



**KEYSTONE  
COMMUNITY CENTER**

**Physical, 101 17<sup>th</sup> Street SE, Roanoke VA 24013**

**Mailing, PO Box 13042, Roanoke VA 24030**

**Office, 540-342-8452 website: keystonecommunitycenter.weebly**

**Focus August – November 2023**

**Fifteen years have now passed as Director of Keystone Community Center formerly Baptist Community Center when I was hired. I am humbled and thankful for the love, support and prayers extended to me and the ministry that was started in 1939. Your friendship has been my lifeline in so many ways and as I continue to serve I pray for God's blessings to be with you and the ministry.**

**Four months are left in this year. Start planning for the holidays by serving in the name of Jesus. Those who have volunteered, collected items needed for various programs, financially donated and importantly kept Keystone in your prayers, we are humbled by these acts of LOVE. The holiday food boxes will feed over 100 families so start buying a little extra now. The list will be included in this newsletter. You are needed for two more very important Christ sharing programs, Little Lambs and After School. Little lambs will start after Labor Day on Tuesdays, 9:30am to 12:30pm and After School, Monday to Thursday 2:15pm to 4:30pm. Please call to serve or the programs will not be offered or drastically downsized. I'm going to put a thought in your heads now for next April or now, I would like to hire a summer assistant to work with our children June to August and beyond. We are still trying to find the God called person to come on board as an assistant Director, must be a mature adult that loves children, adults, serving Christ and most important, a Christian. I am also asking for prayer in the possibility of purchasing the property behind the center so we can have a green space where children can play and have shade. Call for more info on this along with the finance part.**

**Dates to Save:**

**Aug—22 --- Rake City Schools start, After School Starts 2:30 to 4:30pm**

**Aug 24 - Adult Bible Study 9:30 to 11:30 (lunch served at 11)**

**Aug 28-31—after school 2:30 to 4:30**

**Aug 31—Adult Bible Study 9:30 to 11:30 (lunch 11:30)**

**Aug 31—our summer WMU overnight campers will be performing at Berkshire Nursing Home 6pm**

**Sept - 4 closed**

**After school Monday to Thursday, 2:15pm to 4:30pm whole month**

**Adult Bible Study every Thursday 9:30 to 11:30 with lunch**

**Sept 21—After School tailgate party**

**Oct- Adult Bible Study every Thursday, 9:30 to 11:30am**

**Oct 9 no after school**

**Oct 26 after school, pumpkin/scripture hunt (need extra volunteers, 3:30 to 4:30) Nov 2—deadline to bring in Thanksgiving food box items**

**Nov 6 to 12 Keystone closed (Pat vacation)**

**Nov 16—adult bible study, boxes given out—after school Thanksgiving meal & boxes given out**

**Nov 22-26 closed for Thanksgiving break**

**Nov 30 - deadline to bring Christmas food boxes**

**Dec 14—Christmas food boxes given out**

**Dec 15—deadline to turn in Angel Tree gifts**

**Dec 21—Jan 3 closed, Christmas Break**

**Reminder to all financial donors, statements will be mailed week of January 22, 2024**

## **Keystone Community Center**



### **2023 Thanksgiving Food Box List**

**Thanksgiving food boxes 2023 will be given out Thursday November 16, 2023. 50 boxes will be prepared and \$700 will**

**be needed to buy eggs, milk, butter, bread and meat. Items listed will go in each box and deadline to bring is November 2.**

- 1 Lg box instant potatoes (26.2 oz)**
- 1 sm bottle cooking oil**
- 1 can corn**
- 1 can green beans**
- 2 cans evaporated milk**
- 1 box cereal**
- 1 box pancake mix (just add water)**
- 1 small bottle syrup**
- 1 small bottle dishwashing liquid**
- 2 boxes Mac N Cheese**
- 2 boxes of Jello**
- 1 box saltine cracker**
- 1 small plastic jar peanut butter and jelly**
- 1 box of 1lb granulated sugar(not confection)**
- 1 small 25 ft. box foil**
- 4 cans soup**
- 1 pack turkey or chicken gravy mix (no glass jars please)**
- 1 box chicken or turkey flavor stuffing**
- 1 small bottle of clothes detergent**

**THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR LOVING OUR NEIGHBORS**

**Isaiah 58:10**

## **2023 Christmas Food Box Item**

**Christmas food boxes 2023 will be given out Thursday December 14, 2023. 50 boxes will be prepared and \$700 will be needed to buy eggs, milk, butter, bread and meat. Items listed will go in each box and deadline to bring is November 30 to December 6.**

- 1 Lg box instant potatoes (26.2 oz)**
- 1 small bottle cooking oil**
- 1 can corn**
- 1 can green beans**
- 3 cans evaporated milk**
- 1 small bag dried beans**
- 1 box pancake mix (just add water)**
- 1 small bottle syrup**
- 1 box or pouch brownie mix**
- 1 small bottle dishwashing liquid**
- 2 boxes Mac N Cheese**
- 2 boxes of Jello not instant pudding**
- 1 box saltine cracker**
- 1 box of 1lb granulated sugar (not confection)**
- 1 small 25 ft. box foil**
- 4 cans soup**
- 1 box instant oatmeal**
- 2 pack turkey or chicken gravy mix (no glass jars please)**
- 1 small bottle of clothes detergent**
- 1 25 ft roll of plastic wrap**
- 1 can of fruit**
- 1 box cereal**
- 1 small box spaghetti and plastic jar sauce**

**THANK YOU SO MUCH! YOUR LOVE FOR SHARING IS APPRECIATED. PRAY FOR THE FAMILY THAT WILL RECEIVE THIS BOX.**

**This part is just a recap of what we did this summer!!!!!!**

**After School—Last few weeks of school were hectic fitting in a mock 5k run at the park, the Blessing of the Gardens outdoor play, *The Parable of the Sower*, with 32 people in attendance. The highlight was the releasing of the Painted Lady butterflies into KCC garden. The children had watched them grow and hatch from the larvae stage to adult. The following week we had a graduation ceremony for our 5, 5<sup>th</sup> graders and 1 Little Lamb preschooler with 20 in attendance and ice cream social. The Last day of school was water day at KCC with pools, water games and lots of fun.**

**Adult Bible Study-- Was going to be cancelled but Dianne Shepherd with WMU found enough volunteer teachers to cover teaching as I was on field trips with the children. We averaged 3 to 6 ladies each week. Nancy Dye brought lunch the first Thursday and Jan prepared a hot lunch every week and delivered 12 meals (to a few shut ins) She also packed 26 bags of groceries for the summer.**

**Speaking engagements –I had a booth set up at the spring Garden Club plant sale in May, spoke at a WMU meeting at Mill Creek Baptist, Melrose Baptist WMU and one of the WMU groups met at KCC with a cookout and time of fellowship. I went to Sweet Briar College Tuesday to Thursday, July 11 to 13 to teach quilting classes for the Fusion Camp with 32 youth.**

**Mission Teams- This year we had 2 groups come to KCC. Colonial Ave Baptist along with the Presbyterian church came with 12 youth to empty the food pantry and paint it a fresh white. Cave Spring Baptist had a week of serving in the valley and brought 12 to 14 older youth to work 3 hours in the morning and another group came back at 6pm to 8pm and conducted a VBS for the children. 17<sup>th</sup> Street /Access Church youth need some mission projects so I gave them several projects they could do at the church.**

**Little Lamb Learners-** There were 4 registered. This was a new program for 6 weeks prior to school starting for preschoolers going to kindergarten this fall that had not been to a preschool. It was designed to work with parent separation, social skills, following instructions, holding a pencil, how to eat lunch, sit still during a story plus more. Mr. Warren Stewart was the only applicant which was a God answered prayer one week prior to starting. He was a 2<sup>nd</sup> year English/wrestling coach at Northside High school wanting a part time summer job. He loved it and after 2 days of watching me he took over with me, Pat Carter being the assistant most of the time. I had to finish the 2 weeks in Aug as he had to be back at Northside, but all went well.

**Garden to Table—**This was a new program as well for 3<sup>rd</sup> grade to 7th grade. We had 10 sign up but ended up with 3. They met mostly 3 times a week. They worked in the KCC garden, did menu planning, visited a grocery store to gather prices so they could calculate how much they could save by growing their own, harvested and weighed so we can see how much our garden produced, had a friendly competition with each other with their own corn and tomato plant, and cooked. We had a lot more planned but ran out of time.

**WMU Missions Overnight Camp -** We had 5 children sponsored for \$60 each. I took them to the camp (Ward Haven) on Monday and attended their program on Thursday and brought them back to Roanoke. I led the campfire music on Wednesday.

**Backyard Garden-** We had 5 ½ gardens this year plus the KCC garden. We spent a little extra money on critter proofing, and it was worth it for the most part. No groundhogs, skunks, opossums ate anything. Squirrels ate most of our apples. The gardens are for the most part producing for the families and the ones working hard are reaping produce. Totals will be reported later.

**Fundraiser- Motorcycle ride was held July 29. 32 motorcycles signed in with several passengers. They raised \$700 which will be used to offset the after-school activity fee. They collected over 300 children's books to support reading and placed at least 2 books in all the backpacks from PreK to college. The last Saturday of July has been established as the annual ride. Leo, one of our gardeners had an excess of cucumbers and tomatoes so we sold fresh SE vegetables for \$1 a pound. We sold \$20 worth.**

**Backpack – School supplies were collected June and July. We prepared 90 bookbags with supplies for PreK to college age students.**

**Reading & Writing & Sign Language Camp- We had 11 children attend Monday to Thursday. Jan taught them bible scripture in sign language (she is an interpreter for the deaf churches) for 15 to 20 minutes then they practiced handwriting in cursive and print for 30 minutes, took a quick snack break, and read books for 45 minutes then did a brief book talk on one book. They set their goal to read 200 books in 4 days and read 202 books.**

**Summer Camp- We had 25 children signed up but had different numbers every day. Camp started June 12 and ended August 10. The children attended 4 vacation bible schools, Bonsack Baptist, Troutville Baptist, Melrose Baptist, and Vinton Baptist. These churches provided transportation for us. Cave Spring Baptist came to us.**

**THE END**

**If you need a guest speaker to share with any groups in your church or business what this ministry is about, how you can serve or meet at KCC, please call Pat Carter 540-342-8452 to set a date**

