# THE GOOD SAMARITAN

Volume 23, Issue 1

Spring 2016

#### **TOUR DE LLAMA**

June 25, 8:30 a.m. **REGISTER AT:** www.samaritanforsyth.org



#### PENNY CAMPAIGN UPDATE

**\$57,047 collected** Thank you to the hundreds of individuals, churches.



schools and businesses who participated in Penny Campaign 2015. Mark your calendars now for Penny Campaign 2016.

#### PENNY CAMPAIGN DROP-OFF

110 Oakwood Dr. and 414 E. Northwest Blvd. Saturday, December 3, 2016

MATERIALS AVAILABLE July 2016

**COLLECTION KICK-OFF** October 2016



# Sam celebrates 35th anniversary in style

On March 2, 1981, a small group of volunteers rounded up 26 hungry people from the streets of Winston-Salem and served them vegetable beef soup at a new organization on Patterson Avenue called Samaritan Ministries.

For Samaritan's 35th anniversary, an anonymous donor wanted to treat Samaritan's shelter guests to a steak dinner with all of the trimmings. Soup Kitchen Manager, Derrick Newkirk, and Charles Paynter, of Five Loaves Catering, worked up a menu that included steak, twicebaked potatoes and bread pudding.

"Back in 1981, some people in the community weren't sure that an organization like Samaritan was needed," said Sonjia Kurosky, Samaritan's Executive Director. "With having hosted 607 different men in our shelter last year and served 155,305 meals in our Soup Kitchen, I don't

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Food and fellowship at anniversary dinner

think anyone's asking that question."

Board members, staff, donors and volunteers served as wait staff, provided entertainment and took care of other details.

"We thought the best way to celebrate our anniversary was to create a memorable experience for the people

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# POINT-IN-TIME COUNT HELD AT SAMARITAN

About 100 volunteers turned out on January 27th for Winston-Salem's homeless Point-In-Time Count, a one-day count of homeless people and families in the county.

The local count is organized by the United Way of Forsyth County and was hosted by Samaritan. The data gathered is used to plan services for the homeless.

Throughout the night, teams of volunteers check under bridges, in abandoned buildings and in woods where homeless people are known to gather. Those who are in a shelter are counted as well. Final numbers for the night haven't been tallied, but Kathleen Wiener, program assistant for the Ten-Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness, said she believes this year's count will be close to the



Willis Miller and Kenneth Koontz at Point-in-Time Count

average of 20 to 30 people that are usually found outside.

"There are always going to be people who have hard times in their lives," Wiener said. "We want our community to have systems in place to help them" 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 BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2015-2016

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# **Good News & Gratitude**

Dear Friends of Samaritan,

The spring newsletter is always a time to rejoice as the first signs of spring appear, but I'm reminded that even in the depths of winter, Samaritan remains a beacon of hope.

Before the big snow and ice storm hit in February, I spent the night at the shelter so that I could be sure I was in the building if no one else could come in. The stories I heard from our guests reminded me of just how vulnerable they are. One man in the shelter was waiting for his open heart surgery to be scheduled and another man had moved to the area to be closer to his cardiologist, only to end up with us.

We were here for them, as well as the 300 guests who showed up for lunch on Saturday when the snow had turned to ice. When volunteers couldn't make it in, a number of our guests and Cornerstone men swept the walks, helped prepare and serve the food, and pitched in as needed.

That's the kind of spirit that no snow or ice storm can chill and it's made possible by your support and God's Grace. We thank you for all you do.

Grace and peace,

forzen

Sonjia Kurosky, Executive Director

# Small brings wealth of experience

Donna Small brings 25 years of nonprofit experience to her new job as Samaritan's finance manager. Before comina to Samaritan, Small was the finance director at the Centers for Exceptional Children.

She has also worked at St. Leo's

Catholic Church, Reynolda House

Museum of American Art and the



Donna Small

Special Children's School. She has a bachelors degree in accounting from Nichols College.

Small replaces Parker Umstead, who has retired. Umstead had served as Samaritan's finance manager since 2008.

When she was interviewing for her job, she arrived on

a rainy day and saw people lined up outside the Soup Kitchen.

"It seemed to me that the mission to take care of people's needs day to day is very important," she said.



Jon

## Project Cornerstone Finding his creative side

A few months ago Jon, a member of Samaritan's Project Cornerstone program, was asked if he'd like to take part in Christmas for the City, a program that uses the arts to celebrate the holidays through diverse viewpoints.

"My natural response was, 'No way. That has nothing to do with me," he said.

Jon realized though, that part of recovery involves being open-minded and trying new things. So he agreed to participate.

He was given a camera, asked to take pictures around the themes of Hope, Grace and Joy. Jon likes old buildings, so he focused on many of the buildings that were being renovated around town.

"I'd never done photography before so I didn't know what a mistake was," he said.

He realized that one of his favorite buildings, the Pepper Building on West Fourth Street, had been slated for demolition at one point, but was being renovated. The idea of rebirth resonated with him.

"Samaritan is giving new life to people," he said, "and these old buildings were giving new life to the city."

Jon will soon begin looking for a job and he's thinking about positions that might let him use his newly discovered creative abilities.

# **Called to Samaritan**

One day back in 1987, Jan Doty was thinking about doing some type of volunteer work when she heard an announcement on radio station WSJS. Samaritan Ministries was holding an information session for volunteers on Sunday afternoon.

Doty attended the session and signed on as a volunteer and has been at Samaritan ever since.

"The Lord brought me here," she said. "I guess He'll tell me when to leave."

In the early days, biscuits and banana pudding were made from scratch. Doty did some cooking at her church, College Park Baptist, so she helped in the kitchen. She soon made the transition to working in the dining room.

"I love the people," she said. "I felt it was my calling."



Jan Doty

Jan's husband, Bob, joined her as a volunteer about two years ago and the two of them work on the second and fourth Thursday team.

She finds the new building a joy to work in and has seen what a positive effect it's had on volunteers as well as guests.

"It's so nice and cheery and everything works," she said. "The guests are so happy here. With the tables the way they are, they can visit."

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we serve," Kurosky said. "We're grateful to our donor for allowing us to treat our guests in this special way."

After the dinner, guests were invited to share thoughts about what had inspired them during their time at Samaritan.

One guest said that he was grateful that the shelter was here and that he now has a job and is hopeful about his future.

"Thank you to the donors, staff, and volunteers," he said. "You guys make a big difference."



Board Member Jim Rosenberger



FOOD FOR THE BODY. HOPE FOR THE SOUL.

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# 2016 WISH LIST

## Soup Kitchen

#### Year Round Staples

coffee
sugar
large tea bags
vinegar

grits
canned chicken
ground beef
turkey breasts

canned salmon or tuna
 #10 cans fruits
 #10 cans applesauce
 #10 cans vegetable

## Shelter

#### Year Round Needs

high efficiency laundry detergent packs/podstoothbrushes

toothpastedisposable razors

 $\Box$  deodorant  $\Box$  socks

We also accept prepared foods leftover from special events, corporate gatherings, etc. Drop off donations 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. when possible.

Non-Profit U.S. Postage PAID Winston-Salem, NC Permit No. 395

### **Volunteer Opportunities**

#### **Overnight shelter teams**

Shelter teams of six people work 6:15 p.m. to 7:30 a.m. They prepare supper as well as breakfast the next morning for men in our shelter. They also watch shelter monitors in two-hour shifts throughout the night.

#### Shelter dinner, check-in or hospitality leaders

These positions work from 6 to 10:30 p.m. once a month. They lead dinner preparation efforts, help with guest check-in and greet first-time guests.

#### Weekday Soup Kitchen teams

Team members help prepare and serve meals to 350 to 400 guests, from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

For more information about all of these positions, contact Anna Donze, volunteer coordinator at: anna.donze@samaritanforsyth.org or (336) 748-1962 ext. 303.