

A Model for Charitable Outreach  
“Lazarus on our Doorstep”

We all have talents. Some of us are given more. Some of us are given less. Whatever we have, we can use our talents to build a community that reflects the one true God through our work for Jesus in the Spirit or we can bury our potential in the dirt. We are here today to achieve Christian outreach in our communities, not a thousand miles away or even a hundred. We are here not to act as individuals, where we count our assets and debits, but to work in faith that good works will bring light to those in darkness. In order to achieve His goal of meeting this requirement: *Matthew 35* ‘For I was hungry, and you gave Me something to eat; I was thirsty, and you gave Me something to drink; I was a stranger, and you invited Me in; *Matthew 36* naked, and you clothed Me; I was sick, and you visited Me; I was in prison, and you came to Me.’ Through this examination, we are bound to Christian acts. So beginning now, we are all here together to plant the seeds of Christian outreach, which will grow and bear fruit.

First, we want to give you a vision of our neighborhood. Our parish is in the Midwest. We are one mile east of a major campus and three miles north of downtown. We are planted among a residential area with small stores dotting the major thoroughfares. The neighborhood was built one hundred years ago and people are constantly remodeling and improving their homes. Some storefronts stay the same while others change as small businesses try their hand at selling products and services. We are on a main bus route and people walk along the sidewalks for their own or their pet’s exercise, or to just get somewhere. This description could be about your community.

Our parish is not the first in central Ohio to help the needy. Faith Mission in town serves three meals every day, three hundred and sixty five days a year. We are familiar with their operation and we take those in need of shelter to their site which is about three miles away. The Xenos Christian Fellowship is one of a few churches that provide free medical care. They do this every Monday night when they house a free clinic. They are one block east of us. The Garden Church is building showers for people to use and to get a change of clothing. Although, almost every church in our area has some kind of community outreach in the neighborhood and has for years, that did not mean that our church was ready to extend a helping hand.

At first, many in our parish were lukewarm when considering a program that helps the needy, the hungry and the homeless. But that did not stop the traffic of those in need, to continually come to our doorstep. By 2002, we would see twenty to thirty individuals each week looking for assistance. Yes, they were always in our town, but construction in an arena district south of our neighborhood, forced them into our view. The response to their request for food and money was chaotic and parishioners were uncomfortable with being approached randomly by those in need. However, with a structured response as with the outreach program, the fear in handling such a challenge was squelched. The church ladies and the families of the parish have grown to understand the needy, to except them and all types of people into the church’s community and to help work through problems.

So, in our case, the opportunity to serve our neighbors came directly at us and the church leadership chose to alter our approach in helping them. From the beginning of our campus ministry, on Saturday evening, those in need would come to the back door of the church and one of the clergy would hand out grocery vouchers. This technique worked fine when the numbers were one, two or three individuals. Now, with thirty people, we needed a new plan.

A Model for Charitable Outreach  
“Lazarus on our Doorstep”

Some of us have acquired our planning skills from our business experience or from arranging our own family budget. Others have little or no experience in planning. However we have learned to make judgments, it is important to include everybody in idea creation and the decision making process and to conduct planning conferences to reflect on the current roadmap and to move forward. From the initial discussions years ago to our current sessions, we begin by recognizing the existing need. When we plan, we must gather information about our community. Is there a need for medicine, clothing, food, bus passes, transportation, listening, reading, compassion, shelter, job training, a necessity for a prepared meal, education, GED testing, a want for a shave, a bath or a place to sleep. Whatever we do, look at the human necessity and stay away from resource management. That will eventually come. We have to begin by opening our eyes and seeing the truth about the hungry, the thirsty, the strangers, the naked, the sick, and those trapped in their surroundings. Once the Light is brought upon those in pain and suffering in our midst, we can begin to act.

So ask yourself, what are the needs in your community? Do you know? Many of the needs in one neighborhood are also the needs in others in our towns. Whenever we have a planning session in our outreach program, we have no problem getting ideas, since everything is open to discussion. The brainstorming session will bring ideas from the cooks, the pantry workers, the maintenance workers, the secretaries, the council, the clergy and the neighbors. We log our ideas and after consensus, we start to execute them using the talents within our own neighborhood to support the implementation. That way we develop the expertise to continue the program without adding unnecessary costs. In addition, when a team adopts a portion of the overall outreach, they have the interest to maintain that program even after the initial euphoria wears off.

Can we list 12 needs in your church neighborhood?

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A Model for Charitable Outreach  
“Lazarus on our Doorstep”

In our circumstance, we started with the idea that retired, elderly and needy folks could use a healthy meal. We always welcomed the neighborhood folk to our coffee hour after services, but a famous quote from our parish Priest: “we cannot feed them donuts anymore,” changed our outlook. Father Daniel said we should provide a lunch to those coming to seek aid. How easy was that to do? Can you serve a meal for pennies? What would you serve?

List four items that we could serve for a small lunch.

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2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_

When we start a meal program, we suggest that we concentrate on serving healthy food. In our case, we decided to serve sandwiches, because they are easy to make. A St. Gregory sandwich, currently around 20,000 served, has sliced turkey or ham, cheese, tomatoes, pickles, onions, lettuce and topping. They are cut in half and plated or wrapped for takeout.

When we have new member come to volunteer at the outreach mission, we often train them to work at the sandwich station. They clean and slice the vegetable prior to the meal, and make sandwiches for three hours. Most individuals coming to eat at our Saturday lunch take the sandwiches home with them for a later meal. They are made on two ½” thick slices of Panera sourdough bread, donated through the Panera Bread Dough-Nation program. After volunteers gain experience in the next few weeks, we move them to other stations where they can learn new skills.

Our simple lunch of a sandwich, a side dish such as macaroni or potato salad, a cookie and a drink is long past. Today, we have a meal coordinator who schedules families who bring casseroles, side dishes and salads to our food line. Most volunteers cook four to six times a year, so they are active in their community outreach, but not overextended. Mission workers can pick up bulk supplies the preceding week and cook at home or some just arrive early on Saturday morning to use the kitchens at the church. We are at work every Saturday from 7:30 AM to 6 PM.

Meal and activity planning takes place the weekend before and ends on Thursday night, when the regular mission workers put in an evening of labor. We have dinner at 5 PM, do light chores and make plans for Friday, Saturday and Sunday. If a person cannot attend, we contact them by phone or email. The goal is to eliminate any surprises. Often, we make a shopping run to a local store to get supplies; sometimes this is done early on Saturday morning to get fresh produce.

For three years, we have maintained log books where we record all important information about the week we are working in. We use the information to write monthly reports and as a reference when questions arise in later weeks and months. We report critical data to the council such as total donations, total volunteer hours, meals served, pantry visits and canned goods purchased. The council can look at

A Model for Charitable Outreach  
 “Lazarus on our Doorstep”

the major indicators and act in a responsible manner if they believed that the number of needy is exceeding the resources provided.

The regular cooks typically prepare the foods they know is well-liked. For Jules Striblin, she makes chicken, stuffing, broccoli and cheese casserole, Pauline Dickey makes meatloaf and mashed potatoes, Betty Vincent makes sausage, sauerkraut and potatoes, Nadine makes ham and mashed potatoes, Gerri Mills makes Johnny Marzetti, and Peter Shiptenko makes lasagna. As we continue through the role, Cathy Vrugitz makes meatloaf, Ellen Shiptenko makes chili, Maria Arn makes an entrée with her favorite cheesy potatoes, Kevin Ball makes baked chicken and Anna Holdren makes baked spaghetti. Connie Wargo makes tuna casserole, Barb Gossman brings pork patties and potatoes and Joe Zralik makes his Rusty Nail soup. We are successful when we use recipes that are easy and enjoyable for the cooks to prepare and we already know that the food is popular with our visitors.

What kind of meals would you serve at your church? Plan one month of meals that can easily feed 40 to 60 people in two hours. We should have an entrée, a side, a salad, fruit, a dessert and a drink. Plan four meals

	<b>Entrée</b>	<b>Side</b>	<b>Salad</b>	<b>Fruit</b>	<b>Dessert</b>	<b>Drink</b>
1						
2						
3						
4						

We create recipe pages for our ideas, so we can expedite our menu planning. Here is the recipe page for the St. Gregory Sandwich. We make the two large sandwich halves for less than one dollar. We also include the suggested meal with each entrée.

## ST. GREGORY SANDWICH Serves 1

When the Neighborhood Outreach program began in 2002, we served a fresh sandwich, potato salad, carrot and celery sticks, fresh fruit, a dessert, and a drink. Everything was popular, except the vegetables, so we started to put them on the sandwich in a big way, so our unique sandwich became a very thick food presentation. Many meals and years later, and the visitors to the church’s Annex still look forward to the original St. Gregory overstuffed sandwich.

2 slices Panera Bread®  
6 ea sliced turkey  
2 ea sliced tomatoes  
4 ea sliced pickles  
2 ea sliced onion  
2 ea sliced Swiss cheese  
1 ea lettuce leaf  
2 tbsp mayonnaise

*We salute the owners and employees of the Panera Bread company, who donate hundreds of dollars of bread products and desserts to St. Gregory of Nyssa each week. Their products are used in the neighborhood outreach meal and are distributed in the pantry store, which enables our program to complete its mission in an economic manner.*



### Preparation

On a clean cutting board, we place two slices of Panera Bread®, with the ½ inch cut sourdough being very popular. The sandwich maker then folds sliced turkey across one slice, overlapping the piece of bread as they traverse the slice. On top the turkey, two sliced tomatoes will sit and then setting on them will be four sliced dill pickles. The next layer has two sliced onions, followed by two slices of Swiss cheese. The last stratum is a folded crisp lettuce leaf.

Now that the first half is done, we spread mayonnaise on the second slice. Place the halves together and cut with a clean knife. Sandwiches are wrapped in plastic to keep them together and retain freshness.

### Suggested menu

Two St. Gregory Sandwich halves  
Potato Salad  
Three bean salad  
Fruit such as an apple, banana or an orange  
Small pastry  
Iced tea, water or light punch

A Model for Charitable Outreach  
 “Lazarus on our Doorstep”

**About our volunteer**

Jabez McDole, a Neighborhood Outreach volunteer, runs the sandwich station nearly every week throughout the year. Jabez resides in the area and has recently become a catechumen at St. Gregory of Nyssa Orthodox church. Jabez also trains new volunteers who visit to prepare the station and make the sandwiches. As we can see in the picture, Jabez is a cheerful giver of her time and talents.



**Cost sheet**

<b>Food Cost Form</b>				Date:		January 8, 2010		
Menu Item:		St Gregory Sandwich		Size		2 sandwich halves		
Number of Portions		25						
Cost per Portion:		\$ 0.91						
Ingredients	Recipe Quantity			Cost			Total Cost	Density
	Weight	Volume	Count	APC / Unit	Yield %	EPC / Unit		
Panera bread slices			50 ea	\$ - lb	100	\$ - lb	\$ -	8 oz cup
Turkey, sliced	3 lb			\$ 3.50 lb	100	\$ 3.50 lb	\$ 10.50	8 oz cup
Tomatoes, on vine	2 lb			\$ 1.28 lb	100	\$ 1.28 lb	\$ 2.56	7 oz cup
Pickles, sliced dill		4 c		\$ 1.35 lb	100	\$ 1.35 lb	\$ 1.80	5.333 oz cup
Onions, yellow	2 lb			\$ 0.60 lb	89	\$ 0.67 lb	\$ 1.35	6.5 oz cup
Cheese, swiss	1 lb			\$ 4.00 lb	100	\$ 4.00 lb	\$ 4.00	4 oz cup
Lettuce			1 ea	\$ 1.00 ea	100	\$ 1.00 ea	\$ 1.00	8 oz cup
Mayonnaise		3 c		\$ 1.00 lb	100	\$ 1.00 lb	\$ 1.50	8 oz cup
Total Cost							\$ 22.71	

In other communities throughout the country, you might not be feeding those who are homeless, but every urban or suburban has families and individuals who are living on a very small or fixed income. Our common meal begins with the Lord’s Prayer and woman and children are served first. While they are having a healthy meal, they are able to interact with others in a loving and open manner. With four hours of preparation, two hours of service and a couple hours of cleanup, any missionary group is able

## A Model for Charitable Outreach “Lazarus on our Doorstep”

to share what they have with 35 to 40 or more visitors. Those who attend the meal leave with positive attitudes and their love is felt throughout the neighborhood.

### The Food Pantry

Another project that was supported over ten years ago was the Food Pantry. Thirty minutes after our Saturday meal begins, we open the Food Pantry to anyone. The store is run by neighborhood volunteers such as John Patton and Lynn Wederski or their backup Phil and Michelle. John and Lynn have been coming to St. Gregory’s for five years. Phil and Michelle have been volunteering just a little shorter time than that. Over the years, just about every regular mission worker has labored in the pantry.

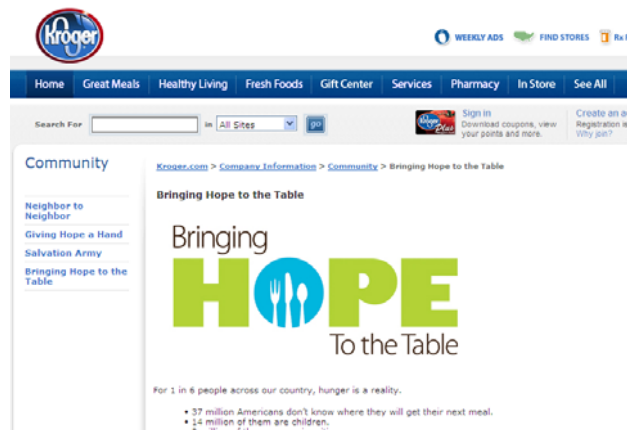
Pantries have different strategies. At St. Gregory’s, we receive around \$1000 of baked and canned goods each week and we distribute nearly 100% of the donation during the weekend. We have limited storage space, so we collect and hand out just about everything, so we are not building barns or warehouses and creating complicated databases. We cooperate in the Panera Bread Dough-Nation and the Kroger Company’s Feed America programs, where each week, two families pick up \$400 to \$500 of product from each location. Other stores and local businesses donate during the holidays or whenever the Spirit moves them.



On Monday, left over baked goods are brought to local college student areas for distribution. As regular participation in these corporate outreach programs, we are asked to have additional pickup days, but presently, we only make pickups once a week.



Panera Bread Operation Dough –Nation Program



The Kroger Company – Feeding America Program

A Model for Charitable Outreach  
"Lazarus on our Doorstep"

When we pickup goods at these two companies we are often queried by customers and employees about where the products are going. We tell those asking about our ministries and we also tell them that this has been going on for years. We find that when shoppers discover that there is an outreach project happening behind the scene right in their neighborhood, the whole topic of taking care of the needy, infirmed and homeless comes to the forefront. They always want to get involved. Many times we see them again during the holidays when they drop off food or clothing.

Periodically, which is just about every six months, we contact different companies to have them donate to the local program. We work with local organizations and they are very ready to contribute goods rather than cash, so we concentrate on that element. Many times, we rather have 2 by 4's and paint than cash anyway. All donations are recorded in the log book and receipts are given to the contributor.

What businesses in your community would be willing to give to your outreach program? What would they contribute? The worst thing that happens when you contact a local business is they say no. The best thing that occurs is that they learn about what we are doing and get involved at a later date. List the names of businesses that can help you.

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### **Clothing and Shelter**

Often ignored, but just as important as the Food Pantry is the Clothing Table. In the summer, presently we can see visitors sorting through socks and t-shirts and other warm weather clothing. Our Food Pantry managers are responsible for setting out these items. We make sure that clothing is clean and presentable for the visitors.



A Model for Charitable Outreach  
“Lazarus on our Doorstep”

As cooler weather approaches, we make appeals for coats, scarves, hats, gloves, blankets and long underwear, since some of these individuals will be spending hours in the cold. We have a grandmother in the church that knits thirty or more glove, scarf and hat sets every year. So for the holidays, everybody in need gets a new set of warm weather clothing for the winter.

When the homeless shelters fill up in central Ohio, we will make arrangement for people in the neighborhood to open their home to a person. We assist by providing blankets and bedding. Our program is much more active from January to February in getting people inside than any other time of the year. By being proactive in the fall, we have been successful in getting neighbors ready for the winter.

Clergy and leaders in the program often spend more time helping a person to find a new place to stay. Here listening is essential. While the neighbor is explaining their problem, they also may indicate that they are unable to live in a crowded shelter or home, so they had to leave. We try not to use cookie cutter solutions to their difficulty. However, in our experience, we find that giving attention to them eventually results in a solution.

Can you setup a Clothing Table at your church? We also distribute household appliances and kitchen wares in this area. Could you recycle your parishioner’s out of date domestic devices to those in need? Make a list of your ideas.

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## **The Job Training**

Our church was built in a part of the campus area where graffiti is more prevalent, so in the early years, we started to clean up the area within a block of the church. St. Gregory’s is rarely tagged with paint, but

A Model for Charitable Outreach  
“Lazarus on our Doorstep”

when it is, the maintenance crew has the art removed. That group plus the neighborhood cleanup team works to keep the block clean, the grass and trees trimmed and the snow shoveled in the winter.

We only have to be around people that the mainstream community has bypassed for so long and we can see their self esteem is low and their hope for a better life is just about gone. When we read our Bible, these are the people Jesus would visit. **He** ministered to the sick and the forgotten. So we purposely get outside of the church walls and minister to those who want to learn, and we train them to do a simple job. New volunteers and neighbors begin by patrolling the sidewalks and streets picking up garbage and cleaning up the area, one to two city blocks in each of the cardinal directions from the church. We are able to greet the neighbors and assist them with small things such as getting a car out of the snow, or trimming a tree. We have found that over the years, people and business owners living in the neighborhood are hiring day laborers within the community since they now know one another.

Yes, we start with simple work, such as cleaning windows and working on landscapes. We average 70 hours a week on meal, pantry and service projects, which can add up to 3000 to 4000 hours a year. As in every mission project, we have plenty of success stories where a person first enters our mission with nothing but the clothes on their back, and finally, months later, graduates with a job, an apartment and a new outlook on life. Many times, parishioners will see these individuals at services on Saturday night or Sunday liturgy. Many come to church on a regular basis and most consider St. Gregory’s to be their parish.

Presently, we spend \$3000 a year supporting our work and job training program. We pick a major project around the church each year that promotes learning new skills. In almost every case, the participants in the job training program results in employment within the community.

What kind of projects can your church do to encourage job training and build self esteem?

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A Model for Charitable Outreach  
"Lazarus on our Doorstep"

The building that is now St. Gregory of Nyssa Orthodox Church was built in the early 1900's and since the church was built, parishioners as well as neighbors have spent thousands of hours in making the church campus functional. Although this techniques makes the church's financial team happy, that is not the reason we encourage the congregation to trust the local neighbors to do the work. At the beginning of a project, those learning a new skill make plenty of mistakes. We use building committee members with professional experience to guide the neighbors in learning a trade. So, the camaraderie and job skill building is the number one benefit from the practice.

Here are some projects we have done each year. We are able to get neighbors, college students and parishioners to work toward a goal. Neighbors learn valuable skills; college students receive real world experience in their externships and the parish families' support the neighbors and students with a strong church and community. The activity around the church campus and in the neighborhood promotes God's message and this year, Fr. Stephen's catechumen group is the largest it has ever been and the number of college students at church is multiplying.

As with other churches, the Sanctuary and the Annex have been the labor of parishioners. However, starting with the deck project, we tied in with local college programs that require their students to complete Engineering and Architectural Capstone projects for graduation. The roots of our church is campus ministry and we continue to work with local college students and educators from various schools such as The Ohio State University, Kaplan College, ITT Technical College and Bradford School

Do you have local colleges that have externship requirements and your church can work with their externship coordinator? Can you name any trade schools or colleges in the area that would work with your mission?

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The following projects are examples of neighbors, students and parishioners working in unison.

## A Model for Charitable Outreach “Lazarus on our Doorstep”

Over twenty students from Technology Education College’s Engineering / CAD Drafting associate degree program designed and help to build the 16 foot by 40 foot deck and roof in a week’s time. The project was completed as part of the architectural course. Complete drawings were submitted and they worked for a week to gain knowledge of construction techniques.



Students from Technology Education College drew up the design for the new windows on the Annex as a class project. They created a bill of material and many parishioners cut the tinted polycarbonate sheets, and wood installed them.



Prior to remodeling the Upper Room in the main church building, we built six classrooms in the Education Building. Work started in April and was completed by the beginning of the school year. A bathroom was removed, a wall installed, the entire interior was painted and wall to wall carpet was laid. Networking students from Bradford College wired the building with category 5e cable for Internet capability in every classroom. Parishioners and neighbors worked on this project Monday through Saturday for the entire summer.



## A Model for Charitable Outreach “Lazarus on our Doorstep”

After the Education Building was completed, the Upper Room offices and rooms were removed the very next summer. New beam pockets were chiseled into the wall and parishioners and neighbors put in new floor joists. The weight limit for the floor was doubled to hold the amount of people in the building.



Parishioners, neighbors and contractors worked together to complete the Upper Room for the parish to have social events, meetings and to use for the cookie baking project in the fall. On the last phases of the project, all the trim and painting was done by parishioners and neighbors. In the winter of 2009, 68 chair seats and backs that are shown in this picture were reupholstered by a team.



The year after completing the Upper Room, we remodeled the Annex building by adding four closets for the clergy, choir and bulk foods. We also enclosed the Pantry in its own room, so people can eat while the Food Pantry runs separately. The Annex can comfortably hold 24 people for meals and the two hour timeframe gives us plenty of time to handle a crowd.



A Model for Charitable Outreach  
“Lazarus on our Doorstep”

Kevin Ball is our local painter and has spent many hours training people on how to achieve an excellent finish. He is also the short order cook who makes breakfast for the mission workers when they show up to work at 8 AM on Saturday morning. We provide breakfast, lunch and dinner for neighborhood volunteers, students and parishioners when they report to the outreach mission.



Tony Core, a local graphic designer and parishioner brought a neighborhood crew together to build library shelf number one in the Education building. The library has three large built in shelving units that hold nearly 2500 religious books. The library is open to church members and anyone in the neighborhood. After Tony finished the first unit, the next two shelves were easy to accomplish. The library is open on Saturday and Sunday every week.



## A Model for Charitable Outreach “Lazarus on our Doorstep”

During the winter of 2008, we had three incidents where visitors to the church slipped on ice, so the maintenance crew was directed by the building committee to redesign the front steps and add extended hand rails as shown. Sidewalk widening and an additional four more handrails were installed. In 2009, there was not a single fall. The maintenance crew also used a new snow removal technique to remove ice build up from the sidewalk.



In 2009, we built the John Supina shed under the Education building. We typically use three dimensional CAD files to create a picture of the construction work. We find that a picture is easier to follow along with the drawings. In these projects, neighbors learn how to measure and make decisions.

The shed holds the mower, lawn care tools and the church gas grill. In the summer, we give our cooks a break from the temperatures of a hot stove by grilling hamburgers, hotdogs and sausages.



In 2009, we had an increase in neighbors who do yard work for local residents. Their services include mowing, trimming, raking and snow shoveling. The local businesses know that they are more dependable since they live in the community and can get to the work faster.

A Model for Charitable Outreach  
“Lazarus on our Doorstep”

This year, we have one person training as a digital photographer and he takes pictures of architectural features for a publication. We have a number of neighbors who grade papers and so we are training a couple of individuals to grade papers for local teachers. In every case, people in the job training program have learned and grown with the experience.

What other kinds of training can your church perform? Make a list of them.

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## Missionaries

We have three categories of staff members in our mission program. We have regular staff that works every week. We have those who volunteer every 8 to 10 weeks to cook and work and we have the once or twice a year mission worker. Another type of helper is the contributor. We have wives who clean out their husband’s and children’s closets and donate weather appropriate clothing to the Clothing Table that is set up every week. We have ladies who bring canned goods each week or once a month and lastly those who donate cash. Our program does not have fundraising campaigns and does not petition for cash. We receive many donations, but our philosophy is to build the community strength within our neighborhood and not to become dependent on outside assistance. Here are some urban missionaries.

Neighborhood volunteers Big Jim McDole, who was baptized at St. Gregory’s two and half years ago (left) and Phil (right) in the food pantry. Phil and Michelle are the backup Food Pantry workers. These staff members use patience and a smile to serve the visitors to our church. They live in the neighborhood.





A Model for Charitable Outreach  
“Lazarus on our Doorstep”

Gayle Vobbe does many of the maintenance tasks around the outside of the church including gardening and snow removal. He has a wood shop in the basement of the Education building where items are repaired, sanded and painted. On a normal Thursday through Saturday timeframe, Gayle can work in many areas. Parishioners who work on a given weekend will assist Gayle in completing this week’s checklist. We compile work completed in the monthly council meeting report.



Robert is a missionary from the Greek Cathedral in downtown Columbus. Local Orthodox churches which do not have their own outreach program donate time throughout the year and cold weather clothing and food in the fall and winter months. Robert is a greeter at his church often helps out with cleanup after lunch.



Our Outreach program secretary Anna Holdren was baptized Orthodox in 2010. She is a tireless worker and runs the outreach weekday program from her apartment. She provides food and comfort to neighbors when we are not present. She is an excellent secretary.



A Model for Charitable Outreach  
“Lazarus on our Doorstep”

John Paxton and Lynn Wederski are regular Pantry managers. Each week the managers begin their day early taking inventory. By noon, they add \$1000 worth of food on tables and shelves from the Kroger Company and Panera Bread. Paul and Ellen Shiptenko will drop off this week’s canned goods and Matt or Paula Hendrix will deliver the Kroger contribution. Delivery comes in the back door to not interfere with foot traffic.



Throughout the college school year, we get college students from the OCF (Orthodox Christian Fellowship) once a month to work the food line. Their group sends four to eight mission workers on their chosen weekend. Faces change each year from this group as students graduate. They cheerfully make sandwiches; run the food line, and the Food Pantry.



At our church, we have the regular outreach team, the cooks, the special volunteers, the contributors, and the librarians all working to provide a Christian presence in the neighborhood.

Who do you know that will work every week, every quarter, or contribute once in awhile?

Weekly volunteers:

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2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

A Model for Charitable Outreach  
 “Lazarus on our Doorstep”

Quarterly volunteers:

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Contributors

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6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_

**Budgets and Resource Management**

Finally, we concentrate on resource management after constructing a system to meet the needs of our local community. Yes, we do paperwork and we have weekly planning sessions, a security plan, regular pickups and a system on how to accomplish most of the regular tasks. Reports are given to the church council each month.

Neighborhood Outreach – May					
Week	Hours Worked	Total Donation	Meals Served	Pantry Visits	Purchased Cans
1-May	69.0	\$ 739.40	54	43	\$ 74.61
8-May	85.5	\$ 661.59	29	37	\$ 84.93
15-May	68.5	\$ 373.50	29	27	\$ 79.74
22-May	77.5	\$ 679.05	38	40	\$ 77.51
29-May	89.0	\$ 760.47	30	12	\$ --.--
Mar Totals	389.5	\$ 3214.01	180	159	\$ 316.79

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 “Lazarus on our Doorstep”

In the month of May of 2010, we had the resources to provide \$3530.80 in 180 meals and for food for 159 pantry visits. Most of the donation is in food and \$316.79 was raised in cash where we purchased canned and boxed goods for distribution. Our Annex equipment is in good operational order and we have bulk supplies to make the meals for the next month. We have \$99.56 of donated funds on the church financial books. In eight years, this report remains constant. We are not in debt and we do not have a large reserve.

The mission operates on a zero budget, where we have faith that people will continue to support the outreach program. Typically, whatever we receive from Sunday to Friday is dispersed within a week. We know that Saint Gregory parishioners have supported the mission for eight years and we have the faith that they will support the mission for another eight. We also see the number of missionaries and the amount of volunteer hours increasing each year. New regular workers join together with those reporting each week. New cooks report to our SLP coordinator.

When a parishioners or neighbor wishes to cook, they contact Ellen Shiptenko, the Saturday Lunch Program coordinator. She works with the cooks to make schedules that are released a few weeks prior to the beginning of a new term and most individuals know their date weeks ahead of time.

Missionaries receive their schedule in person or by email and the master copy is on the refrigerator door in the Annex. We annotate what was served each week, so the next cook can check. We also mark the numbers of meal served.

Yes, just as with any organization, people trade dates when they have to travel or emergencies come up. The regular staff is always prepared to make meals and have enough supplies to meet any demand.

Volunteer	Meal Prepared	Number
November 14	Denise and Maria Ann (substituting)	
November 21	Pauline Dickey	
November 28	Cecilia Wingo	
December 5	Peter John Skjerve	
December 12	Melina Vukala	
December 19	Barbara Gossman	
December 26	Julie Serbin	
January 2	Pauline Dickey	
January 9	Bob and Gerri Hill	
January 16	Cecilia Wingo	
January 23	Peter John Skjerve	
January 30	Melina Vukala	
February 6	Barbara Gossman	
February 13	Julie Serbin	
February 20	Ray Vinnar	
February 27	Pauline Dickey	
March 6	Bob and Gerri Hill	
March 13	Cecilia Wingo	
March 20	Peter John Skjerve	
March 27	Melina Vukala	
April 3	Holy Trinity--no cooking	
April 10	Barbara Gossman	
April 17	Julie Serbin	
April 24	Bob and Gerri Hill	
April 30	Pauline Dickey	

Like the needy, we are dependent on the favors of others. We use the natural gas, electricity and space at St. Gregory’s. We receive the corporate donations. We always tell those who contribute that the students, neighbors and parishioners are forever grateful. In the mission’s symbiotic relationship with others to accomplish the Lord’s task, we take resources and redistribute them to the lowly, but we continually give back by providing services to the church and in the neighborhood.

Each year, we follow a regular project schedule around the church. People usually are present for their favorite task. Some people like to garden, others like to build, and a few enjoy making chocolate covered pretzels which we do for the church’s annual bake sale.

<u>Month</u>	<u>Church Project</u>	<u>Weeks</u>	<u>Tasks</u>
January	Safe sidewalks	4	Snow removal
February	Safe sidewalks	4	Snow removal

A Model for Charitable Outreach  
 “Lazarus on our Doorstep”

March	Spring Cleanup	4	Spring cleanup at the campus and cemetery
April	Gardens	4	Turn gardens and mulch
May	Building Projects	4	Spring projects, plant gardens
June	Building Projects	4	Spring projects
	Campus Cleanup	1	Participate in the OSU Campus cleanup
July	Building Projects	4	Exterior repairs
August	Building Projects	4	Painting
September	Sunday School Prep	4	Prepare Sunday School classrooms
October	Sunday School Projects	4	Prepare Sunday School classrooms
November	Bake Sale	3	Make 600 5 oz packages of white and dark chocolate covered pretzels
December	Christmas	3	Obtain and wrap Christmas gifts for homeless

If you bring others into your church community, what regular projects can they do? Make a list.

<u>Month</u>	<u>Church Project</u>	<u>Weeks</u>	<u>Tasks</u>
January			
February			
March			
April			
May			
June			
July			
August			
September			
October			
November			
December			

A Model for Charitable Outreach  
“Lazarus on our Doorstep”

The most important guidance that this report can give is to plan with the community need in mind, to start small and increase in size as the number of missionaries increase. We believe that God will provide the resources for the mission if we keep the faith in Him. Although I named my staff and missionaries as examples to others and as proof to the ministries, none of them would approve. They do the Lord’s work out of love and for no other reason.

This report discusses hard work done by hundreds of people, many not named and who you do not know. The expectation from our church leadership is that our outreach will continue. So let’s get busy. May God grant those involved in this ministry, the compassion, the strength and the wisdom to carry out His will.

Matthew 35 *‘For I was hungry, and you gave Me something to eat; I was thirsty, and you gave Me something to drink; I was a stranger, and you invited Me in; Matthew 36 naked, and you clothed Me; I was sick, and you visited Me; I was in prison, and you came to Me.’*