Ministry & More, Inc. 1107 West Empire Street Bloomington, IL 61701





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Ministry & More, Inc. Newsletter/Spring 2023

Alan McLaughlin Director



From the Director:

Hello to our many friends of Ministry and More, Inc.! What better time to welcome new followers and our many long time supporters as we launch our celebration soon to be starting our 20th YEAR of service to our community!





Alan McLaughlin, director.



Don and Linda Winterland with Alan and Wilma McLaughlin.

God has been gracious since the pantry's start in October 2004 on Bloomington's historic west side near the former Alton Railroad shops and yards. Ministry and More, Inc. began as the vision of Don and Linda Winterland. Don and Linda had been 'ignited' with a vision of how God could use them after they went on a mission trip to New York City with NYC Ministries (now SpreadTruth Ministries). After sharing the gospel in the streets of New York City, Don was burdened to reach

marginalized individuals and families locally. Don and Linda sold their home to purchase the former Alton Railroad Credit Union building and began a work, depending on God to supply. Their vision became Ministry and More, Inc. – ministry by sharing the love of Christ in offering prayer and acts of kindness, and MORE – free groceries. The former credit union building that had been used for storing money became a place that now shares 'manna'.

Today Ministry and More, Inc. continues much as at its start, open two hours a day, three days a week and serves all who enter, regardless of financial ability or scarcity.

Ministry and More, Inc. has been an awesome place to serve, and I believe God wants it to continue as Don and Linda Winterland envisioned.

These 12 years of my time as Director of Ministry

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More volunteers continued from page 2.































New News

Our board of directors recently created the position of Chaplain! Our Chaplain is Randy Lloyd, a member at East White Oak church and previously the Chairman of our board. Randy sets the tone for board meetings by bringing a devotion and opening prayer. First things first!

Our board members (who are also volunteers) include representatives from many of our area supporting churches including East White Oak, Lexington Community Church, Christ Lutheran Church, Calvary Baptist Church, Our Redeemer Lutheran Church– and are comprised of six gentlemen and two ladies. You may know some of these fine people – let them know you appreciate the time they spend guiding this ministry.



Our Board of Directors, top row left to right, Randy Lloyd, office of Chaplain, Randy McKain, Mollie Thomas, secretary and Marilee Wehrenberg Vice Chair. Seated left to right are Roy Willan, chairman, Terry Huff, treasurer, Marvin Loos and Darryll Beernink.

2022 Recap

This year we were blessed with community involvement: local schools had food drives, a church distributed flyers to the pantry neighborhood, a church small group helped with Christmas decorating, and a homeschool group did Christmas shopping for the children of the families we serve. We are thankful to be 'ministering to others by ministering together' with these groups and individuals.

Ministry and More, Inc. was able this year to bless local Thunder sled hockey teams, by providing snacks for the players when they travel for games. The players are both children and adults who play ice hockey using sleds due to the loss of use of their



Today's youth are an important part of Ministry & More, Inc.

lower extremities. This blessing came about through a 'chance' meeting with a fire inspector who works with the teams.



Leaders, Kathryn, left, and Tera right, get the team ready with treats and onto the ice.



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and More, Inc. has flown by. I have witnessed God's hand on this work and have seen the truth of Lamentations 3:22–23 that His mercies are new each morning. I praise God that we have

never seen a situation where we had to turn any person away for lack of provision of food. We believe our faith and your faithfulness are rewarded each time we open our doors to serve.

Isaiah 41:10 gives us a wonderful and powerful promise:

'Fear not, for I am with you;
Be not dismayed for I am your God:
I will strengthen you, I will help you, I
will uphold you with
my righteous right hand'.

Ministry and More, Inc. succeeds only because TOGETHER we serve a wonderful loving God, our Savior and sustainer!





Over the last 20 years some things have changed and some remain the same – we love and serve others, 'because He first loved us'.



CELEBRATING OUR 20th ANNIVERSARY!

Volunteers Then and Now:

Our faithful volunteers are our heroes. Here are some photos of former and current volunteers. Do you recognize some of these former and current volunteers? Would you like to join us? If so, contact Ministry and More, Inc. at 309–823–9804 or go to our website, ministryandmore.com to fill out a volunteer application.



Clients are greeted and prayed for by volunteers at the front table.



Tina Zimmerman leading songs with children from our former outreach in Decatur.



Ladies from supporting churches beautify our area.

See more voluteers on page 3.

Looking Foreward

We lost our volunteer who has done our lawn mowing for several years, (board member Brenda Howerton moved to Colorado) – and rejoice that Dave Garrison has volunteered to take this on as his volunteer service. Thank you, Brenda, for your years of faithful service! And thank you Dave for stepping up! We appreciate both individuals' selflessness.

We are now lining up outdoor summer projects for small groups or teens to tackle. These include staining the bridge and stairs leading down from our upper parking lot to the lower parking lot, adding flowers to our flowerpots and other planting, rearranging our large storage building, and back to school ideas for our families with school age children. If you are looking for a way to serve alongside some amazing (and fun) people – let me know!

Enjoy what God has done, pray for continued provision, and pray how God can use you in that process. God bless you all.

Alan

IN OTHER PEOPLE'S SHOES Romans 12:15

Lord, your love increases my sensitivity to needy people in today's world.

I bring my prayers to you:

for those who suffer pain;

for those whose minds are disturbed; for brilliant people who waste their abilities;

for those with great potential but lack opportunity to realize it;

for those whose dreams have shattered:

for those who live behind bars:

for those who have been maimed by violence;

for those who have been disgraced and wounded by other people's wrongdoing;

for those who have lost a loved one;

for those who are suffering from incurable diseases;

for those who face death, especially those who face it without you.

Help me Father, to make myself available to those who need help,

That in practical and spiritual ways,

I may convey your love to them.

Bryan Jeffery Leech