



Feeding all who enter.

Special Announcement

The Stewpot Tapestry

An embroidered tapestry in France dates way back to 1056. It is a huge effort undertaken over a period of time telling the story of the lives of people, war, comets to coronations. Hundreds of people worked thousands of hours on this amazing piece of history. It has 70 scenes and is hundreds of feet long.

As our fifth week of Stewpot Sandwich Shoppe continues, this analogy rings more and more true.

Ed Brown and his team have totally complied and in fact

modeled washing, sanitizing, masking and gloving every minute they are at work. His team has reliably taken on the tasks of delivering food & drinks to our diners each day. They have kept the property spotless by multiple trash cans and also picking up any stray trash after lunch. Then they come back upstairs and clean the dining room floors and tables. Additionally ,the team unloads the massive deliveries we have needed to be sure we have food to make the lunches each day.

Speaking of food, in the last weeks, volunteers have made over 3,000 sack lunches. That's a lot of bread – 461 loaves to be exact. Each day our diners have had a peanut butter and a meat sandwich, cookies, chips, fruit or vegetables plus condiments to go with sandwiches. We have averaged 150 lunches daily. Every lunch has been completely consumed every day. Our diners are both hungry and thankful. They stop volunteers on the street telling how much they appreciate our efforts.

This quality of food would have been completely impossible without the Foodbank and USDA providing free or extremely reasonable nutritious food for us. They have made sure we had items needed to change our menus. Of course, our hats are off to the team that picks up food

from the Foodbank 2-3 times monthly and delivers it to the church. Last week that amount was well over 2,500 pounds of food!

We are gradually adding things back into our Stewpot program that had to be put on hold in the beginning. The clothing closet remains closed but for the past two weeks, we have included soap and toothpaste in our sacks on Thursdays. One day a week we are including a hot item, such as soup or barbeque. The diners have loved these additions.

This month in addition to sanitizer, gloves and distancing, volunteers have appeared with masks. Thanks to another group of volunteers, we have been able to give many high-quality reusable fabric masks to our lunch teams. These masks are made with three layers of fabric and are the best designs ever following the recommendations of hospitals.

In addition to this amazing tapestry of volunteers, vendors, seamstresses and donors' prayers have contributed mightily to the success of Stewpot. They have been woven into each day's service to our downtown community.

We are grateful and humbled by the response of our many Stewpot friends. Our story began decades ago and has faced many challenges but we have been able to overcome and thrive thanks to our volunteers.

Our generous donations continue to come in daily, and for this we are truly thankful. Although we try hard to make our pennies stretch, we still have salaries and ongoing expenses to consider. As noted above our numbers have remained higher than normal throughout the month. This trend will continue.

The article above was written by Nancy Howell, Chairman of the Stewpot Board.

Make a Donation to Stewpot

All of Stewpot's financial support comes from donations from churches and individuals. Please help support the Stewpot. Make an online donation by clicking on Make a Donation below. When you click on Make a Donation, you will have the option of making an online donation with a PayPal account or a credit card.

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