



# St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church Mobile Loaves & Fishes News

Volume 2, Issue 1

February 2017



## A Message from the New Core Director

I am honored to be given the opportunity to serve as the new St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church Mobile Loaves & Fishes Core Team Director. I thank the Lord every day for this opportunity to follow in Julie Mellin's footsteps. I have seen the great work she has done as well as all of those involved with **MLF**. I know that together we will continue the great work of feeding and clothing those less fortunate.

Eight years ago, my three children and I joined the **MLF** ministry. We have been volunteering on the 2nd Saturday of each month, preparing and delivering lunch meals and clothing to those in need. It's has been such a beautiful and humbling experience.

Each month, my children remind me of our service day, making sure we don't miss it. I watch my children take charge with their loving hands, preparing the meals and sorting out the clothes for our trip. Then we hop in the truck with Rich Martinez and Adam Cavazos (our **MLF** meal teammates), say a prayer and head out to the two locations located on the Southside of San Antonio. The laughter and stories as we travel have become very special to our team.

Then we arrive, the people, some new, some very familiar, waiting lovingly for us with their smiles and hugs. They have become part of our family. I cannot tell you how touching it is to watch my children serve

these people. I thank **MLF** for creating such a beautiful experience for my family. We are so blessed to have been given this opportunity to follow in Jesus footsteps. I invite all of you to come experience this ministry with me and our **MLF** volunteers!

Pray for me and all our brothers and sisters that we serve as we continue the journey that Jesus so humbly taught us.

**Cedar Joiner, Core Team Director** □

## Julie Mellin –The “Heart” of MLF

In early 2011, Julie joined the **MLF** Core Team as Volunteer Coordinator. Never one to stand still, Julie began wearing two hats as both Core Team Director and Volunteer Coordinator in 2012. During her tenure as Core Team Director, Julie has done most of the Core Team jobs at one time or another. She has boiled eggs, sorted clothes, attended estate sales to gather boxes of clothing, transported supplies in her private car, and organized fundraising and black bag collections. In addition, Julie has managed the **MLF** volunteer tracker database and prepared the required paperwork for us to join the San Antonio Food Bank. She arranged for **WOAI** reporter Darlene Dorsey to film a [feature story](#) on our **MLF** ministry in August 2013.

In February 2014, the Archdiocese of San Antonio presented Julie with the *Lumen Gentium* award noting that "*Julie is a 'light of the world' specialist. She is a volunteer coordinator for Mobile Loaves & Fishes and Habitat for Humanity. She is an exemplary communicator and models preaching of the Gospel in actions.*" Currently, she monitors the Food Bank website for items available for purchase by the **MLF** commissary staff, works on meal prep and delivery teams, continues as Volunteer Coordinator, and serves as Core Team Director Emeritus.

For many, Julie Mellin is the “heart” of the **SFA** Mobile Loaves & Fishes program. Her ongoing service has been the vital impetus for assuring that the mission "to provide food, clothing, and dignity to our brothers and sisters in need" remains at the forefront of our ministry.



## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 A Message from the New Core Director
- 1 Julie Mellin – The “Heart” of MLF
- 2 Find Us on Facebook
- 2 Don't Forget the Truck Run Log
- 2 MLF Core Team Still Has Vacancies
- 2 A Special Thanks
- 2 Contact Us / Upcoming Events
- 2 Silver Stars Show Their Support
- 2 A Quick Reminder...
- 2 IN MEMORIAM

## Find Us on Facebook



St. Francis of Assisi MLF has launched a new method to communicate with its volunteers and supporters. We have unveiled a **Facebook** page which will be maintained by Cedar Joiner, the new Core Team Director. **MLF Facebook** members are encouraged to post current news, updates, and photos. This resource provides an interactive venue for sharing information. Click [Facebook](#) to join the **MLF** group or sign-up for a free account. □

## Don't Forget the Truck Run Log

Did you ever wonder why we have a **Truck Run Log** sheet? This simple piece of paper plays an ever-increasing role in our **MLF** ministry. Here's why:

- 1) Given the rising food costs and the need for reliable statistics, it is vital that we have an accurate count of the total number of meals being served.
- 2) This data provides verifiable evidence of our ongoing activities that is used to attract funding and lends statistical support for our supporters such as the Food Bank and Catholic Charities.
- 3) Whenever a meal run problem occurs, we need documentation on what happened in order to address the issue. By answering these "who, what, when, and where" questions, you enable our Site Coordinator to more effectively deal with these situations.

Please help us maintain this essential information by completing the **Truck Run Log** after each meal run. □

Mobile Loaves & Fishes Run Log							
Circle meal:	LUNCH		SUPPER				
Circle Day:	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT	SUN
Date:	_____ Time leaving St Francis: _____						
First Location:	_____						
Arrival time at site:	_____		Departure time: _____				
# adults served:	_____		# children served: _____				
Second Location:	_____						
Arrival time at site:	_____		Departure time: _____				
# adults served:	_____		# children served: _____				
FEEDBACK for Core Team (anything you feel pertinent):	_____						

## MLF Core Team Still Has Vacancies

Although we now have a new Core Team Director, the **MLF** Core Team still needs others in support roles:

- Fundraising
- Facilities Coordinator
- Truck Maintenance Team

Job descriptions for these positions can be seen at this link: [Job Descriptions](#). If you have additional questions or need clarification, please contact Cedar Joiner at **210-249-1570** or [mlfnow@sfasat.org](mailto:mlfnow@sfasat.org). □



The **Mobile Loaves & Fishes** ministry could not function without the continuing support of its many volunteers and donors, including:

- Flowers Foods (bread supplier)
- Glenn Darilek, Mike Furey, John Tondre (hot water heater)
- Men's Club (financial support)
- Rosalie Kail (towel washer)
- Silver Stars (financial support) □

## Contact Us

**St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church**  
**Mobile Loaves & Fishes**

**4201 De Zavala Road**

**San Antonio, TX 78249 Phone: (210) 249-1570**



Email: [mlfnow@sfasat.org](mailto:mlfnow@sfasat.org)



**MLF website:** [www.sfasat.org/MLF/index.htm](http://www.sfasat.org/MLF/index.htm)

## Upcoming Events

**February 6** Sharing Love dinner & dance  
**February 11-12** MLF Ministry Second collection



## Silver Stars Show Their Support

The St. Francis of Assisi Silver Stars will hold its Valentine "Sharing Love" Dinner and Dance from 6 - 9 pm on Monday, February 6th in Henke Hall. Proceeds from the event will benefit the **MLF** ministry. Enjoy a delicious meal catered by Snoga, then dance to the music of DJ Johnny Ray Canales. Tickets are \$15 for members and \$18 for guests. For more information, call Irma Hill (475-3480) or Judy Nicastro (240-0013). □

## A Quick Reminder...

- Captains, notify [mlfnow@sfasat.org](mailto:mlfnow@sfasat.org) or call **210-249-1570** before canceling a meal run.
- Ensure that doors to clothing bay and ice machine room are locked after prep shifts.
- Report truck maintenance issues to Butch Rendon at **210-857-1128** OR by emailing: [butchrendon@outlook.com](mailto:butchrendon@outlook.com). □



The **MLF** ministry is saddened by the recent passing of **Gordon Taylor**, one of our founding members. A loyal and fierce supporter of **MLF**, he was a dedicated Saturday team leader. We extend our deepest sympathy to his family. Gordon will be missed.