



The BRICK Ministries

Quarterly Newsletter

Volume 14 2017

From the Director—

Spring has been full of new ventures for The BRICK. As our Board of Directors made plans for 2017, they agreed that our organization has to reach out to a larger audience for support. We need the whole community behind us to be successful in our work. With that in mind, The BRICK hosted four events this spring and participated in three more!

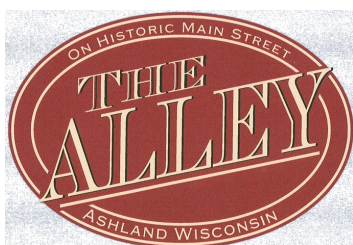
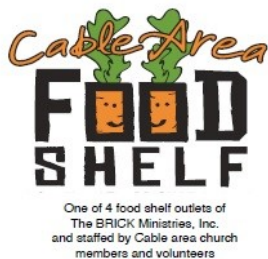
Our thanks go out to Hugo's Pizza, The Alley Restaurant, and Culver's for their generous donations of time and staff toward our fundraisers, and also to the Cable community for the outpouring of gifts to make our 6th Annual Empty Bowl a huge success. Many thanks to Northwoods Community Credit Union for hosting their 5th Annual Grill-Out to support our Benevolence Program, to the Firefly Trading Co. for their spring sale to support our Cable Area Food Shelf, and to the Ashland School District Art Department's 2nd Annual Empty Bowl to support our Food Shelf Program's Ashland Pantry.

These events are important as fundraisers, but that's not their only purpose. They give The BRICK exposure in our community. They let people outside our circle learn about what we do and support our work. Folks get a chance to recognize our board members and volunteers as vested in our organization, and that connection goes far in extending our good reputation.

We have big plans in store for more community involvement. We're rolling out our first annual 24 Hour Radio-A-Thon! This family friendly event will include soccer-mini golf, football skills competition, and a sock hop, as well as a huge raffle! We hope you'll join in the fun on Friday and Saturday, September 8 and 9. We'll be here at The BRICK with the folks from Heartland Communications broadcasting live about all the important ways we serve our community and how we all can make a difference. Don't miss this fantastic event!

Until then – we'll keep serving all summer long!

Liz Seefeldt, Executive Director





South Shore Food Shelf: Cornucopia, WI

With summer comes transition at the South Shore food shelf. Our founders, Judy and Kermit Del Main, are stepping aside from active management of the food shelf. In their place John and Diane Hall and Jerry and Penny Erickson are sharing management duties. Al Reedy is continuing to maintain inventory tracking, and also ensures that all reports are forwarded to our Food Shelf Manager Jim McPhetridge at the home office. Judy and Kermit will still be supporting the food shelf, and we appreciate all they have done to make this successful. Besides the shift in management, we are seeing old friends back from their winter homes and ready to step in to help. The South Shore Food Shelf is located in Cornucopia at the Community Center. We serve folks primarily from Red Cliff to the East, Port Wing to the West, and Herbster and Cornucopia in between. We are open from 10am - 3pm the first and third Thursdays of each month. If you would like to help out, please contact Office Manager Kris Westlund. If you need assistance, please stop in!

John and Diane Hall



TransCanada Corporation Community Investment Fund Supports Food Shelf Program

Many thanks to the TransCanada Corporation Community Investment Fund for their recent grant award for The BRICK's Food Shelf Program. TransCanada Corporation operates the Great Lakes Gas Transmission pipeline, which runs through our area from Emerson, Manitoba to St. Clair, Ontario. And provides access to natural gas for residents in two Canadian provinces and three U.S. states. TransCanada is committed to giving back to the communities where they operate. In 2015, TransCanada directed more than \$14.7 million to over 1,400 non-profit organizations across North America. The corporation recognizes that "No one understands the needs and priorities of a community better than the people who live and work within it." The BRICK is fortunate to have local TransCanada employees Jeff Punjak and John Schmidt recommend the organization to TransCanada's Community Investment team. The BRICK's Board of Directors, staff, volunteers, and especially its program participants are grateful for TransCanada's support.

For more information about the TransCanada Corporation and its work as a community partner go to <http://www.transcanada.com/> and select "Our Responsibility."



Sharon Manthei



When asked to write an article on a volunteer for this newsletter I was dumbfounded! They are all so amazing in so many ways, but one really stands out to me. Sharon Manthei has been a volunteer here at The BRICK Ministries, Inc. for three years. This is not the only organization that she spends time helping. She delivers Meals on Wheels, works at the reception desk at The Senior Center and is the Official Girl Scout Cookie Lady. From what she tells me, her whole house is full of boxes of cookies during distribution time! And she buys extra and donates them to our food pantry. The people love it!

Sharon usually runs the front desk in Ashland and is the first person the participant sees and talks to upon entering the building. You wouldn't believe some of the hard questions we get when answering the phones or in person, but she handles them all with grace and knowledge. She is always willing to fill in a gap when another volunteer is unable to come in, whether it is in the office or the food pantry. She knows the ins and outs of how this place runs and we are blessed to have her here! Last month she and I represented The BRICK at the Iron River Health Fair and had a great time. She knows everyone! She also ran the exhibit with Emily at the Ashland Senior Expo last year, but will be in Norway this year, so I will need to bring someone else. I will let her off the hook this time. She deserves it! Thank you Sharon!

We are always looking for new volunteers. Please stop in for a tour and a chat to see where you can fit in. We have different projects going all of the time. Please consider spending some of your time here with us. Our participants would love to see your smiling face. It is a blessing to be a blessing!

Kris Westlund, Office Manager



Jim McPhetridge

Food Shelf Manager

Hello from inside the Food Shelf,

Summer is finally here J, at least for a few days in-between all the rain drops. This year, so far, has kept us quite busy. Local food drives, personal donations, and of course the Letter Carriers' Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive, were all a great success again this year and very beneficial to those we serve here at The BRICK. Our fantastic volunteer crew once again stepped up to the plate and did an outstanding job. Over 25 volunteers came together and in one day date-checked, sorted, and stocked the nearly 8,000 pounds of food that was received at our four pantry locations – Mellen, Cornucopia, Cable and Ashland. Many thanks to our great crew of volunteers, the generous community donors, and the local area postal carriers for their combined efforts to help hundreds of Ashland and Bayfield County residents in their times of need.

Have a blessed and wonderful summer.

The Benevolence Program has been very busy assisting several of our Ashland and Bayfield County residents with their rent and utility bills these past few months.

We have had the pleasure of having, two very intelligent, caring women to start volunteering with the Benevolence Program. These volunteers help with the administrative paperwork for our participants. With the assistance of these volunteers, Ellie Zimmer and Laura Nabozny, we have been successful in the following:

- Developing a database to collect more detailed data regarding the demographics of our participants to be used in grant applications
- Initiating an Outcome Survey to determine how our participants are faring financially six months from the time they met with the Benevolence Manager
- Executing a retention schedule for our participant files to remove older files securely and make room for new files

As our program continues to grow, our BRICK volunteers play a vital role in the behind-the-scenes administrative duties that sustain the Benevolence Program “to provide services and build relationships to change people’s circumstances and lives through Christ.”



06/08/17: Board Meeting, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 5:15 p.m.

06/08/17: Annual Meeting, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 6:00 p.m.

06/20/17: Culver’s Night Out, 4:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

06/30/17: Volunteer Event

07/13/17: Board Meeting, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 5:15 p.m.

07/28/17: Volunteer Event

07/29/17: Sea to Sea: Cycling to End Poverty Picnic at Prentice Park

08/10/17: Board Meeting, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 5:15 p.m.

08/25/17: Volunteer Event

09/8-9/17: 24 Hour Radio-A-Thon

Office Manager Kris Westlund

When I began my journey

with The BRICK years ago working with the churches to get the Cable Area Food Shelf started, I did not imagine that I would eventually be the new Office Manager here in Ashland! It has always been a passion of mine to help those in need, since I myself grew up in poverty with very little food or money available. It is truly an honor to work with such an amazing staff and Board



Members who are dedicated to this cause.

Before I was hired on I went on my way, dealing with my own struggles in life - updating my Facebook status or rushing from work to get to the kids' game that night - not realizing so many in our area have no place to sleep and no food to feed their children. I was unaware that many of the people walking the streets of Ashland who wear backpacks are not students at Northland or WITC, but are homeless - sleeping in the woods or alley ways or at an acquaintance's home until they can find more permanent housing. Many are on disability or have had something happen recently that has left them disarranged. Everything snowballs. There seems to be no end. It is always something. They get discouraged and come here in distress, not knowing where to turn or what to do. The BRICK is a safe place; a refuge in time of trouble; a ray of hope. We do whatever we can to help, whether it is to feed, clothe, shelter, or provide transportation. Sometimes just being a compassionate ear is all we can do, but it is what they need most at the time. We see such a great need every day that we are unable to fulfill all of the requests. I did not know there were so many people with their lives upside down in crisis.

I am truly amazed at the generosity of the people of Ashland and Bayfield Counties who give joyfully for these hurting people. Each and every day we receive donations of volunteer time, food, and money. I pray that what is given is blessed and multiplied because the God we serve is a mighty and awesome God, caring for all people, in all sorts of ways. The need is great, not only around the world, but here in our own community.

Please be aware. Open your eyes and hearts to the needy. See them as family needing a hand up, not a handout. That is "Our Vision: To provide services and build relationships to change people's circumstances and lives through Christ." He is our Living Hope! And He is working here at The BRICK Ministries in us and through us. Thank you for being a vital part of meeting the need. The community thanks you, and I also thank you.

I am excited to see what God does each and every day here at The BRICK and am grateful for the opportunity to serve Him here. If you are interested in helping out with your time please stop in and get a volunteer application. There is always something fun to do!

Have a great summer!

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 Jan.-Oct., 3rd Thursday Nov.-Dec., 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.

8th Annual Jack O'Brien

Memorial Charity Golf Tournament

Join in the fun and competition!!!

All proceeds go to The BRICK and Faith In Action-Ashland County
Food and Personal Care donations for The BRICK gratefully accepted.

- ♦ **DATE & TIME:** Saturday, July 29, 2017, 11:00 am shotgun start
(Sandwiches & Refreshments available on the course)
- ♦ **EVENT:** 2-Person Team, 18-Hole Scramble With Divisions According
to Skill Level
- ♦ **PRIZES:** New Car/Cash, Brewers or Twins Tickets, Raffles!
- ♦ **DINNER & SOCIAL HOUR:** The Niblick Bar & Grill, Social Hour at
4:30 pm, Dinner at 5:30 pm
- ♦ **ENTERTAINMENT:** Stagecoach Bar & Grill 8pm-Midnight, No
cover, Donations to charities
- ♦ **ENTRY FEES:** \$55 per person (the entry fee includes dinner)
- ♦ **ENTRIES:** Received By July 17, 2017 guarantees a golf cart
- ♦ **TO ENTER:** Email address below for entry form, to be mailed in with
payment
- ♦ **QUESTIONS:** Call (715) 682-8004 or email mlindberg@pga.com



Covenant Churches

Ashland Seventh-day Adventist Church

622 10th Ave. W — Ashland WI 54806

(715) 682-5877

Cable Congregational United Church of Christ

13445 County Hwy. M — Cable WI 54821

(715) 798-3066

Chequamegon Community Church of Assemblies of God

1451 County Hwy. C — Washburn, WI 54891

(715) 373-2939

Congregational United Church of Christ

117 West St. — Mellen, WI 54546-0019

(715) 274-2203

First Assembly of God

315 10th St. W — Ashland WI 54806

(715) 274-2203

First Lutheran Church

83105 Washington Ave. — Port Wing WI 54865

(715) 774-3576

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

311 13th St. W — 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 5th St. W — 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

c/o 106 North 2nd Ave. E — Ashland WI 54806

(Odanah, WI 54861)

(715) 682-7620

Salem Baptist Church

118 2nd Ave. E — 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 Ave. 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

PO Box 27

(715) 373-2696

Zion Lutheran Church

1111 11th Ave. W — Ashland WI 54806

(715) 682-6075

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIIES

Do you love to work with people? What about gardening? Do you have a passion for paperwork? Whatever your skill, we have a place for you!

Most of The BRICK's daily tasks are performed by volunteers. In 2016, our volunteers performed over 7,300 hours of work worth more than \$164,300! Join The BRICK's volunteer team and YOU can make a contribution to serve our community!!

We have an ongoing need for:

- **Pantry Assistants**
- **Receptionists**
- **Food Pick Up/Delivery Assistants**
- **Benevolence Program Assistants**

Later this summer we'll need folks to join the **BRICK Pickers**. Help us harvest the gleanings at local gardens, farms, and orchards!!

Contact Kris at 715-682-7425 or officemanager.thebrick@centurytel.net for an application!

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 501(c)(3) tax exempt status as determined by the IRS. 100% of your donation is tax deductible.

Enclosed is my gift of (circle one):

\$30 \$50 \$100 \$500 \$1,000 Other \$ _____

Designate my gift to (circle one):

Make a Difference Fund Food Shelf General

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____



Make checks payable to:

The BRICK Ministries

420 Elis Ave.

Ashland, WI 54806

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

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

James R. Matzinger, Treasurer, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Ashland

Julie M. Stipetich, Secretary, St. Peter Catholic Church, Dauby

James F. Deters, United Presbyterian & First Congregational Church, Ashland

Jeffery R. Muse, Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church, Ashland

Esther Marie Pufall, Saron Lutheran Church, Ashland

Steven M. Wammer, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Ashland

Staff

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Jim McPhetridge, *Food Shelf Manager*

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Kris Westlund, *Office Manager*

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