

FEEDING THE BODY AND THE SOUL



Message

April 2015

www.greaterspartanburgministries.org

OUR CARE MINISTRIES:

Food Pantry • Clothing • Heating & Cooling Assistance • Fire Victim Assistance

THIS ISSUE

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For Constant Contact Today
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Attend Global Impact Celebrations

FROM THE DIRECTOR

First, I want to thank you for supporting Greater Spartanburg Ministries. Without your kind gifts and donations, or shopping in our thrift store, we would be unable to lend a helping hand to our neighbors. Many have fallen on hard times recently, living on low incomes permanently, or abandoned by their spouses and you help us bridge a gap financially, show compassion, and offer unconditional love and understanding. Secondly, we have been blessed with grants from BHLO and the JM Smith Foundation for the installation of a walk in freezer. Share with us the joy in knowing that we can solicit and store large quantities of frozen meats for our clients, increasing our ability to meet food needs more effectively. Lastly, I want to say that having shared in the joys and sorrows for 9 years with our neighbors that we serve, I thank God for you and I hope this newsletter finds you blessed.

Kevin Koger
CEO

CURRENT NEEDS:

Food: canned goods, rice, pasta, cereals, oatmeal, and grits.

Gently used: furniture, household items, clothing, and financial donations.

**GSM will pickup
your donations.
Call today at
864-585-9371.**



FOLLOW GSM

FACEBOOK

[facebook.com/Greater Spartanburg Ministries](https://facebook.com/GreaterSpartanburgMinistries)

WEBSITE

www.greaterspartanburgministries.org

GREATER SPARTANBURG MINISTRIES

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GSM ANNUAL SPRING BANQUET

*To be held April 21, 2015
at St. John's Lutheran Church*



*Coach Mike Ayers
Wofford College*

Join GSM for their annual Spring Fund-raising Banquet. Fellowship and dinner will begin at 6pm, with the program following at 6:30. The speaker will be Wofford College football coach, Mike Ayers. His topic will be, "Through The Tough Times. A conversation about getting through the tough times and helping others get through theirs." Mike is a Georgetown College graduate where he received his BA and MA degrees. He was also a three-time All-District selection at linebacker and all-district catcher on the baseball team, in addition to competing in gymnastics and wrestling. Mike is inducted in the Athletic Hall of Fame at both Glen Este prep school and Georgetown College.

Mike came to Wofford in 1988 and took them to a NCAA Division II playoff berth in 1990. Under Mike's leadership, Wofford has seen 2 Division II playoffs, 6 Division I FCS Playoffs, and 4 Southern Conference titles. Mike has been at Wofford for 28 years and currently ranks fourth in wins with 193.

If you are interested in sponsoring a table or purchasing a ticket, visit www.greaterspartanburgministries.org. If you would like to make a donation, visit www.greaterspartanburgministries.org/Make-A-Donation. For any questions, call 585-9371. TABLE HOSTS, ETC. PLEASE RSVP BY APRIL 14.

GET CONNECTED WITH GSM BY SIGNING UP FOR CONSTANT CONTACT TODAY

*GSM is now using Constant Contact for
eNewsletters, updates, announcements,
and much more.*



GSM has now added Constant Contact to its tools of communication. Constant Contact, or eBlast, is an effective way for GSM to get the word out about upcoming events, Thrift Store promotions and activities surrounding the ministry. An eBlast sends out an email to hundreds of people at one time thus saving time.

Also, to cut down on mailing and postage cost, we will be sending the GSM newsletter via Constant Contact eBlast. This is a great way to save the ministry time and money. However, the paper version will still be available to those who wish to receive it. If you would like to be added to our Constant Contact eBlast list, please contact Kevin at greaterspartanburgministries@yahoo.com or Candace at candacerathbone@charter.net.

Did You Know:

In 2014, 7,415 families received food assistance from GSM. That's approximately 16,250 people.

GSM PARTICIPATING IN "SUPPORT SPARTANBURG COUNTY"

Charity Giving Day is Tuesday, May 5.



"Support Spartanburg County 2015" is a one-day online giving initiative offered by The Spartanburg County Foundation. This first ever event will take place Tuesday, May 5, 2015, from 8:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. (EST). Everyone will have the opportunity to log onto www.supportspartanburgcounty.org and make direct donations to GSM. But the best part is, all donations made during this time can grow significantly by a bonus pool of funds, making your gift to GSM go further! GSM encourages everyone to donate so they can

continue ministering to those in need in our community.

Mark your calendar to join GSM at www.supportspartanburgcounty.org on May 5th and support them with a donation. GSM thanks you for your continued support.

You can follow GSM's progress through social media:

Twitter:

@supportsburgcty

@spcountyfdn

@GiveLocal2015

#supportsburgcty

#GivingDay2015

#GiveLocalAmerica

Facebook:

Support Spartanburg County

The Spartanburg County Foundation

GiveLocalAmerica

GSM RECEIVES CANNED GOODS THROUGH SOUPER BOWL OF CARING



GSM thanks the many who contributed.

Souper Bowl of Caring involves young people in our area who collect money or canned goods that goes directly to GSM. During Super Bowl week, January 25 - February 1, 2015, GSM received nearly 2,000 pounds of food from our local young people and their respected churches. GSM wishes to personally thank McCarthy Teszler School and everyone for their contributions.

Did You Know:

**In 2014, over 430 families were assisted with clothing.
That's approximately 994 people.**

GSM WELCOMES NEW BOARD MEMBER BRIAN CANNON

Brian L. Cannon was born in Denver, Colorado and grew up in Houston Texas. Brian and his wife Annette, who have been married for 45 years, are both alumni of the University of Texas at Austin. Following graduation, both Brian and his wife taught school in the Houston area. They have two children who were born in Texas but grew up in Gainesville, Florida, where they resided for 16 years. In 2003, Brian and his family moved to Boiling Springs where he began his career at QS/1 Data Systems, a Division of the JM Smith Corporation, as an Application Development Manager. In addition to his 2 children, Brian also has 5 grandchildren and attends New Beginnings United Methodist Church in Boiling Springs. Brian is also a member of the Board of Directors at the Thomas E. Hannah YMCA.

FUN FACT: Brian's son-in-law is a Major and has just been assigned to the Pentagon.



Lillie Drummond



*AARP Program Worker
Lillie Drummond*

The GSM spotlight for this edition is on Duncan native Lillie Drummond. Lillie works for AARP which is a 4 year, state-wide program that helps those 55 years and older find a job. AARP allows those to gain experience in the field they wish to become involved in. Lillie has been working at GSM for a year and a half through the AARP program. Lillie also attends Restoration Church of Prayer.

Lillie's duties at GSM include working in the Thrift Store where she sorts clothing and hangs them up for sale. She has also worked in the Food Pantry. Lillie says, "I get to meet different people and minister to them. I get to help with their needs. It has been a great experience and everyone gets along so well. I like the people I work with at GSM and it is a great Christian environment." She also adds one person that has impacted her while at GSM is Scott Cheek. "Scott touches me and he loves the Lord. He has a lot of faith and God has brought Scott a long way." Lillie says she, "thanks God for the people I work with. I am also thankful for GSM and how it has helped my spiritual life."

Did You Know:

**In 2014, GSM helped 74 children have a
Merry Christmas.**



**Visit our THRIFT STORE today for great deals on clothing and household items.
Or visit our THRIFT STORE webpage at: www.greaterspartanburgministries.org/Thrift-Store.html**



680 Asheville Hwy • Spartanburg, SC 29303

GSM CEO KEVIN KOGER AND BOARD PRESIDENT EDDIE WEST ATTEND GLOBAL IMPACT CELEBRATIONS

Events held at Southside Baptist and Anderson Mill Road Baptist Churches

Kevin Koger and Eddie West, Board President, attended Global Impact Celebrations at Southside Baptist and Anderson Mill Road Baptist Churches February 27-March 1st. They shared the ministry with several small groups throughout the weekend. The goal of the GIC Conference was to celebrate missions and inform church members about International, National, Regional, and local missions. Thank you to both churches for their hospitality and interest throughout the weekend!

These events have been fruitful in presenting volunteer opportunities for members in the community, many of whom will serve at GSM! And a special thank you to Candace Rathbone for designing an awesome display for the conferences.



Photo of new GSM display

Did You Know: In 2014, GSM assisted 187 families and 994 individuals with utilities.