



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

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Editor's Note: Ms. Cedar Joiner has tendered her resignation as MLF Core Team Director. The Core Team expresses its appreciation for her service to our ministry and wishes her well in the future.



Volunteers Come in All Ages

These two students from San Antonio Christian School may be our youngest regular **MLF** volunteers.

Since before Thanksgiving last year, they and their mom volunteer 1 hour a month on a day after school. On this occasion, they bagged enough bulk packaged potato chips for delivery to all three of the next day's locations: 225 single servings from 22 large bags, almost 3 cases. Please note that they already know the process of clean hands, gloves, and hairnets.

We are happy to receive their help, even happier to see a new generation of **MLF** volunteers finding out the joy of serving others in need.

Kathy and Gerry Caron □

MLF Meal Serving Policy

At its February 19th meeting, the **MLF Core Team** passed the policy statement shown below:

The following spells out the basic guidelines for meal serving from the **MLF** truck. Although we make these recommendations, we understand that variations will occur and that discretion is necessary to complete our mission. Our goal is to send an appropriate number of meals to match the number of clients that we will encounter at each site. Feedback on the truck log is important in order to achieve this balance. We study the statistics in order to adjust the meal counts in an effort to be good stewards of the donations given our ministry. It is also our goal to spread meals out over the entire community rather than a small group of people being served extra and repeated meals.

1. Most importantly, there are no questions asked to receive a meal. Anyone approaching the **MLF** truck will be served.
2. We intend to serve 1 meal to 1 person approaching the **MLF** truck.
3. If more meals are requested, please ask the person to wait until everyone receives at least 1 meal. Be patient as there may be new, "first time" people approaching the truck over the period of about 30 min to 1 hour.
4. If there is more than one stop on the route that day, make sure to reserve enough meals at stop #1 to cover all locations. Of course, this is an estimate. As a rule, it is best not to give out more than 2 meals per person at the first stop to ensure enough meals for the remaining locations.
5. It is our intention to hand out all the meals that are sent out with the truck. It is ok to give out multiple meals once everyone has been served the first meal.
6. Please complete the truck log so that accurate counts can be tracked.
7. If the team runs out of food, please note how many more meals would be needed. If there are lots of excesses, please note that as well.

Thank you for your cooperation. It is helpful for all volunteers to follow these guidelines so we can be consistent with our locations and messages we send to the serving community.

For additional information or clarification, please contact Butch Rendon @ butchrendon@outlook.com

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YMSL Proves to Be a Dedicated Partner

Saturday February 3, 2018 marked a very successful service day for the **Young Men's Service League** with our Mobile Loaves & Fishes ministry. **YMSL** is one of our most dedicated service partners and today, once again showed us what they can do.

Four students representing Clark and TMI High Schools and six moms worked from 9 am to noon, totaling 30 service hours. During this time, the guys washed the truck, inside and out and swept the clothing storage area while the moms cleared a huge backlog of donated clothing; all sorted into bins ready for delivery.

Then all of them joined the lunch time prep team in preparing 175 meals for the usual 1st Saturday run. They prepared an additional 50 meals for the [Interfaith Welcome Coalition](#) to distribute to the newly arrived immigrants transiting through the San Antonio bus terminal. They loaded the **MLF** truck with both food and clothing and stayed after the truck had departed in order to bag 8 cases of cookies into individual servings for over 500 meals: 1,152 total cookies!

Thanks **YMSL** -- we look forward to seeing you back in March.

Kathy and Gerry Caron □



Frozen Turkey – No Problem!

Frozen turkey? Not a problem anymore... David Cantu has donated a microwave oven to our ministry. The [Minnesota Department of Health](#) offers these tips for thawing turkey in a microwave oven:

Check the owner's manual for the minutes per pound and the power level to use for thawing.
Remove all outside wrapping.
Place on a microwave-safe dish to catch any juices that might leak.
Use your turkey immediately after thawing in the microwave.
Do not refreeze. □

**HELP
WANTED**

Help Wanted!

Openings posted March 1, 2018

Our **MLF** ministry needs help for these crucial roles:

- 1) **Bread Transport Team**** drivers (two hours once a month);
- 2) **Commissary Team**** members to inventory, arrange supplies, place new orders, and check-in weekly **Labatt Food Service** deliveries;
- 3) **S. A. Food Bank Pick-up Team**** drivers with large SUVs or pickup trucks who can transport our food orders to the **MLF** kitchen (two hours once a month);
- 4) **Egg Boiling Team** members for weekends (two hour shifts) and other boiling times are flexible. This is a great option for busy teens who need service hours; and
- 5) **Meal Delivery** drivers (using **MLF** truck) at various locations for 2nd Friday supper and 3rd Sunday lunch.

****These teams all have rotating schedules.**

If you can assist with these jobs, please contact **Julie Mellin** @ volunteermf@gmail.com. □

Contact Us

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Email: mlfnw@sfasat.org



MLF website: www.sfasat.org/MLF/index.htm

MLF News files: www.sfasat.org/MLF/mlfnews.htm

A Quick Reminder...

- Captains, notify mlfnw@sfasat.org **before** canceling a meal run.
- Donate new and used large white socks for men and all colors / sizes for women and children.
- **Wear gloves and a baseball cap / hairnet when prepping meals or bagging cookies.**
- Prepare **only** the amount of meals shown on the **Meals Calendar** posted on the refrigerator.
- Transport turkey and cheese sandwich trays on beds of ice.
- Sweep the floor and empty trash / recycling (into commercial bins) after each meal prep.
- Ensure that doors to clothing bay and ice machine room are locked after prep shifts.
- Fill-out the [MLF Truck Run Log](#) after deliveries **and** use the bottom section of **MLF Truck Run Log** to report any unusual events / problems that occur during deliveries.
- Report truck maintenance issues to David Aguilar @ tgeagle2@att.net. □