



The BRICK Ministries

Quarterly Newsletter

Volume 36, December 2022



From the Director—

Every year as the holidays roll around, I'm asked "Are you seeing a lot more people coming to The BRICK?" My standard answer is not just a simple yes/no. That's because each program participant has their own unique situation. People use our services for a range of reasons, so my response has to be just as nuanced. Generally, I reply that, while pantry use may be up or down, there's a different vibe during the holidays. We all feel the pressure to perform – have the perfect gifts, the perfect tree, a spotless house with all the right decorations. For folks who have fewer resources in the first place, that pressure is even greater. How can you have a big spread for the whole family, when it's a struggle to just put food on the table? This unspoken expectation creates a lot of tension, especially when it's hard to make ends meet.

The holiday meal is one way that The BRICK can help. Throughout November and December, we've been distributing extra entrée items at all four of our pantries. In addition to the customary portion, pantry shoppers have been eligible for an extra turkey, turkey breast, pork loin, ham, or whole chicken, depending on household size. We know that this is one small gesture, and it won't solve all our consumers' issues, but we share the bounty because we believe that *everyone* should be able to celebrate the season. If we can ease the pressure just a little, that's a success.

But The BRICK doesn't do this in a void. We share that bounty, that love, because we know we are loved. The same goes for all those who support our work. Volunteers help in nearly every aspect of our organization – from sorting food for the pig farmer to serving on our board of directors. The network of churches holds up our program participants by promoting our work, by making monetary and in-kind donations, and through their prayers. The business community pitches in with sizeable annual donations to ensure The BRICK is fiscally sound. Grantmakers recognize The BRICK's value to the community with their financial backing. The BRICK is truly a group effort. THANK YOU!!

As we prepare for Christmas and the New Year, I'm grateful for all that we have and all that we're able to share. Peace and Joy to you and yours -

Liz Seefeldt, Executive Director



Outlet Buzz

Cable Area Food Shelf

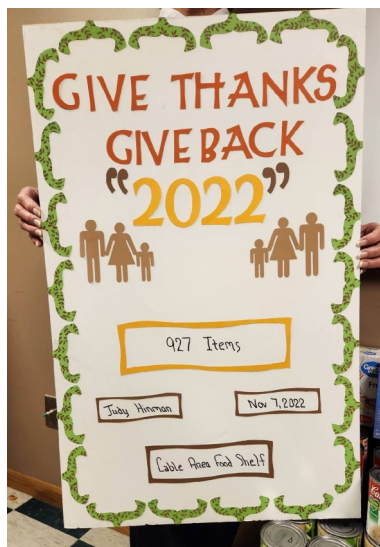
Volunteers at the Cable Area Food Shelf are a strong and dedicated team. They really know how to make connections in their community and get local residents behind the pantry.

Earlier this fall they organized a community food drive. They promoted it through the local churches: St. Ann's Catholic Church, Trinity Lutheran Chapel, Living Hope Community Church, and the Cable United Church of Christ. They also partnered with Lakewoods Resort and Rondeaus Shopping Center to work toward their 500-item goal. Thanks to all their hard work and the generosity of so many community members, they collected nearly double what they had hoped with an overall tally of 927 items!

That target of 500 donations was the benchmark to be eligible for a gift from Thrivent Financial of \$500. Everyone was excited to

learn that Thrivent doubled the monetary donation to \$1,000!

"What a blessing to have such amazing support from our community and also outside organizations," says co-organizer Kari Bjork. Judy Hinman, Chris Radloff, and Kari worked their hearts out on this event and we're all grateful!



With the holidays upon us, our thoughts turn to gratitude.

Firstly, we are very grateful to our in-kind donors. Food donations tend to increase this time of year and we are thankful for the drives and wish-list requests. As our food shelf participants visit The BRICK once a month, holiday food donations in October is the optimal time to ensure your food is offered all of November and December. As the season continues, perhaps



Chris Duke of Great Oak Farm brings in a donation of organic squash!

consider a donations of personal care items or cleaning products (shampoo, diapers, dish and laundry soap).

Also, we are happy to work with Washburn IGA and fortunate to be able to supply holiday meats for all of our consumers at all four of our pantries.

And lastly, we are so very grateful for our hard-working crew of volunteers – without them, we would never be able to help feed so many. Thanks for all you do!



- 12/08/22:** Board Meeting, 7:15 p.m., The Local
- 12/09/22:** Volunteer Christmas Potluck: 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
- 12/11/22:** Saron Bells Muscalle, 12:30 p.m., Saron Lutheran Church
- 01/12/23:** Board Meeting, 5:30 p.m., The BRICK
- 01/27/23:** Volunteer In-Service: 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m., De-escalation training with guest speaker Brittany Kuka, Chequamegon Counseling
- 02/09/23:** Board Meeting, 5:30 p.m., The BRICK
- 02/24/23:** Volunteer In-Service: 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

BENEVOLENCE



Alice Evenson

Benevolence Manager



Have you ever wanted to help people in your community? My name is Alice Evenson, I am the new Benevolence Manager at the BRICK. It's always been important for me to help others in my community. After all my children were old enough to be in school, I began looking for different places to volunteer. I'd heard about The BRICK through my church, and when I saw they needed volunteers, I took the opportunity. I knew after volunteering that first day that I wanted to be a part of what The BRICK does.

My husband, Larry, and I have lived in Ashland most of our lives and it's where we've chosen to raise our six children. I enjoy being an active part of this community. I worked at the New Day Shelter (now New Day Advocacy Center) for 10 years. It was through my work at New Day that I realized my passion for working one-on-one with people. Once Larry and I began our own family, I quit working outside the home to take care of our children. Staying at home allowed me to make connections and work with other parents and families in the area. Being the Benevolence Manager allows me to make connections with The BRICK's program participants and work side by side with different partner agencies. I love working at The BRICK and I look forward to helping consumers in the future.



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 Thursdays, Nov.-Dec., 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.



South Shore Food Shelf, Cornucopia, Bell Community Ctr., 22615 Co.
Hwy. C, 1st and 3rd Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.



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



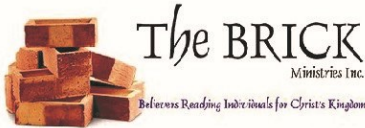
Saron Bells Christmas Musicale Sunday Dec. 11

12:30 pm

517 9th Ave West
Ashland, WI
Enjoy listening to your
favorite carols by the
Saron Bells



**A free-will offering to benefit
The BRICK Ministries will be
accepted**



Enjoy listening to your
favorite carols by the
one and only Saron
Bells! Join Saron
Lutheran Church's
talented Bell Choir for an
afternoon of holiday
music, led by Director
Peg Sandin.

- **DATE:** Sunday,
December
11, 2022
- **TIME:** 12:30 p.m
- **PLACE:** Saron Lutheran
Church
- **FREE WILL DONATION:**
Thank you for your gift
to support The BRICK's
work to serve our
community!
- **REFRESHMENTS:**
Served after the
performance

FROM THE OFFICE

Cheyenne Reeves



Holiday season is here! It's a busy
time around the office, and I cannot
express just how grateful I am to
have so many wonderful individuals
to work alongside each day here at
The BRICK. As of October, 160
volunteers have contributed an
average of about 418 hours per month
to our organization. Thank YOU for

your time and generosity! We couldn't do it without you.

As we approach the busiest time of the year, we could use extra hands on deck
to help out around our Ashland homesite. In particular, we need additional Front
Desk Assistants, Food Shelf Assistants, and Warehouse
Assistants. If you would like to learn more information about
current volunteer opportunities, please contact me at (715) 682-
7425 | officemanager@thebrickministries.org.

Wishing you all a sweet and love-
filled holiday season.

~ Cheyanne



Are you looking for a project that will make a positive impact on our community? Do you love to develop plans



AmeriCorps

from start to finish and connect with community partners to make those plans a reality? Join The BRICK as an AmeriCorps VISTA member to work on a one-year special project. This position is open to adults of *all ages*! The project goal is to develop a plan to launch a Bridges initiative in the region to address the causes of poverty. The Bridges Out of Poverty model, developed by aha! Process, is a community curriculum designed to transform communities of poverty into communities “that provide a better life for all residents.” If you’re interested, please contact Liz Seefeldt, Executive Director: 715-682-7425 ext. 2 or director@thebrickministries.org. Get in touch today!

AmeriCorps VISTA provides a \$575.40 bi-weekly living allowance. Submit your application at <https://my.americorps.gov/mp/listing/viewListing.do?fromSearch=true&id=105170>



Join our Prayer Chain Team

The BRICK is piloting a new prayer request program that provides an opportunity to community members to share voluntary, confidential prayer requests with our organization.

Requests are collected virtually through our website, and will be shared with a team of volunteers that have a passion for prayer work. This is a remote volunteer activity that does not require in-person contact.

If you are interested in this opportunity, please contact Cheyanne at: officemanager.thebrick@centurytel.net!



Covenant Churches

Ashland Seventh-day Adventist Church

622 10th Ave. W — Ashland WI 54806
(715) 682-5877

Cable 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



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 Other \$ _____

Designate my gift to (circle one):

Make a Difference Fund Food Shelf General

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____



The BRICK
Ministries Inc.
Believers Reaching Individuals for Christ's Kingdom

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

 @TheBRICKMinistries

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

John Manno, President

James L. Miller, Vice President

Lorri Mattes, Treasurer

Dale Chesley

Jeffery R. Muse

Staff—note new email addresses!

Liz Seefeldt, *Executive Director*
director@thebrickministries.org

Alice Evenson, *Benevolence Manager*
benevolencemanager@thebrickministries.org

Amaris Shrider, *Food Shelf Manager*
foodshelfmanager@thebrickministries.org

Cheyenne Reeves, *Office Manager*
officemanager@thebrickministries.org