

# Bread of Life Ministries

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*During challenging times and  
when impassioned to act,  
human beings can be  
capable of miracles.*

-Fabien Cousteau

2020/2021

Fall/Winter

Newsletter

*~ Bread of Life Ministries feeds the hungry, shelters the homeless, and provides services that help people change their lives and take personal responsibility. God calls us to minister to one another and assist those in need. ~*

# Sometimes Unique Obstacles



Billy's staying at the Veteran's shelter and is in the process of moving into the next phase of his journey, into Bread of Life housing. Billy choose to volunteer his time in the Soup Kitchen, helping to prepare meals, wash dishes and fill to-go meals. We are so thankful for Billy's willingness to help, during a time when we have fewer volunteers in the Soup Kitchen.



Luke is at our Veteran's shelter and on the road to restoration. Luke is always ready to roll up his sleeves and help, whether it is at the Soup Kitchen, helping the maintenance team or assisting with the food truck. Luke has been a hard-working reliable volunteer. We are extremely grateful for Luke's sincere helpfulness and flexibility.



We greatly appreciate all the crafters who have kindly made and gifted masks to keep our staff and clients safe at Bread of Life.



Those who are staying at Bread of Life shelters are asked to stay on the Shelter property, unless they have a job, appointments, or volunteer responsibilities. Shelter staff have overcome obstacles by orchestrating creative activities for the adults and children. The last week of October they all carved pumpkins together. During the pandemic clients have enjoyed many fun family activities.

## One Devoted Volunteer



Linda Baker has decided to retire after 20 years of volunteering at Bread of Life. She has been a Soup Kitchen super hero. She generously and selflessly gave to our community each weekday around 5:30am before she went to her regular job. Linda did the laundry, helped with meal preparation and cleaned. We are so thankful for Linda's loyalty and commitment.

So Very  
Thankful

# Become Golden Opportunities



Through the summer and fall the Soup Kitchen was overflowing with fresh vegetables from the Maine State Prison in Warren Maine. Captain Ryan Fries and Rebekah Mende oversee the agricultural program at the prison. The prison harvested about 13,500 pounds of produce, and they were able to donate 10 percent to a local food bank in Rockland and Bread of Life. Rebekah shared with Bread of Life that there are inmates in the gardening program that have crossed paths with Bread of Life in the past, and they were thrilled to be a part of giving back. The Soup Kitchen was able to make fresh salads, and create meals using fresh vegetables for months.

Laura Briggs the Shelter manager and shelter staff have been willing to rearrange their work and take the precautionary measures during the pandemic to accommodate veterans in the Augusta area who are being temporarily housed in hotels and in need of food support and delivery.



**Delivery Hero**



Lee Gauthier from Town Fair Tire shows his business's support for Bread of Life Ministries' programs such as the Soup Kitchen, Veteran's Shelter, Family Shelter and Housing. Associate Executive Director Molly was happy to accept his companies gift and ensured it would be a blessing in supporting the clients we serve within the community each day.

Outside of Bread of Life each week day, the streets have been filled with an encouraging sound. Nicole Kenney has felt led to take her lunch break, carry her guitar out, onto the streets. Regardless of the weather this young lady sings her heart out. The atmosphere is filled with a joyful noise and our clients are touched by the music as they are waiting to receive their to-go meal.



# Bread of Life Staff BBQ



Bread of Life enjoys appreciating staff and board members by hosting an annual fall BBQ. This year Salty Dog BBQ & Catering service set up in the shelter parking lot and Markham Tent rentals set up a tent. Both businesses generously donated their time and services to Bread of Life. Everyone had a joyful time together and felt refreshed. There was an abundant overflow of spectacular food that Salty Dog donated for our clients to enjoy at both shelters after the BBQ.



As we approach Thanksgiving, we would like to share some opportunities for those looking to give to those in need, or those who are facing difficult challenges in their lives through the Holiday season.

Our mission at Bread of Life is to give people who are staying at our shelters a Christmas to remember. If you are interested in sponsoring a client, or giving this Holiday season you can call our main office at 207-626-3434, email Molly Sirois at [programdirector@mainebreadoflife.org](mailto:programdirector@mainebreadoflife.org)

## Bread of Life Staff



Matt Sirois was hired at Bread of Life in November 2019 as the Facilities Director. Matt has done an exceptional job over the past year. He has lead the maintenance crew in maintaining 83 units in 9 buildings across Augusta, 2 Shelters, and the Soup Kitchen. Matt has had to oversee some major renovations in the past year. One major product he oversaw was making adjustments to the family shelter, which made it possible to create opportunities for single female veterans and veterans with families to stay with us.



Shopping Amazon this Holiday season? We would love for you to support and select **Bread of Life Ministries Inc.** at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) as you shop. It is a simple automatic way to continue supporting us and our mission. You can shop on the site at no extra cost to you. Amazon donates 0.5% of your purchases to us.



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Thank you for all ways you help, support and partnered with the mission at Bread of Life.