

# THE GOOD SAMARITAN

Volume 22, Issue I

Spring 2015

## TOUR DE LLAMA

June 6, 9 a.m.  
Divine Llama Vineyards  
East Bend  
**REGISTER AT:**  
[www.samaritanforsyth.org](http://www.samaritanforsyth.org)



## PENNY CAMPAIGN UPDATE

**\$41,226 collected**

Thank you to the hundreds of individuals, churches, schools and businesses who participated in the 2014 Penny Campaign. Mark your calendars now for the 2015 Penny Campaign.



## PENNY CAMPAIGN DROP-OFF

110 Oakwood Dr.  
Saturday, December 5, 2015

## MATERIALS AVAILABLE

July 2015

## COLLECTION KICK-OFF

October 2015

**SAMARITAN MINISTRIES**  
FOOD FOR THE BODY. HOPE FOR THE SOUL.

## Sam shows off for community

Guests have called the new Soup Kitchen and shelter a palace. The community will get its first look at the new Samaritan Ministries on Sunday, April 12, from 2 to 5 p.m.

"We're looking forward to letting everyone see what all the fuss is about," said Sonja Kurosky, Samaritan's Executive Director.

The new building, at the corner of Northwest Boulevard and Ivy Avenue, opened in December.

The dining room looks more like a restaurant, with round tables and tall windows on one side. A smaller dining room, called "the café," is used for guests and meetings.

The shelter is accessible by an elevator, which is an advantage for handicapped guests, who used to sleep on mats on the floor of the old building. There are also four healing beds set aside for guests who are recovering from the flu or surgery and need a quiet place to rest during the day.

The new building makes a powerful



statement about the community's care for the poor, hungry and homeless, Kurosky said. One thing that hasn't changed, though, is the spirit of Samaritan Ministries.

"Yes, the old building was cramped and showing its age, but those of us who worked and volunteered there know that it was a place of refuge and welcome. We've moved that attitude right up the hill to our new building."

## NEWKIRK SERVES UP NEW MENUS, NEW IDEAS

**Samaritan Ministries' new Soup Kitchen Manager grew up watching his grandmother cook for church suppers and big family holiday dinners, but he didn't think about cooking as a career until he was in a management training program at the Marriott Corporation and his supervisor noticed how much he liked hanging out in the kitchen.**

After a 28-year career spent cooking in both the corporate world and for colleges and universities, Derrick Newkirk is cooking in Samaritan's kitchen.

"We want to let the community know we're more than a soup kitchen," he



*Derrick Newkirk*

said. "We cook good, nutritious meals and we offer a sense of fellowship and community."

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*For I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat ... I was a stranger and you invited me in ...*

*Matthew 25:35*

## Samaritan Ministries

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## Good News & Gratitude

Dear Friends of Samaritan,

As we go to press, we're coming off several weeks of unseasonably cold weather, yet I can't help but feel the promise of spring in all of the excitement we've had at Samaritan since moving into our new building a few months ago. You'll note on page one that we'll be having a community open house in April. Please join us.

For the first time, we were able to keep our shelter open during the day on two cold days in February. On one of those days, our new Soup Kitchen Manager, Derrick Newkirk, had prepared a special Black History Month menu for the guests. You'll read more about Derrick in this issue.

Also in this issue, you'll read about two long-time volunteers who chose to continue to bless our Ministry through memorials. We are so grateful that they chose to remember Samaritan.

You'll notice that our Honor Roll of Donors, which is usually printed in our spring newsletter, is missing this year. In order to save on printing, we'll be running the list on our new website: [www.samaritanforsyth.org](http://www.samaritanforsyth.org). Please take a look at the site, which was designed by Wildfire, a local company, with a grant from the Winston-Salem Foundation.

When I count our blessings, I'm always happy to count you. Our new building is an awesome achievement, but also an awesome responsibility. With your support, service and prayers we hope to inspire a new generation with the spirit of compassion.

Grace and peace,



Sonjia Kurosky, Executive Director

P.S. Please consider an additional donation to Samaritan Ministries this spring. Our expenses are up about 20 percent in our new building.

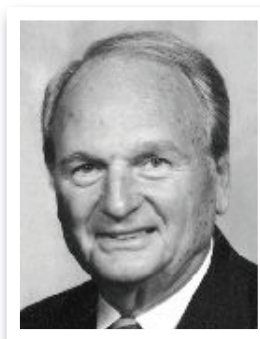
## Genial and generous

They called him Bob #1 in deference to his long-standing years of service on the Monday Soup Kitchen team.

For many years, Bob Vaughn, as he was officially known, served in the dining room.

Vaughn, who died on Jan. 6, is continuing to give back to Samaritan Ministries. He asked that memorials be sent to Samaritan Ministries or the Shepherd's Center, where he was also a volunteer.

He retired as chief executive officer



Bob Vaughn

at Washington Mills in 1982, and was a 60-year member of Centenary United Methodist Church.

Vaughn was a genial presence in the old dining room, where he took care of guests at table four.

"He was mild-tempered, easy-going and very reliable," said Faye Gray, a volunteer who worked with Vaughn. "He just went

with the flow."

Joanna Vaughn said that her husband enjoyed his service at Samaritan.

"When the weather was bad, he never complained about going to Samaritan," she said. "He liked the other volunteers and he liked helping people."



Teresa Simmons

## Giving shelter, and hope

**Last year a man came to Teresa Simmons from Samaritan’s shelter. He had lost his job with a temp agency, had been evicted from his apartment and needed help.**

Simmons is a housing specialist at the Experiment in Self-Reliance who spends one or two days a month at Samaritan helping men in the shelter find housing. She came to Samaritan in January 2014.

“I like to take care of the whole person,” she said. “I’m not going to set the client up to fail.”

She asks that clients have a Plan A, a Plan B and a Plan C, so that they’re not only ready to move into housing, but will be able to stay there when they hit a bump.

The man who came to Simmons for help has since been able to move into an apartment, he’s working to supplement his income and he plans to enroll in the culinary food services program at a local community college.

Before coming to ESR, Simmons worked in capital management at Wells Fargo and at the Forsyth County Department of Health.

Some of her clients have mental illness, which makes it difficult to make a plan and stick to it. Others have poor credit or a criminal history that makes landlords hesitant to take a chance on them. Simmons often refers them to Goodwill for job training or helps them apply for disability.

Developing a relationship with each client and getting them to trust her as she helps them to navigate the system is crucial.

She is often inspired by her clients and their stories, as she was by the man she helped last year.

“He has shown great courage and aspiration in working towards his housing plan,” she said. “He is an energetic and remarkable person with a positive attitude.”

## Service with shorts, and a smile

**Wearing his trademark shorts in all temperatures, Roger Snapp manned the tea station at Samaritan Ministries from 2000 to 2011.**

“He was a people person,” said Elaine Snapp, of her husband. “He got to know the guests and he would seek them out and find out what was going on if he didn’t see them for awhile.”

Snapp, who died on Nov. 22, 2014, asked that memorials be made to several nonprofits he was involved in, including Samaritan Ministries.

Her husband was initially hesitant to volunteer at Samaritan when a friend suggested it, Snapp said, but he quickly changed his mind.

“When he came, he fell in love with the people on the team,” she said.

Snapp had a gift for organizing, his friends said. He passed a penny jar around at church for



Roger Snapp

Samaritan’s Penny Campaign and he collected peanut butter, cereal and coffee for the Soup Kitchen. When Samaritan needed a team to carve the dozens of turkeys it cooked for Thanksgiving, Snapp organized a group of men from his church, Wesley Memorial United Methodist Church, to come in a few days before the holiday and cut up turkeys. That effort is still going on.

“People couldn’t say no to him,” Snapp said.



**continued from page 1**

Newkirk hopes to help Samaritan cut its food costs while preparing more nutritious meals for guests. He also looks forward to a chance to get creative in Samaritan’s new kitchen, which will allow him and his staff to prepare dishes that they couldn’t in the old Soup Kitchen.

Since arriving at Samaritan in November, Newkirk has introduced a new pork loin dish. Two of his favorite meals are grilled salmon and pecan-crusted chicken. He

looks forward to making those dishes for guests at some point.

He plans to help guests celebrate the various holidays through the food the Soup Kitchen serves. In honor of Black History Month, Newkirk cooked barbecue chicken wings, oxtails, collard greens, cornbread and black-eyed peas.

The best compliment anyone can give him about his cooking?

“That it’s good,” he said.





FOOD FOR THE BODY. HOPE FOR THE SOUL.

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## WISH LIST



### APRIL

Ground coffee (regular), sugar, dish towels, foot powder, socks, ground beef (50 lbs.)

### MAY

Salad dressing (any type), canned tuna, disposable razors, hand lotion (sample size), high efficiency laundry detergent packs/pods

### JUNE

Ketchup, mayonnaise, Tylenol, Ibuprofen

### JULY

Pasta (any type), canned chicken, deodorant, disposable razors, high efficiency laundry detergent packs/pods

**Donations:** We also accept prepared foods left over from special events, corporate gatherings, etc. Drop off donations daily between 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. You do not need to call prior to delivery.

Follow the signs for food delivery.

## Volunteer Opportunities

### Shelter teams

Now's the time to sign up for a shelter team in 2015. Shelter teams of six people work 6:15 p.m. to 7:30 a.m. May has traditionally been staffed by local Catholic Churches. June and July are open to any denomination. August has been filled by Moravian churches. If you have a small group that's interested in any month to supplement the regular rotation, contact Anna Donze, volunteer coordinator, at: [anna.donze@samaritanforsyth.org](mailto:anna.donze@samaritanforsyth.org) or 748-1962 ext. 303.

### Hospitality leader

This is a new position at Samaritan. Be the friendly face that greets first-time guests and helps them check in, from 6 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. For more information, please contact Anna Donze, volunteer coordinator, at: [anna.donze@samaritanforsyth.org](mailto:anna.donze@samaritanforsyth.org) or 748-1962 ext. 303.

### Soup Kitchen

During the summer months, we have a limited number of one-time volunteer slots that open up when regular volunteers go on vacation. This is a great chance to sample the Soup Kitchen experience. To find out when slots are available, contact Anna Donze, volunteer coordinator, at: [anna.donze@samaritanforsyth.org](mailto:anna.donze@samaritanforsyth.org) or 748-1962 ext. 303.

Thank you for being Good News to those in need.

