, South Carolina, Minnesota (graduate school at the University of Minnesota Duluth), and now back to Ashland. During my travels I developed a strong background in volunteer management working with a conservation district in Illinois, and teaching in the Biology Department at the University of Minnesota. I started as a volunteer at The BRICK in November of 2015, and I truly share The BRICK's core values of demonstrating compassion, respect, passion and collaboration to help change people's circumstances and help those in need. I am an outdoor enthusiast, and enjoy hiking, fishing, camping, and cross country skiing with my partner, John, and our dog, Bug. I look forward to meeting everyone in the next few months!

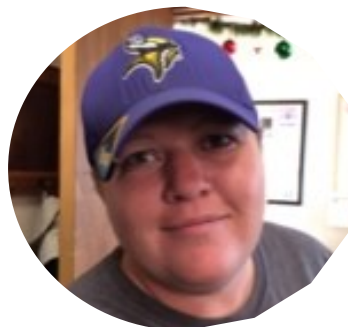
Upcoming Events

- 4/01/16: Volunteer In-Service: Meet Emily and PJ at The BRICK, Ashland, 1-2p.m.
- 4/02/16: Empty Bowl Event for Cable Area Food Shelf, Cable Community Center, 4:30-7p.m.
- 4/14/16: Board of Directors Meeting, Saron Lutheran Church, 5:15p.m.
- 4/29/16: Volunteer Event
- 5/12/16: Board of Directors Meeting, Saron Lutheran Church, 5:15p.m.
- 5/20/16: Grill-Out hosted by Northwoods Community Credit Union, 121 Main Street, Ashland, 11a.m.-1p.m.
- 5/27/16: Volunteer Event
- 6/02/16: Board Meeting, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 5:15p.m.
- 6/02/16: Annual Meeting, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 6:00p.m.



New and Familiar Faces

Cheriee Jarecki



Cheriee is native to Ashland and has been familiar with The BRICK's services for several years. She joined our volunteer team recently in October 2015, and has hit the ground running! Cheriee has been involved in several aspects of our volunteer opportunities including food shelf assistance, working the front desk, assisting in Walmart food runs, and helping out at Book Across the Bay. She became interested in volunteer work because she realized how much the BRICK does for our community, and wanted to help give back. When Cheriee first started she was worried about interacting with staff and volunteers, but those worries quickly melted away. "You guys feel like family to me now. I have a big family but I can always use more!" Volunteering at the BRICK has taught Cheriee the importance of giving back and helping others, and is something she deeply enjoys. In her free time, Cheriee is all about the outdoors and enjoys softball, fishing, and hunting.

Sheila Urling



Born and raised in Southern Minnesota, Sheila moved to Ashland to attend Northland College. After falling in love with the Northwoods, Sheila and her husband decided to stay. Sheila had a successful career as an elementary school teacher at Our Lady of the Lake, and after retiring in 2010 had extra time to give back to the community through volunteer work. Sheila has been with us for over 5 years! She is also very involved with Faith in Action. Over the years, Sheila has seen The BRICK flourish into a great community resource, and has observed more and more clients partaking in our services. She believes The BRICK is living the Gospel's story of Jesus feeding the multitudes, and is very grateful to be a part of that on Tuesday mornings. Thanks for all your volunteer time, Sheila!

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has." Margaret Mead



Jim McPhetridge

Food Shelf Manager

Hello from inside the food shelf!

Another winter come and *almost* gone, with spring knocking on the door. How fortunate we have been to have a more mild winter— helping to keep some of the heating and other costs down.

Here in the food shelf we've also been fortunate and blessed to have plentiful donations and volunteer support to serve those in need. Our communities here in the northland are most generous, and seemingly understand that "hunger is not seasonal." I thank God for all of you who continually reach out to help those in need, whether by food/financial donations or through volunteering. If you have not partnered with The BRICK for awhile, I encourage you to join in on the efforts we share in fighting hunger. There is always room for volunteers and donations. Here's a little idea of what you would be partnering in...

We have outlying food pantries in Mellen, Cornucopia, and Cable, serving people in Ashland and Bayfield Counties. In 2015 we distributed over 415,000 lbs. of food at our four locations. An average of 700 households (1,600 people) per month were blessed by our amazing community generosity.

THANX for helping to fight hunger! Have a great God day!



From the Board Room

Welcome, Steve Wammer!



Steve Wammer grew up in northern Minnesota (Audubon) and attended Concordia College. He has lived in Ashland for 17 years with his wife Debbie (a Grantsburg, Wis. native) and their 18 year old triplets Emily, Sam, and Jake. They are members of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. He works in the athletic department at Northland College where he coaches softball and is in charge of National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) compliance. Steve is also a member of the Ashland Rotary. He is excited about joining The BRICK Board of Directors and looks forward to playing an active role.

Satellite Spotlight



Helping Hands Food Shelf: Mellen, WI

Hello from Mellen's Helping Hands Food Shelf. We are celebrating our five year anniversary this March. None of this would have been possible without our fearless leader, Bill Polencheck, and our small army of volunteers who pitch in many hours to get everything just right for distribution.

We are very fortunate to be one of the four food outlets of The BRICK Ministries, Inc. We appreciate the advice and guidance we get from The BRICK. We are thankful for Food Shelf Manager Jim McPhetridge. He delivers a van packed full of food every month. How good is that??? We are thankful for Wal-Mart, Super One, and all our donors for all the food they donate that helps pack that van!

We have donations from local businesses here in Mellen. Superior Credit Union donates money every year. The Congregational United Church of Christ has an offering every month for us. The City of Mellen donates the room where the food shelf is located. That's just the tip of the iceberg. We have many generous businesses and people that donate. Thank you to all of our time-giving volunteers!

This past year we gave out 22,609 pounds of food to 891 individuals! Thank you to everyone who makes all this possible.

Carol Becker

Food Shelf Locations and Hours



Ashland, 420 Ellis Ave., Mondays-Wednesdays, 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.; Thursdays, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.



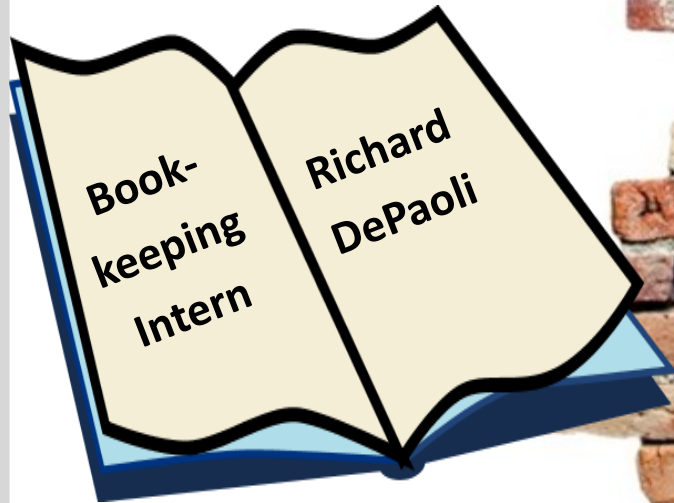
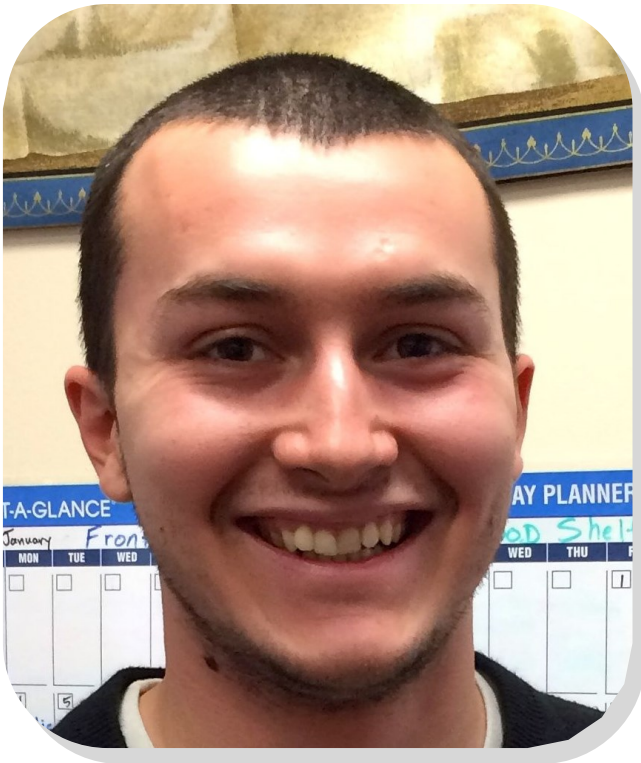
Cable Area Food Shelf, 13380 Spruce St., 4th Thursday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.



South Shore Food Shelf, Cornucopia, Bell Community Ctr., 1st and 3rd Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.



Helping Hands Food Shelf, Mellen, Mellen City Hall, 102 Bennett St, Mellen, 3rd Thursday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.



My name is Richard DePaoli III. I am a student at Northland College pursuing a degree in Business Management with a minor in Environmental Studies. I am an intern for The BRICK through April of 2016, and will continue my experience here as the bookkeeper for the organization. I first started working at The BRICK in November of 2015 not having any experience in the work place other than simple school jobs and bussing for restaurants, let alone non-profit organizations. When I first started I was nervous but dedicated. I knew interning here would help me gain experience in the business world and help me gain some knowledge of handling finances, which is my long-run goal in life.

As a business major, I am constantly looking to improve my communication skills with members of the community and businesses in the community. I have always been a people person at heart, so I am thankful that my internship allows me to communicate not only with the staff, but also the constant stream of volunteers who dedicate their free time to helping the community, and the members of the community who are coming in to utilize the food bank.

I never had any experience with or exposure to The BRICK before joining the team. I had only come across the name in a few class conversations and only knew about their food shelf program. It wasn't until starting at The BRICK that I learned about all the amazing things they do with helping the community in Ashland, as well as other communities like Mellen, Cable, and Cornucopia. Learning about the dedication that all the staff puts in to make this community and the communities around better places just makes me want to be a part of that team and dedicate myself just as much as they do to help.

I am so grateful to be a part of The BRICK family and I hope to continue my work and my relationship with them for a long time, while I am in the Ashland area and after I leave to start my life. Working here has helped me gain skills with organization, communication, as well as financial software, such as QuickBooks, which can help me in my field for the rest of my life. I plan to do my best while I am here and help better them in any way possible, and will always consider them my family, even after I leave.

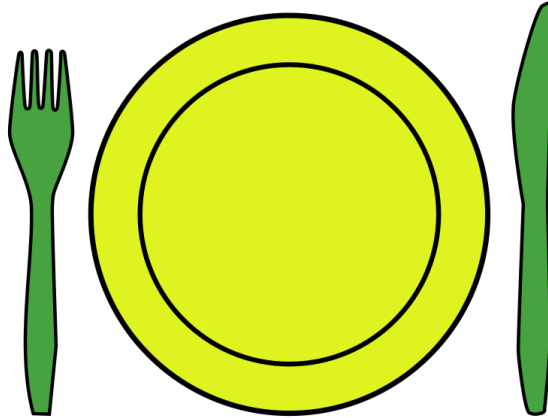
Community Meals

at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

620 3rd St. West, Ashland WI

at the corner of Chapple Ave.

(Enter church hall around the back)



Free meals for anyone in the Ashland area

All are welcome!

Join friends and neighbors for some good home cooking!

Friday Dinners 5:30 p.m. – 7 p.m.

Sunday Soup 5:00 p.m. – 6 p.m.

Meals are provided by area churches, organizations, and individuals.

Questions? Call Marisa, kitchen manager, at (920)284-5216



Join Us!
April 2nd
4:30 – 7pm

Cable's 5th Empty Bowl Event
Cable Community Center

- \$10 for adults, children under 10 are FREE
- Choose a unique bowl of wood, ceramic, glass, or metal to take home with you
- Price includes bowl, delicious soup, and bread
- Entertainment by local musicians
- Silent auction featuring variety of donations from area artists and food shelf supporters



All proceeds benefit the Cable Area Food Shelf

Open to everyone!

FIRST SATURDAY OF EVERY MONTH

Ashland Community
First Saturday



Food Distribution

\$30

Bretting Community Center

400 - 4th Ave W., Ashland

Starting at 10 a.m.

Question/Volunteer? Call Bruce Hoekstra

715-209-1246

Covenant Churches

Ashland Seventh Day Adventist Church

622 10th St. W – Ashland WI 54806

715/682-5877

Cable Congregational United Church of Christ

13445 County Trunk M – Cable WI 54821

715/798-3066

Chequamegon Community Church of Assembly of God

1451 County Hwy. C – Washburn, WI 54891

715/373-2939

Congregational United Church of Christ

117 West Street – Mellen, WI 54546-0019

715/274-2203

First Assembly of God

315 10th Street West- Ashland WI 54806

715/274-2203

First Covenant Church

600 MacArthur Ave – Ashland WI 54806

715/292-5193

First Lutheran Church

83105 Washington Ave – Port Wing WI 54865

715/774-3576

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

311 13th St. West – Ashland WI 54806

715/682-4510

Grace Bible Fellowship

73605 State Hwy 13—Washburn WI 54891

715/373-1175

Grand View United Methodist Church

22180 US Hwy 63—Grand View WI 54839

715/763-3340

Immanuel Lutheran Church

22555 Elm St.—Cornucopia WI 54827

715/742-3440

Messiah Lutheran Church

231 West 5th Street—Washburn WI 54891

715/373-5378

Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church

106 North 2nd Ave. E—Ashland WI 54806

715/682-7620

St. Mary's Catholic Church

Odanah WI 54861

715/682-7620

Salem Baptist Church

1616 Beaser Avenue—Ashland WI 54806

715/682-3934

Sanborn United Methodist Church

42745 County Hwy E—Ashland WI 54806

715/278-3955

Saron Lutheran Church

517 9th W—Ashland WI 54806

715/682-2376

United Presbyterian and First Congregational Church

214 Vaughn Ave—Ashland WI 54806

715/682-3093

Washburn United Methodist Church

326 Washington Ave—Washburn WI 54891

715/373-2696

Zion Lutheran Church

1111 11th Ave W—Ashland WI 54806

715/682-6075

THE BRICK MINISTRIES, INC.

420 ELLIS AVENUE

ASHLAND, WI 54806

Phone 715-682-7425

Fax 715-682-7427

www.thebrickministries.com

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



The BRICK

Ministries Inc.

Believers Reaching Individuals for Christ's Kingdom

Our Mission: The BRICK lives Christ's message to compassionately love and respect those in need.

Our Vision: To provide services and build relationships to change people's circumstances and lives through Christ.

Board of Directors

Sue Reader, President, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Ashland

Teri L. Hanson, Treasurer, Cable Congregational United Church of Christ, Cable

Verna L. Orme, Secretary, Salem Baptist Church, Ashland

William J. Holzhaeuser, Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church, Ashland

Esther Marie Pufall, Saron Lutheran Church, Ashland

Steven M. Wammer, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Ashland

Staff

Liz Seefeldt, Executive Director

director.thebrick@centurytel.net

PJ Hyde, Benevolence Manager

benevolence.thebrick@centurytel.net

Jim McPhetridge, Food Shelf Manager

foodshelfmanager.thebrick@centurytel.net

Emily Heald, Office Manager

officemanager.thebrick@centurytel.net