

New Year 2011

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

JANUARY 2011

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

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- **Paypal**
- **Serving Opportunities**
- **Angel Tree**
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New For the New Year

We have been serving outside beside the courthouse for years, Wednesdays and Sundays, in the rain, snow, sleet, hail, and sun.

When it rains, we get wet and when it's cold, we shiver.

There is a time for eating outside and enjoying it—tailgating; because later you can always get in a vehicle and turn on the heat, and later go home to a heated home and reheat leftovers.

No one should eat outside or live outside on a permanent basis. Not veterans—which we



have a few, not women, and we have several, and not people who have fallen on hard times.

We are Thankful For 1st Church of God, who has opened their

doors to us Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays for several years.

Now, praise the Lord, St. Michael Lutheran Church on State Street

has opened it's doors for us to serve our Wednesday and Sunday suppers.

The Lord provides our needs according to His riches in glory.

Serving Opportunities:

Wednesdays St. Michael Lutheran Church 118 State Street,
Tues., Thurs., Fri., 1st Church of God, 15 N 4th St.

**Serving
Opportunities:
Tues, Wed,
Thurs., Fri.,
and Sunday
4pm—6 pm**

Website News

Finally our website is up and functioning. New photos, past newsletters, sponsors, blogs and more.

We also are on Facebook, - be a friend and keep up with current blogs.

Also, we now accept PayPal it is

on website under Get Involved.

New churches were added; more "helping hands" have joined the family.

Also, if you would like to receive

newsletter via email, go to our website:

www.helpinghandsministries.org
click on contact us, and send us your email address or if you no longer want to receive newsletters, please let us know.

Christmas and...



We were able to serve our Christmas meal Saturday Christmas Day at *First Church of God*. Saturday was not one of our regular scheduled serving day but *First Church* opened their door for us to serve

our meal of turkey, ham, potatoes, vegetables, bread & butter and desserts, We are truly thankful for the opportunity to serve that day.

Kelli and her family with the help of their church family *Christian Life Assembly* gave goodie bags labeled man or woman. They were filled with hats, gloves, shaving cream razors, and chap stick; and there were long johns for all. What a blessing. "my guys" were covered head to toe with new items.

We also handed out bags filled with scarves, socks, personal care items

and tasty treats.

Judy and Dave had their annual Christmas Eve party and donated their leftover cookies mmmmm good.

Club 56 from Trinity United Methodist Church, Hummelstown came down Thursday, December 30. They served and brought white socks, soap and deodorant. "My guys" have seen such generosity this Christmas season, the giving of gifts and the giving of selves.

Acts 20:35

I have shewed you all things, how that so labouring ye ought to support the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed to give than to receive.

We are having MEAT tonight.

Need a blanket?

All the coats hanging up are for you, help yourself!

Donations

Chris from *Tree of Life* donated 40 pounds of chicken quarters. "my guys" love meat.

Thanks to all who donated Giant turkeys &/or turkey coupons. We had MEAT for our Thanksgiving meal, Christmas meal and then some for later.

Also thank you *Co's Meat* for butchering donated deer meat. Ground

meat and smoked hind quarters are on the menu for this winter season.

We also need to recognize our faithful local vendors for donating food to us: *Healthy Grocer, Specialty Cakes by Bob, Broad Street Market, Wegmans, and Karns.*

Thank you *St. John's Lutheran Church Disciple class* for preparing casseroles!

Thank you *St. John's Lutheran* preschool. We have been blessed to have your leftovers.

And thank you Tim for the extras from a local school's lunch program.

Thank you Susan and Jojo for preparing the meal the Thursday before Christmas. I was so busy with everything else it was a blessing to have a meal prepared for me.

Gifts That Give

Helping Hands Ministries participated in the *Alternative Gift Fair, "Gifts that Give,"* which offers holiday shoppers an alternative to traditional gift giving and is a perfect way to get in the real spirit of the season.

Gifts are chosen to honor family and friends with donations to

causes that fit their values while supporting the participating local and international non-profit organizations in a festive atmosphere.

It was held in December at the Holiday Inn on the Carlisle Pike.

Angel Trees

Wow the "angels" in the Harrisburg area. *Tree of Life, Midletown Church of God, Daybreak and Word of Grace* all gathered hats, socks, goodies, clothes; coats from *Light of Hope* youth group and *Mountain Ridge Church.*

Thank you so much!



From My Heart



This past year many of “my guys” have passed away but the one that is the saddest is the passing of Brian. He was 28 and died of a seizure. Most of “my guys” have addictions, and diseases that are caused by unhealthy choices. Brian neither did drugs nor alcohol because of his seizures.

I met Brian when he was about 18. He was in and out of foster care for the bigger part of his life. He was what you

would say a “trouble-maker” as a young person. Brian had just gotten out of jail and came to the soup kitchen. He had no coat, and it was November. We got him a coat and it was missing a button. An extra button was in the pocket and I sewed it on. I have a son that is about the same age as Brian and felt a “mom” connection. I loved on him as much as I could. I brought him home for a few hours a week, took him to church and just showed him that someone cared.

I was with him through some of his seizures. He would have them in the street, at the church, he even had one at the overnight church shelters.

He had a warrant at one time; I took him to the sheriff's office where he turned himself in, it was the right thing for him to do. I went to his hearing. I didn't give

up on him.

We got him SSD and was payee for awhile. He did learn how to handle his finances, got a place, and even got a job as a bouncer. He was a success story.

In 2010 he got shot, it was in the papers.

We went to see him with all those tubes in him. I let him know that I loved him and prayed with him. I saw him before he was discharged. He was weak but such a fighter,

He came down to where I was serving outside beside the courthouse a couple of Sundays after his strength returned.

I was always glad to see him. He would say stuff about me being like a mom to him.

Last Friday, I got news that he died in his apartment of a seizure. I was in shock,

COATS, BLANKETS, AND FAITHFULNESS

Coats, coats, blankets and more blankets. We are truly thankful for all the coats and blankets that have been donated this winter. “My guys” have no way of storing blankets and coats from one winter to the next you for helping to keep them warm.

Food, food, and more food donated. *Emmanuel Baptist Christian Academy* had a clothing and food

drive. A great response from the students!

Camp Hill United Methodist Preschool had it's annual holiday food drive for us. Thank you for your generous giving.

I cannot do it all: cook, serve, cleanup, run to pick up and keep it all organized at home. First, my husband, Terry. He is the “behind

the scenes man.” I am truly blessed with a wonderful husband. Tuesday servers: Ron, Andrea, and Alice from *Mountain Ridge Church*, and Larry from *Trinity UMC*, Ron makes the salad and a good salad it is, all the veggies cut up not just a green salad. *Grace Baptist Church* comes Fridays and Ron or Gary picks up from *Maple Donuts*. Thank you friends for your faithfulness.

Got Coats?

Got Blankets?

Got Support!

“Pick-Up”

On Tuesday mornings, Owen from *Market Square Presbyterian Church*, faithfully for years has been picking up bread and pastry products from the Karns in *Leymoynne*. Thank you so much Owen.

On Wednesday morning, Patrick from *Light of Hope*, Jim from *CHUM*, and Roman drive to *Wegmans* and load a truck full of bread,

pastries, salad, and produce; Patrick delivers to *1st Church. Of God* Thanks guys for your faithfulness in all seasons.

On Saturdays, Shannon and her family from *New Hope Church*, along with a couple of “my kids,” come to *Broad Street Market* where we sort and load donations of prepared foods, meat, pasta salads,

pastries and produce.

Saturdays are when we need help at *Broad Street*. There are Saturdays when Shannon cannot be there so if anyone can help especially for January, please call 717 919 4383.



Fresh Produce



Helping Hands Ministries of Harrisburg, Inc.

1077 Oyster Mill Rd.
Camp Hill, PA 17011

717 731 1807

717 919 4383

www.helpinghandsministries.org

Totally Relying on God



You Can Make a Difference

Kayah a fifth grader put out a plea for the homeless, "...since winter is coming I was hoping you would donate clothes...for all these unfortunate people." She collected 3 *big trash bags* full of clothes, blankets, pants, coats, hats, and gloves.

Curt, Kelli and her family, Tim and his family wanted to blessed the families with children who come to eat. Well, word got out that we were helping to give children who otherwise would not have a gift, these two families blessed 15 children. Thank you for making their Christmas extra special.

John is doing community service for school credit. We are thankful for students interested in helping the community by helping the homeless.

I also want to recognize some others

who make a difference and without their faithfulness and hard work, well, we would be adding to the landfill.

Jim, a veteran, someone who made a mistake, is forgiven and has a job and a place to live, comes to wash my dishes. *Judy and Mike* have been helping for almost two years on Thursdays, and I really appreciate their faithfulness. And *Leroy* who comes every Friday and brings *Ada*. They do the "prep" work before the serving and then Leroy washes dishes with Jim.

And finally *Ryan*, who is now moving far away, he and *Fred, CHUM*, have stood outside with us on Wednesdays for years. Thanks for sticking it out and being, "union."

I am truly thankful and blessed to have so many people with a giving heart. Thank you.

We are an outreach ministry in the city of Harrisburg for the homeless, the downtrodden, and other needy people. Through hot meals, we reach out to the poor with a love and care that is so often missing yet desperately wanting in their lives. No one is turned away. Anyone in need of a hot meal or encouragement is welcomed.