



# SummerNewsletter





Greetings Family, Friends and Colleagues,

Thank you for your wonderful generosity! We, at the Basement Outreach Ministries greatly appreciate your donations and support which has helped us maintain and further our mission to reach, rescue ,and restore.

I love the summer season for many reasons and one of them is summer allows for all the joys and warmth of outside recreation and activities. We can "throw off" those heavy winter clothes that hinder us and break out in shorts and sandals! Similarly, the book of Hebrews, Chapter 12:1 says, "throw off everything that hinders us".... and as the Son shines His radiant love upon us, He bids us to throw off our heavy old garb of guilt, shame, resentment, anger, and so on, and break out to enjoy the radiance of His peace and love!

This summer has also been a major transitional time for us, much like a summer season when we celebrate a graduation for the completion of primary education or a new beginning like a wedding, similarly, at The Basement Outreach Ministries we have celebrated the joys and blessings of having provided residential supports, a Drop In Program, Grocery Distribution, and Crisis Intervention that has come to a close at our Terra Alta location.

A special thank you to the Drop In Team who served in such love and care to the women who participated in the program (see page 2 for more information) and to Michele Swensen and Pam Shaner for their dedication, hard work, and perseverance in many areas of the ministry but mainly assuring that basic needs were made available to persons requesting support either through referrals or direct care.

Although some changes are inevitable or unexpected, we have forever a memorial stone from our time at Terra Alta who makes up all the women and families we have met and enjoyed fellowship with, provided support, relieved in immediate crisis situations, and most importantly the times when we encountered a unique sense of the everlasting love of God in the midst of us. Thank you team!

Last year and during this fruitful summer, I have witnessed some of the most amazing selfless people who sacrificially gave to serve the poor. A big thank you to our volunteers and staff who who faithfully served in the spirit of excellence and genuine love especially to Dan and Sue Roscoe and Don Power that maintained amid the covid season and still serving to this present time. A special thank you my husband Tom and Mary, my daughter whose help was extraordinary beyond expectation during the transitional period at Terra Alta. Thank you for giving and giving with humble hearts and genuine love.

Our primary mission and focus at the Basement Outreach Ministries is sharing our love, testimony, and faith in God. As changes do continue to occur all around us, we lean on our Father for His guidance and for your continued prayers, donations, and support as we seek Him to be prepared for what comes next in the midst of our rapidly changing social, economic, and spiritual world. Thank you so much for giving, caring, and loving the men, women, and children of our communities. Please read on to find out more on what is happening at the Basement.

Blessings! Pastor Julia Wike, L.S.W. Director



# The Amazing Drop-In Team



Roseanne Seginak, CDCA Peer Supporter

Kelly Brown, RN Mercy Health-Checks

Debbie Hayes Boutique Coordinator



Michele Swensen Administrative Assistant



Kathie Joy Cosmetology



Pam Shaner L.S.W. Case Manager

Thank you for your love, dedication, and commitment.



"There was a day last week where I felt weak and cried the entire day. I did not want to go to the safe shelter that was in place for me. I felt very alone attempting to leave and just live in my vehicle, by the grace of God and the kind people at the Basement Outreach for the prayers and kind words... I came back and now I am getting the keys to my new apartment on Friday."



















Reaching Out





Sarah lives with her two custodial grandsons. Sarah does not have transportation and is dependent on her case manager to pick up her groceries from The Basement Outreach Ministries. Because Sarah also has an income that is below the poverty threshold rate receiving groceries from the Basement is especially important for herself and her grandsons. This past week Sarah called to share that she was concerned that her case worker would not be able unable to pick up her monthly groceries for her. A delivery would be scheduled by us if Sarah was unable to receive her food, but the case worker was able to pick up the groceries for Sarah. Sara called me after receiving the groceries and was incredibly grateful and expressed her appreciation for the groceries and wanted me to know and because of the food box she was able to provide dinner for her family that evening.



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Mailing Address P.O. Box 944 Warren, OH 44482

Need Help Basement.Requests@gmail.com

Is it possible to end poverty? Together in unity and with love there is nothing impossible with God!



# Humanitarian Aid& Friday Family Meal



# Our Evening Family Meal Is BACK!!!!

Our first family meal since the last gathering in March 2020! His beautiful Presence filled our hearts and minds as we shared the Word and honored Him withthanksgiving and praise to our glorious Savior our habitation within. Godloves each one of us and all all of humanity from the the beginning of the age with an everlasting love!





I have found no greater love than in a child. As I hugged this sweet little boy, I asked God to teach me through him to live that "child like" faith. I have found no sweeter place to be than in our neighborhoods, as I did at this moment where I find the Presence of God walking with me just as He over 2000 years ago. Teach me oh Lord through Your grace to humble myself and love like you loved in that child like faith towards all man-kind.

### Our Ministries of Love @ the Basement

**OUTREACH** is the best way to reach, rescue, and restore! Giving a gallon of milk softened a wounded heart that led to the acceptance of prayer, a cheeseburger and some kind words led to a thankful embrace, a gift card led to transport to a shelter, and a personal care pack led care. Sometimes giving that pastoral peace and love in a sudden unexpected moment can result in a life changing transformation of hope and healing.

**COMMUNITY OUTREACH** will continue to meet individuals and families in the home, on the street, or at the office with humanitarian aid.

DROP IN PROGRAM - was a beautiful ministry that volunteers and staff provided emotional and tangible means of support, fellowship, bible studies, and support groups to our women in the community. Our programs have recently closed and we thank all of those who have contributed to this memorial outreach to women.

### **FAMILY STYLE MEALS**

@ A NEW LOCATION! Worship, Word, & Meal 3rd Friday Restoration Fellowship 760 Main Ave Warren, OH 44483

**GROCERY DELIVERY** is the delivery of groceries to the doorsteps in the community. Delivery is for those in emergency situations.

## Please Donate to the Basement Outreach Ministries

THANK YOU,
Stephanie!
Our entire Basement
Family received
training on NARCAN
and NARCAN kits!



Even helping one individual can make a small change for the better.











: Uh\Yfžk hatever we have need of You provide. You are constant and true, a builder of our faith, we trust in you!You are ci f provider, you are constant, and true.

You are our provision. Build our faith as we trust in You! Build our faith. Build our faith as we trust in You.









# Who Do We Appreciate?

thank

Liz Chapin from St. Paul's Lutheran Church with Pam Shaner, Staff.



Thank you **St. Paul Lutheran Church** for 64 purses with personal care products!

Michele Renyolds, Director, Governor's Faith Based Initiative



Thank you **Governor's Office** for the Faith Based Initiative Grant.



Thank you St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
Parish for \$3,000.00 of in-kind
donations

Thank you St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish for the wonderful variety of personal care product, socks, disposable raincoats, and over 600 cans of Progresso soups and canned meals! Simply, there are no words that can express our gratitude to you except to give thanksgiving to our King, our Father and Provider for your labor of love and monetary and in-kind donations. May God bless you Presence. always with His Provision, and Love because of what you have done!

The Joanie Abdu Mobile Mammography Unit @ the Basement Drop In!!



Thank you MERCYHEALTH for the state-of- art mammogram screenings



Thank you **Youngstown Warren Regional Chamber a**nd **The Vindicator** 

The 2021 ATHENA Award honors women who strive toward the highest levels of professional accomplishment in their chosen field, have devoted time and energy to their community in a meaningful way and open doors so that others may follow in their path. I am so thankful, incredibly grateful, truly humbled, and unbelievably blessed that I was a nominated for the ATHENA Award. This nomination is like that "good and perfect gift" from God! I glorify God for this nomination and honored to be His vessel magnifying His good works!

# FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS

### A SPECIAL THANK YOU

To all our wonderful donors; were humbly gratitude to the monetary and in-kind donations you given that have provisions for literally thousands of men, women, and children through our street outreach, humanitarian family dinner and drop-in ministries. Thank you to the Governor's Faith Based Initiative Grant for providing provision for employment during the 2020 and 2021 years. And a truly heartfelt thank you to the volunteers and staff for staying the course and faithfully staying the course serving and loving the men, women, and children of our communities.

Even after my second brain surgery, as I pondered and prayed about the future of the ministry, that passion still remained within me, that beckons me to "GO", I knew then my call has not yet been completed. Throughout the years I have not addressed you in a personal way in our newsletter updates so I take this space here to tell you how much I appreciate and love you. I've made plenty of errors long the way, but so grateful to the scripture that says when I all fall short, I have a heavenly Father Whose love and forgiveness cleanses away sin and stain. Crisis has a way if allowed, to cause reflections on the ups and downs of life so if in anyway I did not present or give to you the kind of love or time you deserved, please forgive me.

During a time of prayer and planning, we have begun downsizing from our three locations to one location at 2250 Tod Ave NW. Beginning in October, we will maintain a once a month grocery distribution and family meal on site and continue with distribution in the community. We are not closing our doors and the remaining duration of the ministry is dependent upon resource and volunteerism. Please continue donating and consider volunteering just once a month.

In the last year we have found one of our greatest strengths is going out , ministering and providing immediate humanitarian aid. It's a faceless nameless kind of ministry, its hard to get the numerical stats or the outcomes that result from this type of outreach but this it is what Christ did , He said "Repent, the Kingdom of God is at Hand" and He went throughout the region the highways and byways to reach, rescue, and restore the lame, hungry, sinful , and the outcasts. We are following in our Father's foot steps.

The pictures below are my expressions of humble gratitude with a blessed joy that God made a way for me to "GO" and this is because you gave, prayed, and became my friend whom I love.

Forever thankful to you, Pastor Julia Wike



### "WHO SHALL I SEND" "Send me Lord"

Blessed are You, God, the Gracious One, Who pardons iniquity and transforms a soul to life everlasting in Your Holy abode, AMEN!













Guide me in your truth, and teach me, For you are the God of my salvation, I wait for you all day long.









Thank you for blessing me in the 13 year journey of serving our neighbors, friends, families, and strangers. The honor and glory go to God for every good and pleasant work and all my heartfelt thanksgiving goes to you for giving me this blessed opportunity to serve.

God reigned before any form was created, at the time when His will brought everything into being, then as King was His Name proclaimed,
He was, is, and shall remain in Splendor, He is the One!
He has the Basement Outreach Ministries at His free will to do as He please, may He bless those who whose names are eternally engraved in eternity that gave to least of these.

### 2021 DONORS

James and Rebecca Fellows Ste
Jeannette Sanderson Grac
Dr. Robert and Sarah Casten
Romona and Dennis Lilley
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St John Lutheran Church Inc.

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Joanne K. Guerrero

Anne Wike

Steve Johnson Nitrojection Corp Grace Peace Missionary FLWSP

York Ave Church of God in Warren
Michael Donadio Deborah Bobby

Community Foundation of the Mahoning Valley

Believer's Church

Ronald and Theresa Kirila

Sue Shaffer Blessed Sacrament

Ryan and Caroline Gearhart

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Governor's Faith Based Initiative

Richard and Brenda Jones

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Kaitlyn Fabian

Kenneth and Jean Kubichek

Dennis Beck

Tina Rose

Mark Furrie

Kathryn Bell

Michelle Wolcott

Mary Wike

Richard Kadvan

Leslie Sams

Randall and Sally Smith

Kenneth and Marion Shay

Church At Warren

It is true that the majority of poverty is a result of some form of human sin and error. But it is not necessarily their own sin that causes people to lack provision or wealth. Poor government, war, corruption, exploitation by the powerful, lack of education and training, family and social ills that prevent people from reaching their potential, all contribute to many people not having enough, through no fault of their own. SELAH!







Mary Cole

