

FEEDING THE BODY AND THE SOUL



Message

NOVEMBER 2015

www.greaterspartanburgministries.org

OUR CARE MINISTRIES:

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

THIS ISSUE

- Make A Difference, One Can At A Time
- Donate Your Wheels To GSM
- GSM Receives New Freezer
- GSM Volunteer Spotlight - Sabrina Simpson
- GSM Raises Over \$21,000 During Banquet
- Upcoming GSM Opportunities

This newsletter dedicated to

BOB LUDWICK (5/11/39 - 7/8/15)
(photo not available)



SCOTT CHEEK
(1/7/68 - 8/27/15)



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FROM THE DIRECTOR

2015 has been a year of both highs and lows for GSM. The highlights include a successful banquet and the installation of a wonderful walk-in freezer in the Spring. Our food pantry is second to none! On a sad note, we lost two faithful servants, Scott Cheek and Bob Ludwick. Scott worked in our thrift store and Bob delivered surplus fruits from farms in the upstate to our food pantry. We ride the days not knowing what tomorrow holds, however, we know who holds tomorrow don't we? Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Recently, we assisted a young lady with five children. She had been abused and abandoned by her husband. We were able to help her with food, clothing, electric service, and furniture for her new address. She is on the road to recovery. I thank God for supporters like you who partner with us to serve our clients. When you support GSM, you help our organization and clients weather the storms of life. Please consider us when you make your giving decisions at year's end. May God richly bless you this holiday season!

Kevin Koger
CEO

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

GSM needs volunteers for the following:

- to sort and hang clothing in Resale Store
- to help with food distribution in the Food Pantry
- to serve on the GSM Board of Directors
- to assist with Marketing and Event Planning

Call Kevin @ 585-9371 to discuss these opportunities to serve.

GREATER SPARTANBURG MINISTRIES

680 Asheville Hwy • Spartanburg, SC 29303

P: 864-585-9371 • F: 864-585-9373 • E: greaterspartanburgministries@yahoo.com • W: www.greaterspartanburgministries.org

MAKE A DIFFERENCE... ONE CAN AT A TIME

The GSM food pantry is running low on donations of canned goods and greatly needs the community's help. The food supply has fallen dramatically since the summer, but the demand is still there.



"The summer months were hard on us," said Kevin Koger, GSM CEO. "The need to minister and feed those around us never goes away and our shelves are substantially low. We are asking churches, businesses and our local community if they would be willing to contribute."

Donations may be dropped off at GSM, 680 Asheville Hwy, Spartanburg. Also, GSM will be glad to pick up your items. Just call 585-9371 or email greaterspartanburgministries@yahoo.com. If you would like to make a financial contribution, visit: www.greaterspartanburgministries.org/Make-A-Donation.html or mail to our physical address.

Did You Know?

GSM distributes 900-1000 cans per week,
that's 3,600 - 4,000 per month.

DONATE YOUR WHEELS TO GSM



Do you have an old or unneeded car or truck? Consider donating it to GSM. When you donate your car, you can receive an excellent tax deduction. Contact Kevin today at 585-9371 if you are interested.

GSM RECEIVES NEW FREEZER

*Thank you to the JM Smith
and Winn Dixie Foundations*



A dream became a reality at GSM when the JM Smith Foundation and the BI-LO Winn Dixie Foundation funded our grant requests for a walk in freezer for the Food Pantry. The freezer was installed in June and is fully operational and COLD! We now have the ability to solicit and store more meat than ever! The freezer is located inside the food pantry and measures 20' x 13'6" x 8'6". We cannot thank these two foundations enough!

Did You Know?

According to feedingamerica.org, 1 in 7 people in the United States struggle with hunger.



Sabrina Simpson



Sabrina Simpson

Spartanburg native, Sabrina Simpson, has been volunteering in the GSM Food Pantry for over 2 years. She is also a member of Friendship Baptist Church. Sabrina says that volunteering "frees her mind" and she "loves to be around people." "What I enjoy most about volunteering at GSM is meeting and helping people and seeing them smile. And I love the people I work with!"

Sabrina receives much joy when she can make someone happy and bless them with much needed food. "It makes me happy to know that I am doing something right."

Stop by the GSM THRIFT STORE for great deals on clothing and household items,
or visit www.greaterspartanburgministries.org/thrift-store. All purchases help fund our CARE MINISTRIES.

Did You Know?

Twenty-six percent of Spartanburg city residents live below the poverty line – higher than 13.2 percent of SC residents who live below the poverty line. (April 15, 2014 goupstate.com)

GSM RAISES OVER \$21,000 DURING ANNUAL SPRING BANQUET

GSM extends a heartfelt thank you to those who attended

The annual GSM Spring Banquet was held Tuesday, April 21 at St John's Lutheran Church. Fellowship and dinner began at 6pm, with the program following at 6:30. Wofford College Head

football coach, Mike Ayers was the keynote speaker. His topic was, "Through The Tough Times. A conversation about getting through the tough times and helping others get through theirs."



*Pianist
Dave Zabriskie*



*GSM CEO
Kevin Koger*



*Rev. Emily Edenfield
St. John's Lutheran Church*



*Alan and
Nancy Dickson*



*Food catered by Sims
Bar-B-Que, Duncan*



*Guest speaker and
Coach Mike Ayers*



*Annie Thompson
and Gwen Hollis*



*Evelyn Lynn
and Kitty Hagglund*



*Kay West and John
Gieser*



*Hugh Brantley and
Dick Ebert*

GSM would like to thank the following Sponsors:

- Presenting Sponsor: JM Smith Corporation;
- Associate Sponsors: Belue Farms and Rhino Linings, Spartanburg
- Partner Sponsors: Bi-Lo, Dr. Vonda Gravely, and St. John's Lutheran Church
- Benefactor Sponsors: George Johnson Insurance, George and Margaret Nixon, Marc Elliott (Elliott & Painter, LLP), John and Lynne Poole, New Beginnings United Methodist Church,

- Southside Baptist Church, Crossroads Baptist Church, Anderson Mill Road Baptist Church and Wilson Equipment;
- Friend Sponsors: Shelly Roehrs (Me 2 Ideas Event Planning), Stephen Cannon (Law Insurance Company), Michael Horne, CPA, Cheryl and William Ferrell, Larry and Dale Kibler, Chris Sigmon (Lifesong Visual Arts), Dave Zabriskie, Pianist and Sims Bar-B-Que, Duncan.

DONATE TO GSM WITH UNITED WAY

Help our local families by designating your workplace United Way Campaign funds to GSM. Contact your Human Resource Rep for information.



GRAMLING UMC SENIOR DAY



Tuesday, October 20th, GSM spent a wonderful day serving Seniors at the annual Gramling UMC Senior Day. GSM provided a mobile food pantry and provided assistance with electric bills. Will and Catherine Gramling coordinated the event, which provides all types of free services for seniors. For more information, contact Gramling UMC at 864-472-2551 or GSM at 864-585-9371.



680 Asheville Hwy • Spartanburg, SC 29303

UPCOMING GSM OPPORTUNITIES

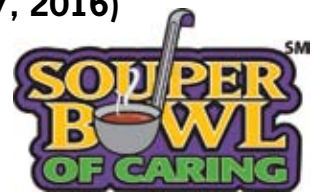
CHRISTMAS TOYS (December 4, 2015)

Many children will have little or no Christmas without GSM. As we seek to teach our friends about the reason for the season – we love to see the little one’s having a good Christmas as well. Consider sponsoring a family’s children at this holy time of year for only \$50 per child. Or you can donate new or gently used toys to GSM. All items are due December 4, 2015. (For ages 3-13)



SOUPER BOWL OF CARING (January 18 - February 7, 2016)

Each year, around the time of the Super Bowl football game, Souper Bowl of Caring mobilizes youth to collect money and canned goods. 100% of the money they collect goes directly to the charity of their choice. Call GSM at 585-9371 today or visit www.souperbowl.org and learn how you can get involved.



#ServiceHuddle #SouperStars



ATTRACTIONS DINING AND VALUE GUIDES *Stop by GSM and pick up yours today*

We have the Attractions Dining and Value Guide 2015-2016 on sale in the GSM Resale Store for \$20. Half of the sale benefits GSM! Stop in today or call us and we’ll reserve one for you to pickup later (864-585-9371). Go to our website at www.greaterspartanburgministries.org for a list of the savings from the book.