



The Episcopal Diocese of Georgia

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Feed My Sheep Cares for Brunswick



Leading the way in caring for those in need in Brunswick is St. Athanasius' and its Feed My Sheep program. The donation-funded signature ministry is one of the collective outreach services that makes up Glynn Episcopal Ministries (GEM). Originally envisioned by Parishioner Velma Crosby, Feed My Sheep has been serving the Brunswick community for over 9 years by providing groceries on a bi-weekly basis to those who might otherwise go hungry.

Each of the Episcopal Congregations in Glynn County takes part by supplying volunteers and/or food donations. Currently, Feed My Sheep operates with 15 volunteers who help with planning, shopping, inventory, and distribution, and they serve about 300-400 families a month.

In addition to food, Feed My Sheep also answers the need for other items. The Rev. Iane Sastre, rector of St. Athanasius, shared with us, "We do clothing and blankets. We try to provide whatever they ask for. We've given wheel chairs and bicycles, whatever they need we try to provide."

Though this is a well established program, Sastre and Crosby continue to dream of ways to expand and improve their ministry. Crosby shares, "We do a lot of canned fruits and veggies. I would love to move into an area where we are providing fresh produce regularly. We've begun having conversations about starting a community garden with the other parishes to supplement the produce in our food pantry."

Feed My Sheep isn't just about providing for material needs, there's a spiritual element to be gained as well. A prayer service is offered in conjunction with each distribution day. Sastre states, "The service begins with prayers for the families present, followed by a celebration of birthdays and anniversaries. Some people even come to the parish just for prayers. It's more than just food." He adds, "We try to use this ministry to welcome families into our sanctuary- and we have had some success. Last Sunday we had a young couple from the program join us for Eucharist."



"We are happy and blessed by this program. We will continue to keep this ministry running for a long, long time. We are committed because we feel that we are called by god to this ministry," said Crosby.

Feed My Sheep is a thriving outreach ministry that serves a constantly expanding community. Items of particular need include re-usable cloth grocery bags, men's work clothes, blankets, and fresh produce. If you would like to learn more about this ministry please reach out directly to Velma Crosby at (912) 265-8521.