

# FISH

## The President's Message:

Visit  
the FISH Website

<http://williamsburgfish.weebly.com/services.html>

### The Pantry Report:

During the month of August, there were 340 requests for 840 recipients for a total of 12,600 meals. Persons fed was up 5% from August 2015.

In September there were 366 requests for 910 recipients for a total of 13,650 meals. Persons fed was up 6% from September, 2015.

Greetings,

FISH continues to be blessed by local support. This past quarter FISH has received many cash contributions from local organizations. The Williamsburg Chamber of Commerce contributed \$500 for our use. The Martin's grocery store campaign netted almost \$3400! The Williamsburg Community Foundation donated \$3200. These and other donations pushed our quarterly donations to 13 percent over last year.

CDR, ARC, and FISH benefited from Vine and Dine held October 22.

FISH continues to be thankful for the support we receive from civic groups, churches, and individuals in our community.

Best wishes to you and your loved ones as we approach this holiday season. FISH will continue to serve those in need in the New Year.

Gene Bruss, President

### Important Phone Numbers:

**FISH Building: 757-220-9379**

**Volunteers – Martha Buell: 757-345-2646**

**Weather Related Closings: 757-220-4249**



## Special Interest Items

As you know, we have increased the quantities of toilet paper we give to clients. We can't always get the larger packages, but when we do have them, don't break them up into smaller quantities. We don't want unpackaged rolls going to clients.

Clients appreciate our once again providing laundry detergent, but Farm Fresh isn't always able to supply all we need.

It's FISH policy that volunteers not give money to clients.

I know some of us have given clients rides home, but for liability reasons we shouldn't be doing that—same reason we stopped transporting clients to doctors' appointments.

When the building has a fire drill, all volunteers must leave the building.

## Opportunity to Help FISH

Amazon makes a donation to FISH with each of your Amazon purchases when you participate in the AmazonSmile program. The link for participation is

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/54-1523058>

Thank you for supporting this program. Donations are increasing.

The AmazonSmile logo is displayed on an orange background. It features the word "amazon" in black and "smile" in white, with a white curved arrow underneath "amazon" pointing to the right. Below the logo, the tagline "You shop. Amazon gives." is written in a smaller, black font.

## Welcome and Farewell

Welcome to Clara Pierson,  
Barbara Mroczkowski, Maura  
Rush, Jeanne Besterfeldt,  
Kathy Beuschel, and Lewis  
Edwards

Farewell to Roger Allen,

## **Reinstatement of “Quick Response Team”**

These volunteers are willing to come, when they can, on short notice if one of your team has failed to show or you are especially busy.

Kathleen Anderson 345-6291

Jill Holroyd 903-7839

As we get closer to Thanksgiving and Christmas donations and demand for services will increase. Groups may wish to add a fifth person. Consider asking a spouse, friend or neighbor.

## **The Messmer Community Service Center will be closed as follows:**

Monday January 18th for Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Monday February 15th for President's Day

Monday May 30th for Memorial Day

Monday July 4th for Independence Day

Monday September 5th for Labor Day

Monday October 10th for Columbus Day

Friday November 11th for Veterans Day

Thursday November 24th & Friday November 25th for Thanksgiving

Monday December 26th for Christmas Day

Monday January 2, 2017 for New Year Day

The Messmer Community Service Center will be closed due to Inclement Weather whenever Williamsburg/James City Public Schools are closed.

When there is a 1 hour or 2 hour delay in Williamsburg/James City Public Schools opening, the Messmer Community Service Center will open at its regular time.

## **FISH FACTS**

One-half of pantry volunteers have volunteered for less than four years.

## Donations

FISH is thankful for donations of money, food, clothing, and small housewares. The following are the food items that FISH recommends for donations:

- Spaghetti
- Canned Meat, Chicken and Tuna
- Cereals
- Spaghetti Sauce
- Boxed Macaroni and Cheese
- Saltine Crackers
- Applesauce and Canned Fruits
- Powdered Milk
- Beans (Great Northern and Baked)
- Rice
- Peanut Butter
- Grape Jelly
- Canned Soups
- Canned Vegetables



## **The Closet Report:**



In August, 899 outfits were provided to 173 adults and 135 children. Housewares were provided to 45 households in August. In August the total number of requests was up 4% from August, 2015. In September 743 outfits were provided to 148 adults and 111 children. Housewares were provided to 44 households in September. The total number of requests in September was up 2% from September 2015.

A team of volunteers prepares clothing for the FISH Close Closet. This includes sorting, sizing, sewing on buttons, shining shoes, storing for the appropriate season and stocking the closet. Regular volunteers who serve on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday are augmented by church volunteers on Tuesday. A local church takes responsibility for a month and their volunteers serve each Tuesday during that month. Pictured left to right are: Mary Kafes, Mary Andersen, Joan Devlin and Clothing Coordinator Billie Johnston. Not pictured are: Carol Thomas, Gary Sadler, Sue Williams, Mary Ellen and Bill Therouk, and Debbie VanDoren



The W&M Student Athletic Advisory Committee delivered their "Harvest Basket" food collection to FISH. They were about 50 bags and several laundry baskets of food .