



Stewpot October 2022 Newsletter



Enjoy Fall in Arkansas

Meet Jason Benbrook Stewpot's New Day Manager

Jason Benbrook was raised in Benton, AR but has lived in North Little Rock for the last several years.

He is the father of two teenage girls. His mother has volunteered at Stewpot for many years and introduced him to it about three years ago. He immediately fell in love with Stewpot and the people that are served through its service. Jason loves to cook and clean. He can fix just about anything from freezers to faucets. Jason's favorite projects are the cookouts where Stewpot provides special meals for their diners.



Spotlight
on...

Kay Shurgar

Thirty years ago, Kay signed up to volunteer at the

Stewpot with the Trinity Episcopal Cathedral Team.

Trinity had been part of Stewpot since its inception in 1976. She was on the serving team that came in around 11:30 a.m. and worked until 1:00 p.m. Being "the rookie", She was assigned to handout desserts. Apparently, this was not the most desirable position, but she loved interacting with the diners and listening to their stories. In 2002, she retired from her regular job and became part of the cooking and serving team as Trinity Day Captain. Their team cooked and served every other Monday. Additionally, Kay coordinates Stewpot's USDA program with AR Foodbank, making sure our diners have nutritious meals throughout the month.

In 2020, Covid, of course, changed everything. Stewpot carried on thanks to incredible leadership and a cadre of devout volunteers. We are certainly an eclectic group with our own eccentricities, foibles, and craziness. But we are without question a cohesive group that has one

common goal, to Feed the Hungry. I am so grateful and blessed to be a part this organization!



The diners love Kay.

SERVING THEIR

COMMUNITY On Mercy Day



Friday, September 23 was Mercy Day for Mount St. Mary Academy. Every person in the school was out serving others. Stewpot was visited by six lovely girls from Mount St. Mary who served their community by making sacks of trail mix for our diners. They mixed and bagged over 150 snack bags for weekend snacks. Additionally, they repackaged cookies and took a tour of our serving operation. We are very blessed to have young volunteers. Hopefully they will continue the spirit of volunteerism throughout their lives.



Volunteers Needed!



Volunteers are always needed at the Stewpot. Volunteers typically help prepare sack lunches one day a month, i.e., a certain day of the month and usually work only once a month. There is nothing to preclude working more than once a month. Normally working times each day are from 9:00 am - 11:00 am. Volunteers help make sandwiches and whatever else is being served that day. Something hot, such as soup, stew, or

wraps are served once or twice a week. Also, the items must be placed in paper bags which Jason and Yolanda carry down to the serving area. For special occasions, a hot meal is prepared and served downstairs rather than sack lunches. For these occasions, the regular team prepares the food and a special team serves the food to the diners. The teams have fun and interact with each other as they volunteer at the Stewpot.

Volunteers are also needed in the Clothes Closet. Volunteers distribute women's clothing on Tuesdays from 12:00 - 1:00 p.m. and men's clothing on Thursdays from 12:00 - 1:30 p.m.

Barbara likes for women to distribute women's clothing and men to distribute men's clothing.

Please consider volunteering

**For more information or to
volunteer, contact the
Stewpot at:
stewpotlr@gmail.com**



**Photo above shows contents of a typical
sack lunch. Our goal is to provide diners with**

a meal plus snacks for the rest of the day.



Photo above shows sack lunches. Typically,
125 - 135 sack lunches are prepared daily.

Clothes Closet

*"I needed clothes and
you clothed me."*

Matthew 25:38

Fall is just around the corner.....I am so looking
forward to it! However, that does mean that it will
soon be time to pack up summer clothes and

replace them with sweaters, scarves, and gloves. That leads me to a huge problem at the Closet, and that is we continue to have no men's pants/jeans smaller than size 36 waist. Also, we are totally out of men's shoes bigger than a size 9. Hopefully, donations will pick up!!!

Fall is a perfect time for churches or groups to have a month-long drive for specific items. In the past we've had "Undie Sunday's", "Soles for Souls", Baseball caps and hooded sweatshirts. **(See Undie Sunday article below).**

The number of both men and women that we serve has increased greatly over the past few months, and we are really looking for more items to be donated.

Take a look in your closets.....you just might have some things you don't need that would help

out our clients! Thanks!

Barbara

Socks'n Undies Sunday

Dear Stewpot Friends,

It has been since before the
pandemic began that the



Clothes Closet has held an Undies Sunday event to encourage donations of underwear and socks. The previous ones have been very successful. We now find that we must schedule our first one since 2019 to replenish the stockpiles of underwear and socks necessary to provide for our clients. Therefore, today we are announcing the 2022 version of Sock It To Me On Undies Sunday. The collection date will be Sunday, October 16th, but of course, we happily accept donations any time! Please bring your donated items to your church for collection.

We would like to request that you notify your churches of this event and ask that each church member donate one package of new underwear or white socks. We are asking for both men's and women's underwear and white cotton socks. The sizes for women are 6 through 12 and for men are small through XXL (however, we seem to run out of small and medium quicker!).

Let's try to see if this year can be even better than previous ones!! Thank you so very much for your participation in this ongoing mission!

In peace,

The Clothes Closet

Make a Donation to Stewpot

Stewpot's financial support comes from donations from churches and individuals. With food costs rising and our numbers increasing each month, we really need your

financial support. 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 either PayPal or a credit card.

Make a Donation

**[800 Scott Street, Little Rock, AR 72201]
[501) 372-1804] [stewpotlr@gmail.com]
[<http://www.stewpot-littlerock.org/>]**

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