Manna Cafe Ministries www.mannacafeministries.com 931-933-0970

# July 2017 MANTERS

## FEATURED DONORS: WALMART & PUBLIX

by Victoria York

"There's no way we could serve twenty thousand people a year without businesses like Walmart and Publix, who believe in our mission and make sacrifices to help us achieve it."

—Kenny York

When people hear that Manna Cafe distributes 1.5 million pounds of groceries to the hungry every year, they often wonder, Where do they get all that food? Some of it comes from Second Harvest Food Bank, where we're able to spend each donated dollar wisely by purchasing food for cents on the dollar. But roughly 750 thousand pounds is "rescued." What this means is that we collect food from local stores, restaurants, farmers' markets, and so on. For one reason or another, this food can't be used by the retailer. Let's say a company that produces yogurt does a survey and learns that yogurt with a yellow label sells better than yogurt with a red label. So they send out an order for all their retailers to pull the red-labeled yogurt—even though there's nothing wrong with the yogurt itself. Now the store has a choice: dump all that good yogurt into the trash or donate it.



This is where Walmart and Publix, two of our major food donors, come in. Now, keep in mind that stores don't *have* to donate their unneeded food. It takes manpower, time, and cost on their part to gather and set everything aside until we pick it up. They aren't legally bound in any way to donate—but they do.

#### **WALMART:**

Three days a week, Manna Cafe truck drivers pick up food from five area Walmarts. Our local stores also send us volunteer groups. Even the store managers have put their hands to the plow by distributing food boxes! Additionally, at the state level, Walmart has funded various Manna Cafe programs four out of the past five years. Just a few weeks ago, they awarded us \$35,000 to help us rescue milk and breakfast foods from the local school system.

#### **PUBLIX:**

Since the day Clarksville's first Publix opened, they've been faithful supporters of Manna Cafe. Seven days a week, our drivers rescue bread and sweets from both stores. During the holidays, Publix also carries out an internal food drive and fund-raiser by giving customers the opportunity to donate directly via either food or cash. During the first food drive, Publix collected a few thousand pounds of donations; this past year, the total exceeded 31 thousand pounds. And this year's donated funds totaled more than \$17,000!

The next time you're in Walmart or Publix and see a manager, say thanks for all they do for our community!



Find us @
MannaCafeMinistries.com
Instagram: mannacafe1
facebook.com/mannacafe2010
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MARK YOUR
CALENDAR! Don't miss
Manna Cafe's sixth annual
Pirate Fest and Chili
Cook-Off on Saturday,
October 14. Details on page
three.

### **WEEKLY EVENTS:**

Mobile Cafe:

Tues. from 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. @ Liberty Church parking lot (613 E Street)

Wed. from 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. @ Lincoln Homes (Sponsored by Clarksville Grace Church of the Nazarene)

Thurs. from 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. @ corner of Pageant Lane & Madison, Veterans Plaza
Sat. from 8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. @ Liberty Church & Pageant Lane Locations

Food Distribution:

M–W–F from 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. @ 1319 East Franklin Street

Manna Cafe Ministries is a 501(c)(3) whose mission is to serve people in need in Clarksville/Montgomery County through a soup kitchen on wheels, food box distribution, and other vital resources. Propelled chiefly by volunteers, Manna Café strives to restore hope, dignity, self-reliance, community, and the love of God through Jesus Christ.

#### **Meet the Board of Directors**

**Did you know...** that Manna Cafe has been blessed with an amazing, committed, visionary Board of Directors? We'd like to introduce them:

Board Chair **Mark Nash**, Chief Information Security Officer, Federal Practice, at Deloitte Services LP, leads our Board with integrity and wisdom. When he needs some down time, he enjoys CrossFit and basketball.

Vice Chair **Rich Garrett**, Realtor/broker at Keller Williams Realty, has two young adult children and four grandchildren. He loves traveling—especially via cruise ship!

Treasurer **Shawna Spigner**, co-owner of TMS Construction, says, "I've been married to my wonderful husband Thom for almost 30 years and have two beautiful daughters, Lauren and Haley. I love to cook, run, and be outside."

When he's not "doing Manna Cafe," **Kenny York**, our founder and Director, relaxes by cooking and grilling, riding his motorcycle, and creating furniture with repurposed wood.

**Vicki York** is Manna Cafe's co-founder and grant writer. She loves sushi, books, hiking, and running with the Yorks' dalmadoodle, Annie.

Teaching Pastor for oneChurch.tv, **Carlo Serrano** recently completed his PhD in
Organizational Leadership. He is passionate
about reading, Brazilian Jiu Jitsu, and Tampa

Bay Buccaneer Football.

HAM radio operator **Hank Koebler Jr** is an Emergency Communications Consultant at Lafayette Group, Inc. He collects antique Lionel electric trains, loves to read alternate history novels, and is partial to cherry vanilla ice cream and fresh strawberries.

**Todd York** is in Project Management and Sales at Forefront Solutions. He enjoys spending time with his kids, golfing, hiking, watching movies, and reading.

**Kevin Kennedy**, dentist at Clarksville Pediatric Dentistry, says he enjoys "following Tennessee Volunteer football, reading biographies, browsing Twitter, visiting new restaurants, and driving my kids all over the place!"

**Rob Hall** (ret. military) says, "I enjoy buying and selling cars here and there, traveling, and spending time with my grandchildren and my beautiful wife, Juanita."

Our newest board member, **Virginia Douglas**, is CEO of The Liberty Church. She says, "I love playing softball, and this year I'm on the same team with three of my daughters. I also enjoy traveling and spending time with my seven grandchildren."





#### **MANNA CAFE WISH LIST**

Generator: We presently have a generator that does the trick (keeping our concession trailer in action during our mobile soup kitchen meals), but it's very, very loud, making it difficult to conduct a Bible study, make announcements, or even visit with one another. Estimated cost: \$3,000

Tents: We use 10'x10' canopy tents constantly. Since they're set up and taken down again and again, they eventually wear out. (The the photo below was taken a couple years ago, when our tents protected us from some crazy weather!) Estimated cost: \$200 each

A few items we need all the time:

funds for food copy paper plastic "T-shirt" bags packing tape styrofoam to-go containers computers bus passes fuel cards



Did you know you can help Manna Cafe win up to \$15,000 by investing just 90 seconds a day?

Freeland Chevrolet is donating \$5,000 to two nonprofits each month, and we can win up to three times! That's a lot of food! Just type each of the six addresses below and enter #MannaCaféMinistries #FreelandCares into the comments of the pinned post near the top of each page.

facebook.com/FreelandCDJR facebook.com/360burger/ facebook.com/freelandchevy/ facebook.com/FreelandInsuranceAgency facebook.com/FreelandChevyFleet/ facebook.com/freelandautorecycling/

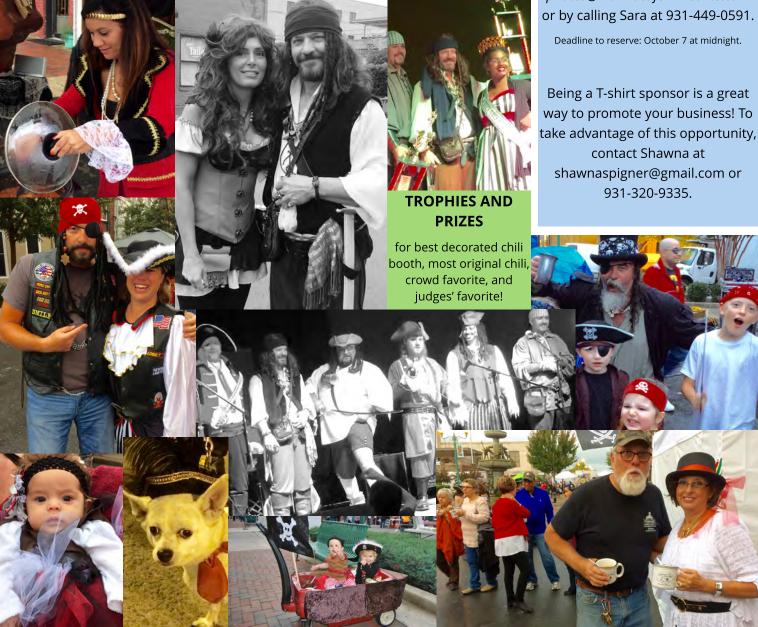
The contest is like a raffle: each time you "vote" for us on Facebook, our chances of winning goes up. You can vote once on each page every single day. This is potentially a lot of money for little effort, but we need your help! Will you invest a few seconds each morning when you log onto your computer? If you'd like us to send you a reminder email about once a week, email Vicki@MannaCafeMinistries.com, subject line I'll Vote.

## THE PIRATES ARE COMING!

It's time for Manna Café's sixth annual Pirate Fest & Chili Cook-Off on Saturday, October 14, from 4 until 8 in historic downtown Clarksville! Listen to live bands, turn your kids loose in the Kid Zone, meet Captain Bubba, and purchase a mug for

all-you-can-eat chili!

Manna Cafe's annual Pirate Fest and Chili Cook-Off has become a Clarksville tradition. Gather a few friends or coworkers and your favorite chili recipe, and reserve your chili booth at pirates@mannacafeministries.com



**FANTASTIC NEW DOWNTOWN LOCATION!** First Baptist Church's **Commerce St./Hiter St. Parking lot** 



## "A 'place of authority' in the world can mean a corner office and a raise. In the kingdom of God it can mean a pay cut."

Bob Jones once said, "If you're offered a place of authority and you don't take it, someone else will." We know this is true in the workplace: if your boss offers you a promotion and you turn it down, he or she will move on to the next most-qualified employee. But it's also true regarding our spiritual lives.

God uses people to carry out His plans, which means He offers His children places of authority. In the world, a "place of authority" often means a corner office and a raise in pay; in the kingdom of God, it can

mean long hours spent serving others—and a pay cut. For this reason, we sometimes say, Thanks but no thanks, Lord when He offers us a specific task. When we say no, God sometimes waits for us to "catch up" and see that His ways are better than ours. But I'm fully convinced that sometimes He moves on because, after all, there's a job to be done.

A year or two ago, Kenny was having "one of those days" when he made a comment that reflected this truth. "You know, it's likely I wasn't the first person God

called to feed people in Clarksville," he said. "I was probably Number Six on God's list, but no one else was crazy enough to say yes."

Kenny's statement hit me between the eyes. I wondered, How many times has God asked me to do something in the Kingdom but I was too busy or frightened to say yes? At the same time, I was profoundly grateful that Kenny had complied with God's wishes regarding Manna Café. It's a crazy, exhausting life, but a very good one.



Kenny and me in one of our rare gussied-up moments.

Do you want to influence your corner of the universe? If so, when God asks, "Whom shall I send?" (Isa. 6:8 NIV), be sure to say, "Here I am! Send me!"

**Are you** an accomplished cook? Health nut? Fruit-and-veggie addict? Nutritionist? If so, would you like to pass on what you know to people who want to eat healthy but don't know how? Once a month at Mobile Cafe, we offer training in health and nutrition to our clients. There are two sessions of just 15 minutes each, featuring a nutrient-packed, easy recipe along with any other information you'd like to share. If you're interested, we'd love to add you to the schedule. Contact Sara at 931-449-0591 or Sara@MannaCafeMinistries.com.

**Did you know** that donations go down every summer? To help us past the "summer crunch," log onto MannaCafeMinistries.com and click on the red Donate button. You can make a one-time donation or become a Friend of Manna through a recurring gift.

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