

# The Cathedral Star

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## Feed My Neighbor - A Huge Success!

By: Sharon Mattingly

*Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you,  
Or thirsty and give you drink?  
When did we see you a stranger and take you in  
Or naked and clothe you?*

....

*And the King will answer and say to them,  
"Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one  
Of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.*

*Matthew 25:37-40*



Ready to register guests.

In mid-December, 2012, Father Jeff and Maggie Cyphers met with a small group of parishioners to discuss the idea of a fundraiser to benefit the Cathedral's Sandefur Dining Hall and its outreach to the homeless in the downtown community. After countless volunteer hours and the generosity of numerous sponsors and donors,

that idea became a reality on the evening of Saturday, June 8, 2013, when over 260 individuals attended the inaugural Feed My Neighbor fundraiser held at the Seelbach Hilton Hotel.

**The first annual Feed My Neighbor event netted \$60,000 for our Daily Lunch Program. Congratulations to the fund-raising team and thanks to all who contributed in any way to this wonderful success.**

When brainstorming over the type of event to be held, the committee envisioned an annual community-wide event with a focus on the homeless. Since this would be an inaugural event, the committee decided that the fundraiser needed a name and a logo as an attention-getter and to associate this particular

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CATHEDRAL OF THE  
ASSUMPTION

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# Welcome to this issue of our Cathedral Star

In this issue we celebrate our daily lunch program and all the wonderful disciples that make it a reality. Jesus asks us in the parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:35-38), “Who was neighbor to the robber’s victim?” The correct answer is, “The one who treated him with mercy.” Jesus then concludes, “Go and do likewise.” Our Daily Lunch Program is our Cathedral’s primary means for doing just this.



We celebrate our award-winning lunch program and its manager, Mr. Steve Lee. We celebrate all the dedicated volunteers who give so generously of themselves to ensure that our neighbors in need receive a nutritious meal. And we celebrate the successful launching of our “Feed My Neighbor” initiative to raise funds and awareness.

We are doing great things for our Lord! May this issue of Cathedral Star inspire your own rededication to this good work and help you to celebrate our Cathedral of the Assumption family where all can be known, believe, and belong.



Peace,  
Fr. Jeff



[L-R] Julian Finley, Bob Silva, Judy Silva, Matt Zajack, Connie Stallard, Don Stallard, Jennifer Chapman, Star Little, Lisa Slusher, Andrew Thai, Kari Cundiff and Steve Lee



## Invitation Leads to \$25,000 Grant

By: Richard Williams

When Cathedral parishioner Connie Stallard asked Wayne Crawhorn, a friend she had worked with at National City Bank before she retired, if he would like to help out one day at the noon lunch program, she had no idea how a simple request would grow. “We were looking for more help, and I had known Wayne for years,” said Stallard.

It was 2007 and Wayne had by then moved on to work at Humana. After helping out at the program for a while, he decided to promote the program to some of his co-workers. The program grew to the point where the Humana “team” had enough regular volunteers that a regular weekly time slot was assigned to it. As Wayne transferred to a different area within Humana, another volunteer, Julian Finley, assumed the co-ordination of the program. He instituted a website within Humana to advertise the program. The publicity generated a nomination for a community involvement award, which the team won. The heart of the award was a grant of \$25,000 that the team could give to the charity of its choice. Julian said, “It was an obvious decision that we give it to the Cathedral program; that was the reason for the group’s existence.” The check was presented to the lunch program in December via Enterprise Information Security, an entity established to channel the Humana Foundation grant.

Asked how the lunch program intends to spend the funds, manager Steve Lee said, “We have a lot of needs to be addressed. The kitchen equipment has had much use over the years and some of it needs to be replaced, as well as tables and chairs in the lunch area.” Lee said that the pastor and parish council will decide on the allocation.

The Humana team works at the kitchen on Wednesdays from 11:15 to 1:45 with five to eight volunteers.



fundraiser with the Cathedral. Thus was born “Feed My Neighbor” with the tagline “Serving Up Dignity One Meal at a Time” and the logo of the loaves and fishes. The clean lines of the script, the simple green-brown-white color combination, and the brown paper bag background were decided upon with the assistance and creativity of the committee’s marketing chair, David Grantz.

With several members of the committee having prior experience with auction-type events, particularly Leslie Smart and Don Kavanaugh, and the short time frame before a June event date, the inaugural Feed My Neighbor fundraiser became a dinner with a live and silent auction.



The Eucharistic Ministers come through!

The request for auction items went out to parishioners and others in the community, and Paul Kelty set out to secure an auctioneer for the live action.

While the auction items were slow in coming in, there was an avalanche of items in the last two weeks before the event – causing many late nights for Judith Youngblood who catalogued each and every item and countless hours by Madonna Wilson who was charged with organizing each of the displays. Feed My Neighbor ended up with nine live auction items and over 120 silent auction items. The items included original artwork and portraiture, jewelry, plants and landscaping, an area rug, a football signed by Charlie Strong and a basketball signed by Rick Pitino, tutoring services, musical performances, cooking classes, a retreat at St. Meinrad, stays at vacation homes in Naples, Florida and Nolin Lake, themed baskets, numerous liquor baskets, tickets to sporting events and arts performances, and a progressive dinner at River’s Edge, to name a few. Consistent with their ministries, the Eucharist ministers donated a basket with bottles of wine; the lectors donated a basket with a Kindle, a Nook, and numerous books; and the Youth Group donated a basket of games. And the piece de resistance (or pieces) – a full length mink coat, two one week passes to the PGA, and a week’s stay at La Maison Rose, a home in the Provence region in the south of France, were among the nine items to be auctioned off in the live auction with the assistance of auctioneer Doug Harritt who donated his services for the fundraiser.

This first event also was to be a tribute to the three persons who contributed greatly to getting the Sandefur Dining Hall off the ground, so to speak. In the words of Father Jeff:

“We could think of no better way to kick off our efforts than to pay tribute to the wonderful shoulders upon which our current program stands, Mrs. Christy Brown, Rev. Bill Fichteman, and Rev. Ronald Knott. Their vision and leadership have brought us to this point, and celebrating the gift they are to our city and its hungry poor will launch us into our common future together.”

What do you give to these three people to show your appreciation, and with the hope that it will be meaningful rather than simply another dust catcher? That decision fell to Maggie Cyphers and Sharon Mattingly. After much brainstorming, the physical token of the grateful appreciation of the Cathedral parish was a large Louisville Stoneware platter bearing the Feed My Neighbor logo and tagline – a platter which can be both displayed and useful at the same time!

The evening began with registration in the George Garvin Brown Garden, and attendees proceeded across the street to the Seelbach. There, they had about an hour to browse the many silent auction items artfully displayed throughout the room. The dinner tables were decorated with burlap runners and the centerpieces were composed of cans of food and packages of dried goods, small pots of live



The guests arrive.

herbs, and wheat and burlap accents. The centerpieces were to be donated to the Dining Hall after the event – the creative genius of In Bloom Again and Wayne Esterle. The committee had decided that, budget permitting, there would be table favors for each of the attendees – both to remember the evening and to carry forth Feed My Neighbor into the

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community. With the help of a parishioner, tee shirts with the Feed My Neighbor logo, tagline and website were purchased as favors. Originally, the shirts were to be incorporated into the table centerpieces, but, with all the canned food, space was limited. Never fear, due to the creativity of our florists, the shirts became chair covers, lending just the right touch to the room!

The formal part of the evening began with a video presentation on the Sandefur Dining Hall, its environs, its volunteers and its guests. The video included footage from



Auction items

the original video made 10 years earlier when the Dining Hall was merely a concept. The video closed with a dancer from the Louisville Ballet performing Prayer from Coppelia, and, as the lights came up, Ashley Thursby, a current dancer with the Ballet, performed a breathtaking rendition of the same dance! After dinner, Mrs. Brown, Father Fichteman and Father Knott were honored. A short description of their accomplishments, as prepared by Father Clyde Crews, was given by emcee Jean West before they received their Feed My Neighbor commemorative platters. For so many of those present, it was wonderful to be able to see these honorees receive special recognition from the Cathedral community for their roles in bringing the Sandefur Dining Hall from a concept to a reality.

As the live auction concluded and the silent auction tables closed, The Marlins entertained the crowd with their lively dance music. As the crowd took to the dance floor, there were even murmurings that Father Jeff was a pretty good dancer! Those who had been successful in bidding on auction items began making their way to the Seelbach lobby to pay for their treasures. The lobby was a hive of activity with many parishioner volunteers involved in the checkout process, and Mike Ziemianski and Lisa Palmisano taking money at a frantic pace. To their surprise, many of the successful bidders asked to round their checks up to an even amount thereby increasing their donations.

In talking with the various attendees throughout the evening, this first event was fun for everyone – a wide array of auction items to browse through and bid on, a delicious dinner, great music, the camaraderie of family and friends, and all to benefit a worthwhile cause. A friend who attended the event and who regularly volunteers at the Dining Hall with her church youth group summed it up best: “This is a cause very dear to my heart. If it’s to benefit the Cathedral’s feeding of the hungry – I’m there – and I’m so honored to be asked to attend this event.”

Thanks to all the sponsors and donors, to those who attended the dinner and bought auction items, and to those who couldn’t attend but sent in donations, and a special thanks to the countless volunteers whose hours of service made June 8<sup>th</sup> such a wonderful evening. Through all your efforts, the inaugural Feed My Neighbor evening raised over \$60,000 for the benefit of the Sandefur Dining Hall and the Cathedral’s outreach to the homeless! Each of you is helping our church make a difference in the lives of the homeless in our community on a daily basis.

[www.FeedMyNeighbor.org](http://www.FeedMyNeighbor.org)



Christy Brown prepares to speak as Fr. Ron & Fr. Bill look on.





Chef Gabriele



More auction items



Shirts on chairs at tables



La Maison



Nolin

# The Herbmeister

By: Stephanie George

Steve Lee is a Renaissance man. From business owner to author, Steve is one of the most interesting people you will meet. Born in Evansville, Indiana, Steve grew up in the Germantown neighborhood of Louisville. One of six children, his early cooking education began with his mother and grandmother. He received a culinary degree from University of Kentucky. Studying under Master Chef Harvey Colgin, he advanced his knowledge of French cooking. Considered a “culinary grandson” of renown French Chef Master Auguste Escoffier, Steve enjoys sharing his love and knowledge of all things edible. Twice Chairman of the Cooking Schools and Teachers Committee of the International Association of Culinary Professionals, Steve has written numerous books. For fourteen years, he owned and operated the only cooking school in Kentucky, The Cookbook Cottage. Every year in August, Steve oversees the Culinary Department of the Kentucky State Fair as a superintendent. On top of all that, he is the Coordinator of the Daily Lunch Program at the Cathedral of the Assumption.

Steve oversees daily the feeding of up to 200 homeless and needy Louisvillians. Each person who walks through the door of the Cathedral’s cafeteria receives a

sandwich, soup, drink, dessert, and fruit or salad.

Desserts are donated from local businesses such as Panera, Kroger, and Homemade Pie Kitchen. Fruit and vegetables are donated from Paul’s, Kroger, and other small farms/businesses.

Meat for sandwiches is bought by the kitchen with grants and donations from businesses and church members. Up to 10-15 volunteers a day create the meals for the

kitchen’s guests. Steve organizes the preparing, cooking, storing, and serving of all food at the soup kitchen. He also coordinates the donations from local businesses. He always has a smile upon his face, a kind word or funny story, and so much knowledge and passion to share about cooking. He is truly an asset to this church’s outreach program and its volunteers.

On top of all that, Steve is a licensed auctioneer in Kentucky and Indiana. He is also co-owner of Renaissance by Design, an antique and gift boutique in the Highlands. To contact Steve about all things food, antiques, or just to learn about an incredible Renaissance man, visit his website <[www.herbmeister.com](http://www.herbmeister.com)>.



# The Gold Standard

By: Margaret Brosko

The “Gold Standard!” That’s how Dare to Care describes the Cathedral’s Daily Lunch Program. The hard work and reputation for excellence is the reason the Cathedral of the Assumption is Dare to Care’s 2013 Bobby Ellis Emergency Kitchen of the Year winner.

“Receiving this award was one of my goals,” said Coordinator of the Daily Lunch Program Steve Lee. “We really appreciate the recognition and take great pride in the fact that this award is bringing awareness to the Parish and the Archdiocese. We want everyone to realize the good work our Cathedral is doing for this city.”

The Cathedral is one of over 20 organizations that work tirelessly to serve the needs of the hungry in the Louisville area. After reviewing submitted applications by the organizations, Dare to Care narrowed the field to five kitchens.

“We selected the Cathedral this year because of its longevity and commitment to feeding the homeless and needy over the years,” said Partner Development Manager of Dare to Care, Katie Wilson. “We want to express to our other partners the gold standard of meeting the community’s needs, and the Cathedral emulates that standard.”

The Bobby Ellis Awards have an impressive mission and history as well. On Thanksgiving Eve, 1969, nine-year-old Bobby Ellis died of malnutrition in his Louisville home. Kentuckiana was stunned, so they took action creating Dare to Care Food Bank to ensure that no one in the community lacks enough food to live an active, healthy life. Today, the organization partners with over 300 food pantries, shelters and emergency kitchens, including the Cathedral.

This year the Cathedral was recognized as going above and beyond to conquer the cycle of need. “I am not surprised at all that the Cathedral won the award,” said Greg Orybowman. “This is a real good place. I live by myself and I get to mingle with others when I come here for lunch. I really like to talk to other people and the food gives me my strength.”

Mr. Orybowman sees the benefits of the program daily and has been for the past three years. He is not alone. In fact, the need for daily lunches is growing.

“Normally the first few days of the month are the slowest, averaging about 80 people served,” said Pastoral Associate for Parish Outreach Molly Chesney. “The trend is drastically changing. In the beginning of July, that number shot up to 174, including many women and children. We are honored to receive this award, and we really hope it raises awareness. There is a whole subset of the population in town that most people don’t know about. Their need is recognized daily by our volunteers and many in our Cathedral family, but unfortunately they remain invisible to so many in the community.”

The continuous improvement was evident by the Dare to Care staff and volunteers who voted on the award. The transition from bologna sandwiches served out the back door to a hot nutritional meal set the bar at a high level.

“I enjoy being part of a group of wonderful people and giving back. It makes me feel good and blessed,” said Kathy Ragland, a recent retiree volunteer. “I like to say I’m in the second part of my life and that part is about giving, not taking. That’s the main purpose in my life.”

The development of a solid volunteer team of approximately 300 per month, over 30 hours of service

daily is a true testament to the commitment of those in need, dedication that stood out to the Dare to Care selection committee.

Besides a beautiful plaque displayed in the kitchen, Dare to Care presented a \$500 donation sponsored by Yum! Brands Foundation to the lunch program.

The money will go straight to the cause. “We are going to buy sliced turkey instead of bologna,” said Steve with a glowing smile!



Steve Lee & Molly Chesney

## Emergency Kitchen of the Year Winner: Cathedral of the Assumption

Finalists:

- Centenary United Methodist Church
- Grace Family Worship
- Society of St. Vincent de Paul’s Open Hand Kitchen
- Gilt Edge Baptist Church



# Cathedral of the Assumption

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## *Feed My Neighbor Event...*

The first annual Feed My Neighbor event netted \$60,000 for our Daily Lunch Program. Congratulations to the fund-raising team and thanks to all who contributed in any way to this wonderful success.



# Feed My Neighbor

Serving Up Dignity One Meal At A Time

## **The Cathedral Star Staff Members**

Margaret Brosko  
Kay Madrick  
Sharon Mattingly  
Tristan Padua  
Martha Villiger  
Richard Williams



**Office Liaison**  
Angela Wiggins



**Masthead Design**  
Teresa Heintzman