

Lake Township FISH

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Editor: Jan Moore-Dwenger

FISH'S Food For Thought

When you do things, do not let selfishness or pride be your guide. Instead, be humble and give more honor to others than to yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.

Paul, Philippians 2:3-4

- Did you know that you are following these Scriptures of St. Paul when you respond to the needs of Lake Township FISH? Many of you have done just that, with your generous donations of groceries and funds. In the second half of 2013, you will have additional opportunities to help out this organization.

Lake Township Sponsorship Program - It is not too late to become a sponsor of FISH. This program has three levels from which donors can choose. A \$1000 donation is considered a Platinum level sponsor, a \$500 donation is a Gold level sponsor and a \$250 donation is a Silver level sponsor. Each sponsorship level includes perks and we are seeking businesses, families and individuals to help the growing demand for financial help and groceries to our neighbors in need. Please consider becoming a sponsor. You may contact Kami Sommers at 330-904-7614 for more information.

Coming Events - Make Your Calendars!

Lake Township FISH'S Annual Benefit 5K Run/Walk - This important fundraiser for FISH will take place July 20, 2013 at 8:30 am at the Lake High School Athletic Field Track and is a Subway Series certified timed Run/Walk. The registration fee is \$20 for adults, \$10 for 18 and under and \$25 if you register the day of the race. Please register at www.rsracingsystems.com or you can call our hotline (330-877-1845), leave your name and address and we will mail a form to you that you can mail back to us. There also will be a free Kid's Fun Run, just under ½ mile, that will take place at 8 am. We hope to have over three hundred walkers/runners. If you do not wish to participate in the running or walking, come to watch and support the participants and enjoy the excitement.

Shredding Recycling Day - Also on July 20, 2013, from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm, the Village of Hartville and Weaver SecurShred will provide the equipment to shred unwanted papers for recycling. This will take place in the Hartville Centre parking lot opposite of Giant Eagle. There is a four-bag limit, personal and financial documents only. (No catalogs, magazines, newspapers or phone books) This is a free service but canned or boxed grocery items donations for Lake Township FISH will be accepted and appreciated.

Blood Drive at Clearwater Park - Clearwater Park, now known as Jellystone Park, is having a blood drive on July 20, 2013, from 10:30 am to 2:30 pm and all the proceeds benefit Lake Township FISH.

The Sixth Lake Township FISH Annual Benefit Dinner - This event will be held at the Hartville Kitchen on Tuesday, September 24, 2013 at 6:00 PM. (Note the change of date from last newsletter.) The benefit dinner is FISH'S main fund-raiser and we hope to have a full house. You may purchase tickets beginning August 1st by ordering them over the phone (330-877-9353) or in person at the Hartville Kitchen. For the donation of \$25 a ticket, you will receive not only great food and entertainment, but also the grand feeling of satisfaction of helping others.

Recap of May - June

Food Orders	339
Housing - 4	\$1375
Electric - 2	\$580
Gas - 2	\$449
Gas Card - 1	\$100

FOOD CUPBOARD NEEDS:

- *Cleaning Products*
- *Meals-in-a-can*
- *Noodles*
- *Soups*
- *Shampoo*
- *Deodorant*
- *Laundry Detergent*
- *Instant Potatoes*
- *Pasta*
- *Peanut Butter*

Lake Township FISH

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Faithfully

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“Brown Bag Drives” and other ways to make donations to FISH - Another way you can assist this program is by making monetary and/or grocery donations through your church’s “brown bag drives”, a social organization, or your workplace. FISH will supply the (empty) grocery bags if you call the Hotline to request them. All donations are appreciated and tax deductible.

Cut the coupons to help cut costs! One of our FISH volunteers is an avid “couponer” and supplies the pantry with groceries she buys at discounts using coupons. You can help by saving grocery coupons and taking them to the pantry and putting them in the “Coupon Box” in the back room when you volunteer or anytime the pantry is open: Tuesday- 10 AM-11 AM and Thursday 6 PM-7PM. Thanks!

FISH’S New Mission Statement - For over 40 years Lake Township FISH has been a very active, beneficial organization helping the needy in this community. Sometime over the years, the slogan, “Faithfully I Serve Him” was created for Lake Township FISH. While this appears to be a personal statement that fits each of FISH’S volunteers, the Advisory Council and Board of Directors suggested that a mission statement be developed that would be appropriate for the whole organization to describe FISH’S purpose.

In May, the FISH Advisory Council met and after much discussion and input from all members of the group present, the mission statement, “Living Christ’s love by serving our neighbors” was selected. When it was presented to the Clergy Board of Directors, it was approved. Later this year, the statement will be painted on the pantry wall and used on the Lake Township Website and in the bi-monthly newsletter. A “Word Art” collage will also be painted to complete the design giving the FISH food pantry a new dimension that further defines this organization.

Going Forward - The year, 2013, so far has been one of much transition and growth, and a busy one for this assistance program. FISH now has extended grocery help to many outside Lake Township. Those who need financial help must reside within the boundaries of Lake Township. The number of clients receiving help has grown as you can see in the figures shown above.

The partnering with the Akron-Canton Food Bank has resulted in the availability of dairy products, frozen meats, fresh fruits and vegetables in addition to the staples we have distributed in the past. Most of the products we get from ACFB are much more reasonable than buying at retail. To be able to continue helping the clients who are in desperate situations, we need your continued support, generosity, and prayers.

Maybe you can come up with a unique way to help support FISH such as the following: Here is a true tale of an act of kindness that happened a couple of weeks ago. What a blessing!

A Happy FISH Tale What do you say when your 90th birthday party is pending and people ask you what you want and you have everything you need already? This was the situation Catharine “Kate” Cline of Uniontown felt she was in when her son and daughter, Pam Fife, were planning a party for this milestone. Kate insisted that she didn’t need any presents. “What does this 90-year-old really need that I don’t already have?” she questioned. After a discussion, the family came up with an idea. Kate has been a long time member of St. Jacob’s Community Church and has been involved for many years in helping others through missions including Lake Township FISH. Why not have a reverse birthday party? Instead of Kate being the recipient of gifts, she’d ask all the guests to bring grocery and/or monetary donations that she in turn would give to FISH. To this birthday lady, it seemed like a perfect and logical way to celebrate! Over one hundred friends and family members responded generously and as a result, on July 2nd, Kate and Pam delivered hundreds of grocery items and \$200 to the pantry! What a thoughtful act this was! We are most grateful to all the birthday party donors and especially to Kate!

To all of you who help in any way: volunteering as shoppers, screeners, stockers, church representatives, sponsors, and donors, thank you for all you do in making a difference in our community and beyond.

Sponsored By:

Andy & Jill Pressler, Forever Lawn, Hartville Hardware, Hartville Kitchen, Hartville Marketplace, Ramsburg Insurance, Tom & Jan Dwenger, Countryside Plumbing, D.R. Miller Design Build, Dutcher Door, Hartville Health and Wellness, Uniontown Lions, Yoder-Bontrager Insurance, Consumers National Bank, Family Eyecare Center, MJ Miller and Co., and Senior Sitters L.L.C.—Thank you to all these sponsors for their support.