



The Sojourner Truth Ministries Connection of Christians in Partnership



Our Vision

Sojourner Truth Ministries shall be a loving, spiritual, and inclusive Christian

The Mission and Purpose of Sojourner Truth Ministries, Inc.

Sojourner Truth Ministries loves all people, creates community, builds character, and equips us to be faithful disciples of JESUS CHRIST

2014 March Newsletter

Hours: 9:00am to 3:00pm Monday thru Saturday

What's Happening at Sojourner Truth Ministries?

Do you know the many ways that Sojourner Truth Ministries helps individuals in the community?

- Workers from the Wake Up House give countless hours to ongoing numerous tasks at STM. They help day after day in the kitchen with meals and cleaning up. You'll also find them in the Clothes Closet sorting and organizing the display of the clothes you graciously donate.
- The Food Pantry is the responsibility of one young lady to keep it organized, running smoothly, and caring for it no matter what the donations are or when they arrive.
- For years Keith and Stacey help set up early each morning for all the breakfasts and are available wherever the needs arise throughout the day.
- Volunteers have scheduled themselves to come specific week days to help with the weekly donations of fruits, vegetables, and breads to deliver, sort and hand out to those needing food to prepare at home or will be eaten on the street if they are homeless.
- We are a family at STM working to help each other in practical ways but also in friendship and caring not just another food kitchen handout.
- Even the ones who eat or come for a warm cup of beverage also are bringing items to donate. When here they may help with cutting potatoes, celery, onions, etc. for our meals or for storing.
- Other organizations have gotten to know us and send people to assist us. What a wonderful witness of Christ's family serving together.

- A large number of workers come from Experience Works, STEP, Inc., Career Link and some great people who fulfill their community service hours to satisfy their court requirements serve and get to experience the love of Christ among us.

- We strive to help everyone who comes through our doors to be accountable to help in any way they can so it is their ministry too.

- The unique family sharing and giving is what makes this mission so special to us and to you.

I cannot miss also thanking my daughter and husband for the many, many hours, long days and weeks they put in with me to help me carry the load as the Director at STM.

Thanks also goes to Wegmans, Weis, and Giant - they donate so very, very much each week so that our doors stay open to serve all who come in while being able to give freely from our weekly overflow to take with them to eat later on.

What a wonderful team - all the many churches and church families, the variety of community organizations, the Board of Directors of STM - together being Christ's caring hands and feet. And, we thank you too for the way you share your abundant provision, finances, and love with all at STM.

Sharing the love of God,

Pastor Velinda Webb-Smith

Meals for Saturday Café

All dates taken except: September 6, November 15, 22, and 29, and December 27. Check our website: www.stmwilliamsport.org.

Have you ever considered also the possibility to have your church serve the Thanksgiving Day meal on November 27th or the Christmas Day meal on December 25th? Every year Hope Community Church serves both these holidays but they leave them available until October if another church would choose to serve them. There is never a shortage of community volunteers that come on their own to assist them. Consider it? Contact Pat Bole 570-494-09423.

New Freezer and Dead Refrigerator

NEW FREEZER ARRIVED: Thank you Oval UM Church family for responding to our need of a new freezer in our food storage room. It was very, very old as they had observed when they served a Saturday Café meal at STM. It, of course, was also using extra electricity not being a modern energy efficient model. We do appreciate your donation greatly. **We thank Beitors as well** who kindly gave them a special price in support of STM and quick delivery.

REFRIGERATOR NEEDED: However, we still do NEED a refrigerator if anyone has one to donate or would purchase a new one for us. This is a refrigerator we use to store our overflow and condiments in our storage space. It completely died on us as we used it heavily. Contact Director Rev. Velinda Webb-Smith 570-323-1797.

Thank you St. Paul-Calvary for running the copies of this newsletter for March.

Basic Needs and Health Care

The Social Service Assistant has been actively involving organizations to talk to the Sojourners about practical health care issues. Being disenfranchised and having insufficient income they often ignore their health issues and eat unhealthily because the most economical foods they purchase are the poorest nutritionally.

Educational talks have been given on diabetes, on blood pressure screening to detect if they need medical care, on dental education with free toothpaste, free flu shots given at STM, and even a Health Fair was held in house for them with the community invited.

Look for 2014's upcoming Health Fair for the Community -Vendors welcome - at STM. Watch for the date in May.

Are there some talks you or your organization could provide to help them gain a greater quality of life? Contact Dawn White at 570-506-1590.

Some Exciting Events A'coming!

- Raise the Region** - see our full page on it!
- A gospel Concert** at Community Arts Center in May. Watch for publicity and date.
- Health Fair for the Community** -Vendors are welcome. Coming in May at STM.
- “Celebrate Recovery”** a Christ centered recovery group to begin - if interested, training now available. Contact Dawn White 570-506-1590.
- STM has a Facebook page.** Do you want to be a friend on Facebook? We welcome you.
- “Mission Trip to Williamsport”** - Aug. 11-16, 2014. First UMC, Williamsport, with other churches, providing needed home repairs for area residents. See the form to apply on their website www.firstchurch.cc . Could you be a volunteer that week to work at a few of the many jobs? Or, be a church partner with First?



Welcome to Raise the Region 2014 - First Community Foundation Partnership of Pennsylvania's 30-hour regional fund raising event.

The First Community Foundation Partnership of Pennsylvania (FCFP) is excited to announce Raise the Region 2014, an event to help the communities of Columbia, Lycoming, Montour, Northumberland, Snyder, and Union counties support local nonprofit organizations fund raising efforts. FCFP, in partnership with Blaise Alexander Family Dealerships, will be launching a 30-hour fundraising event starting on Wednesday, March 12, 2014.

Mark your calendar! On Wednesday, March 12th at 6:00 PM through 11:59 PM on Thursday, March 13th we are asking everyone to visit www.raisetheregion.org and select **Sojourner Truth Ministries (STM)** to support, and your gift will be stretched by a generous contribution from Blaise Alexander Family Dealerships.

Your donation(s) can also help raise additional support for **STM** by qualifying them for monetary prizes. All gifts are tax deductible and will help make the **STM** mission continue to support our local area.

Donations will begin being accepted on March 12th at 6:00 P.M.

Donations

Any individual or business may donate. All donations must be made via credit card or debit card through the Raise the Region website. No gifts from checks, cash, First Community Foundation Partnership of Pennsylvania charitable gift certificates or donor advised funds will be accepted for this giving event. All donations are tax deductible and irrevocable (donations will not be refunded) and will be for the unrestricted use of your chosen charity. Minimum gift: \$25
Maximum gift: No maximum gift. The maximum amount per gift that will be matched is \$10,000.

To find out more about Sojourner Truth Ministries please visit our website:

<http://www.stmwilliamsport.org>

or Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Sojourner-Truth-Ministries-Inc/220894511273966>

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

2014 Covenant Challenge - Sojourner Truth Ministries

“They share freely and give generously to those in need. Their good deeds will be remembered forever.
They will have influence and honor.” ---Psalm 112:9 (NLT)

As God made a covenant with Abraham in the Old Testament times, we would like to challenge you to make a covenant with Sojourner Truth Ministries. We are in need of continual, consistent operational funds to keep our building opened, repaired and our programs functional. **We are asking that 1,000 people from area churches of the community, the United Methodist Church which is our founding denomination, and other organizations to make a covenant with us to give us \$100.00 per year. If so, partnering together do this, will provide us with enough money to fund all of our needs!** One hundred dollars is a small sum when spread out over 12 months or \$10 a month for 10 months. We urge you to prayerfully consider helping to fund our ministry in this covenant relationship. If you are willing to make this covenant with us, please fill out the form below.

Name _____
Address _____

Covenant amount per year _____

Committed: _____ weekly _____ monthly _____ semi-annually _____ annually

**Please send Covenant Challenge to:
Sojourner Truth Ministries, c/o Treasurer, 501 High Street, Williamsport, PA 17701**