

LOAVES & FISHES

NEWSLETTER



| Feature Story

Aim With Purpose, Give With Heart

The John Waddle Memorial Shoot was a tremendous day of fellowship, friendly competition, and community support—and its impact will be felt throughout the year at Loaves & Fishes.

With 84 participants joining us at Cross Creek Clays, this year's event brought together sponsors, shooters, volunteers, and supporters who believe that every neighbor deserves a warm meal, a welcoming place, and hope for tomorrow.

We are deeply grateful for every team, business, donor, and volunteer who made the day possible.

Our goal for this year's shoot was clear: raise enough support to cover Loaves & Fishes' utility expenses for the upcoming year. Because of the generosity of those who participated and sponsored the event, that goal was achieved.

Covering essential expenses such as electricity, water, and other facility utilities helps ensure that more of the resources entrusted to Loaves & Fishes can go directly toward serving meals and caring for neighbors facing food insecurity.



| Volunteer Spotlight

Meet the Deacon

This month, we spotlight Deacon Jones, the kitchen team lead from St. John's Missionary Baptist Church.



| Upcoming Calendar Notes:

 **Team Leader Ice Cream Social.**
Friday September 18, 2026. 3p-4p

 **Volunteer Appreciation Dinner.**
Friday October 9, 2026. 5p-7p

 **Night of Hope & Casino Royale.**
Saturday November 14, 2026. 6p-9p

Volunteer Spotlight <Cont>

by Karoline Gallegos

For Deacon Jones, volunteering with Loaves and Fishes is an extension of his faith and commitment to his church and community. When his church began serving on the fourth Saturday, he felt it was his responsibility as a church leader to support the community.

As a Deacon, he sees serving others as a reflection of Christ's teachings and God's Word. Through volunteering, he has found that even simple acts of kindness—such as putting a smile on someone's face or praying with someone—can make a meaningful difference.

His time at Loaves and Fishes has also reminded him that anyone can experience difficult times and need help. He believes "People should set aside pride and be willing to accept the support they need to move forward". Volunteering has taught him that you never truly know what someone may be facing, and sometimes a smile, a prayer, or a helping hand is exactly what someone needs to make it through the day. Serving others has brought him great joy and strengthened his understanding of the importance of compassion and community.

Deacon Jones encourages anyone considering volunteering to simply give it a try. He believes volunteering should come from a genuine desire to help others, not merely an obligation.

He also encourages the community to support Loaves and Fishes through volunteering, donations, and financial contributions so that the organization can continue serving those in need. Above all, he believes we should openly show the love that Christ has shown us by caring for one another.

"To God be the Glory."



There are several meaningful ways to partner with Loaves & Fishes and help provide meals, hospitality, and hope for our neighbors.

Give financially. Your gift helps provide dependable meals, maintain a welcoming facility, and meet practical needs throughout the year.

Serve as a volunteer. Whether you can help prepare food, serve guests, sort donations, clean, pickup food donations, or assist behind the scenes, your time makes a direct difference.

Adopt a seat. Help furnish and sustain a welcoming dining room by adopting a chair in honor or memory of someone special.

(Text the word **BIGTABLE** to 53-555 for more information on how you, your church or your company can help provide a seat at one of our family tables.)

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Impact at a Glance

Loaves & Fishes has left the building...

In June and July, Loaves & Fishes served more than 13,000 meals to neighbors in our community.

That total included 1,200 meals for children enrolled in local summer-school and mentorship programs through Project Transformation, Victory Summer Camp, and S.E.L.F (Summer Education Learning is Fundamental). These programs invest in children's learning, growth, and future—and a nourishing meal helps make that investment possible. It is incredibly difficult to learn, participate, and thrive on an empty stomach.

Our impact *intentionally* reaches beyond the walls of Loaves & Fishes. Through rescued food, generous donors, and the dedicated work of talented volunteers, we are able to extend meals into the community and strengthen the work of trusted local partners.

When Loaves & Fishes helps provide a meal for a child during summer school, our community partners can focus more fully on teaching, mentoring, and helping young people grow. This collaboration strengthens the work of every organization involved—and helps ensure children receive both the nourishment and encouragement they need to learn and thrive.

"Few things have more impact than nutrition on a child's ability to survive, learn effectively and escape a life of poverty."

— Ann M. Veneman, former Executive Director of UNICEF

Community Partner

God's Chicken helps fill the gaps.

At Loaves & Fishes, we never know exactly how many meals will be needed on a given day. Some days, we serve around 200 guests. On others, the number can quickly rise to nearly 400. That is why partnerships with local restaurants are so important.

We are grateful for the generosity of Chick-fil-A on Madison Street managed by Rebecca Lynch, whose support gives our kitchen reliable flexibility when daily meal counts surge. Their donated food helps us respond quickly, expand the options available to guests, and continue offering meals that are both nourishing and enjoyable.

Through the **Food Donation Connection**, local restaurants are paired with hunger-relief organizations like Loaves & Fishes so wholesome surplus food can be redirected to meaningful purposes. Chick-fil-A's Shared Table program packages surplus prepared food for local nonprofit partners, allowing it to be transformed into meals for the community.

This is stewardship in action: generous local businesses, skilled kitchen staff, and talented volunteers working together to rescue food and turn it into delicious meals for our guests. Because of partnerships like this one, Loaves & Fishes can remain prepared, adaptable, and focused on honorable service to our guests.



Why Do We Do What We Do?

At Loaves & Fishes, we believe ministry begins with the neighbor in front of us. Our mission is rooted right here in Clarksville—serving people who walk through our doors, live in our neighborhoods, and need a meal today. Fundraising events and creative community partnerships help make the work possible, but the purpose remains simple: to offer nourishing food, genuine hospitality, and hope to our local neighbors with dignity and care.

✱ We would love for you to join us!

Fall Fundraiser

All In for Loaves & Fishes

Clarksville is a community that supports its local nonprofits in a remarkable way. We know there are many worthwhile events, causes, and organizations inviting your participation throughout the year—and we are grateful to be part of such a generous community.

This fall, Loaves & Fishes invites you to enjoy an evening that is both meaningful and genuinely fun: the Night of Hope & Casino Royale. Designed as a memorable date night or evening out with friends, the gala will feature delicious food, a bourbon tasting, casino-style gaming, and a lively atmosphere.

Your attendance supports the work of Loaves & Fishes, but this event is also our opportunity to offer something enjoyable in return: a night to gather, celebrate, and have fun with people who care about our community.

Scan the QR code below to reserve your tickets or sponsor a table for the **Night of Hope & Casino Royale**. Come enjoy an unpretentious, welcoming evening where you can get to know a little bit more about Loaves & Fishes.

Night of Hope & Casino Royale
Saturday, November 14, 2026

