

Tuesday, April 2nd, 2024

AT THE KITCHEN TABLE

Volume 1 Episode 1

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Weekly Verse: “About 5,000 men were fed that day, in addition to all the women and children!”

Matthew 14: 21 NLT

Weekly News: I hope all is well. Just wanted to send our first email update for God at the Kitchen Table, your ministry!

Lynn and I were severely moved by God in December 2023. And we struggled with what God wanted for us and this ministry. After much prayer, we discovered God had big things in store. I was offered a new position at Pelham HS with great hours! (No more night shift) And God showed us that He was our “Jehovah-Jireh” (the Lord your provider) and allowed Lynn to stay at home. She was a full time Mimi to baby Lorén and dove head first into this ministry full time!

After 21 days of prayer and fasting, we went “ALL IN”!! God kept laying on my heart Matt 14: 17-21 NIV. He kept telling me “5,000” as clear as day. He wanted us to push ourselves and feed 5,000 this year!

We went to Pastor Dan and Pastor Tony and told them our heart. And thanks to their great leadership, they backed us 110%. Anything we needed, they made a way!

In return for that, our answer to them has always been “Yes” for whatever they ask. Be it a first Saturday serve, a community night meal, a teachers luncheon, or helping to prepare the Seder meal for Passover. (If you have never been to a Jewish Seder Passover meal, I highly recommend it, and make sure you take notes. It is an once in a lifetime experience)

Lynn and I have also been asked to lead the cooking lane for Disaster Response at the Riverchase Campus. Those of you that attended field day, or the interest meeting for DR are on our call out list should DR be deployed.

By the Numbers:

Year to date 2024

17 distributions

41 individual families

1265 Meals served (1145 total in 2022)

Menu this Week:

Poppy Seed Chicken Casserole

Sweet Soy Green Beans

Hawaiian Rolls

Pound Cake

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We saw our numbers increasing and no way to get everything done on Saturday mornings. So Lynn and some of the retired ladies started coming together on Thursdays to prep for Saturdays meal. This has helped dramatically.

The campus leadership has also started calling on us when there is leftover food from Dream Team Central, Growth Track, or different events and conferences. We have been able to rescue that food and partner with Love in Action to get it sent out to foster homes, half way houses or wayward teen homes. We have also been able to use some of the meat for our Saturday meals.

The Outreach team has also been a great asset for us. They have provided 2 refrigerators, grill maintenance and propane cost. And those guys are always on the look out for someone who might need a warm meal. We are also assisting in making cakes for the retirement home birthday parties each month.

Meal delivery has always been a difficult task. But now God has provided 17 members of the church who have committed to delivering on a regular basis. In addition to the drivers that sign up on the SERVE app. We couldn't do what we do without our drivers.

We have applied for our Non-Profit status under the umbrella of Mobilization Resources (the parent company of Love in Action food bank). The application has been submitted, letters of recommendation have been sent. We are just waiting for final approval. This will give "At the Kitchen Table" the ability to purchase with a tax exempt status and apply for federal grants.

This was a huge step for us that we did not take lightly. We talked with Church leadership, Grant writers and lawyers to make sure this was the right step for this ministry. We prayed and fasted over this decision and we believe God has His hand on it. Mobilization Resources have bent over backwards to help us in any way they can. I believe God puts people in your path when and where you need them.

Plans as we move forward in 2024. The summer small group semester is shorter and many take vacations. We will drop our meal on the First Saturday and be doing a First Saturday Outreach, wherever the outreach leadership deems. We have also tossed around the idea of only cooking 2 of the other Saturdays and having a Saturday off each month. (We would like your input our how we manage this)

We would like to have a personal cookout; where we, invite your families, our drivers, outreach and church leadership. Just a way that we can say thank you to everyone who has poured into this ministry. Not sure of dates or details yet, but would love your thoughts.

Fall brings, National Police Night out. We have sent request to Helena PD and Pelham PD to see how we can serve them. Dates to come.

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Our prayer is : "Jabez cried out to the God of Israel, 'Oh, that You would bless me and enlarge my territory! Let Your hand be with me, and keep me from harm so that I will be free from pain.' And God granted his request." 1 Chronicles 4:10 NIV

That God would bless our small group (provide us with the resources we need)

That God would enlarge our territory (give us more people to feed)

That God's hand would be upon us (that His anointing is on every meal we prepare)

That God would keep us from harm (that He protects every member of our group from the enemy)

And that brings us to YOU, we cannot even begin to thank you enough for all that you do in this ministry. You dedicate your time, talents and resources to feed God's children!! The joy of our week, is spending time with each and every one of you!

Thank you for making our dream for "God at the Kitchen Table" a reality. We could not have done it without you!

We love you like family! Be Blessed!

Shannon and Lynn

At the Campus this Month:

April 3rd at 6:30 PM - First Wednesday Service

April 10th at 7:00 PM - Motion Night

April 2nd, 9th, and 16th - ONE college services

April 13th - Highlands College 1/2 marathon and 10 K

April 14th - Parent Child dedication

April 17th and 24th - Motion Midweek

April 18th - Freedom Prep day

April 19th and 20th - Freedom Conference

May 12th - Mothers Day

June 2 - July 13th - Summer small group semester

June 24th to 26th - Summer Blast

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