



Manna Matters

BUSY HANDS, WARM HEARTS

Local scouts labor for six months to bless Manna clients with handmade scarves



Troop 169 has been serving at Manna Café several times a year for more than four years. The girls love serving food and chatting with clients. When they were younger, they assisted with serving desserts and drinks, but now that they're seventh-graders, they're allowed to dish up hot food.

This past spring, two Scouts, Megan Shinn and Codi Hyde, began to strategize about how to earn their Silver Award (the second-highest award in GS). After agreeing that they wanted to benefit the clients of Manna Café by knitting and sewing scarves, they took immediate action by attending several knitting and sewing classes. About a month later, in June, they began creating scarves. With no assistance from anyone else during the next five months, they fashioned 60 scarves!



DO YOU HAVE A MANNA STORY?

Have you had an experience while volunteering for Manna Cafe that you'd like to share? Email Vicki@MannaCafe Ministries.com with your contact info, along with a brief description of your story. You just might end up on the front page of *Manna Matters*!

The girls then scoured a list of local help agencies, researching each place to verify details and updating old information. After attaching a list to each scarf, Codi and Megan, along with several younger scouts, packed up their creations and hitched a ride with Megan's mom Kristen to a Tuesday evening Mobile Café. After the meal, they distributed the scarves. "It was such an awesome experience," says Kristen. "The girls were introduced, and everyone was told that they had made each scarf by hand. Everyone clapped for them and was very appreciative." The girls gave a scarf to every person in attendance and were delighted to see that women, children, and even men immediately wrapped them around



their necks. "It was such a neat feeling to see everyone get excited about the scarves," says Kristen. "It made the girls feel so good! It was something they'll remember forever."

Thank you, Megan and Codi, for your selflessness and generosity—and congratulations on earning your Silver Awards!

MOBILE PANTRY IN A NUTSHELL

from start to finish in photos

Taking place about once a month, Mobile Pantry is an intensive, fast-moving event during which the Manna staff, along with a team of 50 volunteers, distribute more than 20 thousand pounds of food (including canned goods, dairy products, bread, rice, pasta, desserts, drinks, and meat) in just a few hours.



1. The Second Harvest Food Bank truck arrives around 8 a.m.



2. Volunteers help unload the truck; then they sort, organize, and bag food.



3. Each volunteer "shopper" fills his/her cart with enough food for one family.



4. As clients pull up one by one, volunteers load their cars. "Shoppers" then refill their carts. By noon, 300 clients have been served.

Find out how your church, organization, or workplace can host a Mobile Pantry by emailing Sara@MannaCafeMinistries.com.

A WORD FROM KENNY

The value of gratitude

In Luke 17, we find a story of Jesus healing the sick. It says that while Jesus was passing through Samaria, ten lepers met him on the path.



Standing a good ways off, they asked in a loud voice for Jesus to have pity on them, so He instructed all ten to go and show themselves to the priest. It says that as they were going, they were cleansed. Their leprosy was healed.

One of them, realizing what had happened, went and found Jesus and thanked

Him. Jesus' response to him was, "Where are the other nine? Weren't there ten of you? You are the only one to come back and give thanks. Your faith has made you well."

If you look carefully at this story, you see that the leper who came back and gave thanks actually received *two* miracles of healing—the first one along with the other nine who were healed of leprosy, and the second when he came back to give thanks. At this point, Jesus said, "Your faith has made you well." But what did Jesus mean? "Well" from what? They'd already been healed from leprosy. I believe the first healing was from the leprosy itself, and the second was from the effects of the disease. If the man

was missing a finger, it grew back; if his ear had fallen off, it grew back. In other words, I believe that, after the second miracle, you couldn't tell that the man had ever had leprosy at all.

All through the Bible, this phrase pops up: "He who has ears, let him hear." As we truly hear this story and apply

"The leper who came back and gave thanks actually received two miracles."

it to our lives, we realize that we should give thanks for every miracle we receive. In our own minds, we tend to put ourselves in the same category as the one leper who gave thanks, but, in reality, how many times have we looked more like the other nine who went on their way with the first miracle but not the second? How many times have we settled for only half our miracle? How many of us have gotten a good report from the doctor and went on our way without giving thanks—and missed out on a *great* report? Or maybe we



prayed for a financial miracle, and one bill was paid but the second one wasn't; did we forget to thank God for the first one?

what a year!

A WORD FROM KENNY, CONT'D.

At Manna Café, we have a lot to thank God for. We see miracles every day. Some are little and some are large. Too often, however, it's easy to trip over the basket of apples to get to the truckload of eggs, or to look past the 30-dollar miracle in favor of the 1000-dollar miracle. But they're all part of the same, daily miracle that keeps Manna "alive." He who has ears, let him hear!

As 2018 comes to an end and we roll into 2019, and as the leader of Manna Café Ministries, I'd like to publicly thank God for each and every one of you. Thank you for allowing God to use you to provide the miracles that help us fulfill our mission. Whether you're the one who brought the bushel of apples or truckload of eggs—I'm equally thankful for you both! Because of you, thousands of lives are touched every month for the sake of Jesus Christ. We couldn't do it without you.

As you read this, I pray the Lord's favor on you and those in your house. May God bless you a hundred times over for your generosity and give you health, in Jesus' name.

Peace out.

In 2018, Manna Cafe . . .

- *distributed more than 1.8 million pounds of food.*
- *carried out 11 Mobile Pantries in Montgomery and Stewart Counties.*
- *assisted 20,000 low-income residents of Clarksville/Montgomery County.*
- *served 23,500 hot meals via Mobile Cafe.*
- *partnered with Clarksville Parks & Recreation to carry out Mayor's Summer Night Lights.*
- *treated countless clients at a free medical clinic in collaboration with Dr. C. Standley of Dynamic Healing.*
- *created a partnership with Hands & Feet 4 Christ (clothing, blanket, and housewares distribution).*
- *provided 243 beds at the warming center during freezing weather in cooperation with New Providence UMC.*
- *educated 80 clients per month in nutrition and healthy food preparation.*
- *purchased the Manna Village property and began renovations.*

For a full list of weekly events, log on to www.MannaCafeMinistries.com.



I love to hear from Manna Matters readers. Do you have questions? Comments? Ideas? Contact me at Vicki@MannaCafeMinistries.com.

Writer/editor Victoria York
[facebook.com/vyork](https://www.facebook.com/vyork)
[instagram.com/v_york_](https://www.instagram.com/v_york_)

MISSION STATEMENT

Manna Café Ministries serves people in need in Clarksville/Montgomery County through a soup kitchen on wheels, food box distribution, and other vital resources. Propelled chiefly by volunteers, Manna Café strives to restore hope, dignity, self-reliance, community, and the love of God through Jesus Christ.