



September 2017

Volume 3, No. 3

Newsletter

Since our Beginning In October 2010

- 221,668 lunch meals served
- 53,895 Volunteer hours
- 100 – 200 meals served daily

GRAND CENTRAL STATION 2017 NEEDS/WISH LIST

- ✓ Natural Gas Tankless Water Heater
- ✓ Volunteer Licensed Plumber to install tankless water heater
- ✓ CANNED Coffee 3#
- ✓ Gallon sized tea bags
- ✓ Plastic Forks, Spoons, Knives
- ✓ Styrofoam soup bowls
- ✓ Pam Cooking Spray
- ✓ Trash Can Liners, 13 & 33 gal
- ✓ Sandwich/QT/Gal Zip Lock Bags
- ✓ Brown Paper Bags 12#
- ✓ Razors
- ✓ Deodorant – small size
- ✓ Toothbrushes
- ✓ Travel size toothpaste
- ✓ Sweet Relish
- ✓ # 10 Canned Goods
- ✓ Louisiana Hot Sauce
- ✓ White cotton men's socks
- ✓ Bottled water
- ✓ Hand Sanitizer

Bells HEBRON Church Youth Group takes on a BIG Warehouse cleaning project in June. Thanks for all your hard work!



Blake Stephens with JHAMS Youth at Austin College led a group of teens assembling and donating 500 bags of towels and toiletries for our visitors!
THANKS JHAMS!



GRAND CENTRAL STATION Appreciates Your Continued Support!

Grand Central Station needs and welcomes your donation in any denomination! Every dollar counts and is used for food for our neighbors, Children's Backpack program, and day-to-day operations for our Soup

Kitchen. Your donation is TAX DEDUCTIBLE. Please send your donation to:

Grand Central Station, P.O. Box 3173, Sherman, Texas 75091.

GRAND CENTRAL STATION DINING CAR

SERVING LUNCH TO
THOSE IN NEED

110 THROCKMORTON
SHERMAN, TX
(Between Lamar and Houston)

Monday—Friday 9:00 am -1:00 pm

Coffee, Juice & Rolls Served at 9 am

Hot lunch served between 11-1

Saturdays - bag lunches served 9 am
until all food is gone

Showers, washer, dryer available M-F

TV & Computers with WIFI

Volunteer assistance with
applications and forms

OUR PURPOSE

Provide for the underserved

OUR VISION

A hopeful and nourished
community in
Body, Soul, and Spirit

OUR MISSION

We provide food, clothing,
tools for learning, advocacy,
and life solutions, for
our neighbors in need,
in an environment
of safety.

Executive Board

Gail Utter, Sheryl Bradshaw,
Leigh Ann Sims, Laura Wheeler

Board of Directors

Debbie Allison, Greg Balek,
Ralph Bluemel, Natalie Hulsey,
Scott Jasper, Rita Noel, Jamie
Riddels, Samantha
Riddels, Buffy Todd,
Webb Sanderson, Anne Webb

Executive Director: Karen Bray
Kitchen Manger/Chef: Ben Merrill

Tools 4 Schools



TOOLS 4 SCHOOLS was recently recognized by Sherman ISD for its outstanding community support. Tools 4 Schools donate school supplies to campuses across Grayson county. Due entirely to the generous grant funds from the Oliver Dewey Mayor Foundation, this program has distributed over 232,000 supplies since it began in 2015/2016 school year.

“We are currently able to accommodate 41 campuses in the 13 school districts within Grayson county” stated Coordinator, Jamie Riddels. This includes Pre-K through 8th grade and is coordinated through a special needs assessment involving the school principals and counselors. Supplies are delivered directly to the campuses by community volunteers.

Our mission is to help alleviate the financial burden many families in our community face when the new school year approaches and supplies must be purchased. It is our hope that supplying students with the tools necessary for learning will help set the foundation for a successful school year.

August 21, **TOOLS 4 SCHOOLS** received honorary recognition at the Sherman ISD's board meeting for having donated a total of 85,111 school supplies (equating to \$43,477) since the 2015/2016 school year.

SERVICE ACADEMY FOR YOUTH -SAY-

June 2017 celebrated the 20th year for **SERVICE ACADEMY FOR YOUTH (SAY)**, held on the week of June 12th as a part of Great Days of Service. There are approximately 100 students and 40 adults and counselors who participate in SAY each year. The purpose of SAY is to help teach young people the importance of service to others as a way of life. There is no cost to the youth to attend this camp.

The Day camp is set up for youth who have completed 5th and 6th grades, and the residential camp is for 7th – 12th grade complete. The youth work with leaders from Great Days of Service by helping painting homes, volunteer at Grand Central Station, paint at our local schools, Clean up Sherman, and more.

The youth also attend classes on community awareness, leadership and how they can help make a difference by helping others through service.

Director Lauren Towles did an outstanding job working with our youth this year. For more information for next year's program call **903.815.2690** or email [laurensims02@yahoo.com!](mailto:laurensims02@yahoo.com)





Anne Webb and Sara Tarvin took a much-needed break from their endless volunteer time with Children's Express this Summer.

Volunteers stepped up to the plate so CX could continue serving our children. *Many thanks* go out to Nancy and Jim Russell who met the North Texas Food Bank truck each Thursday, Joshlyn Merchant and Brittani Welch handled food distribution, Natalie Hulsey handled all the food orders from NTFB, Whitney Tarvin supported all evening distribution, Suzi Hamel ran with volunteer coordination and the Youth from FUMC who helped tremendously throughout the summer!

CX continues to grow with the support of our community. We serviced 501 students in the six elementary schools our first week of the 2017-2018 weekend lunch program. The numbers may grow due to an influx of children from the Houston area.

We would like to welcome two new volunteers Raylee Tarvin and Ezekiel Merchant!

For more information contact Sara Tarvin at gastvrn@gmail.com or Anne Webb at annekwebb@gmail.com.

Volunteer Coordinator Dorothy McKee Serving Grand Central Station



Volunteer coordinator Dorothy McKee continues to devote much of her time and energy to the never-ending work as Grand Central Station's Volunteer Coordinator. With over 150 slots to fill each month, changing schedules, new volunteers, retiring volunteer's and extra projects arising, Dorothy stays on course, committed to making sure the everyday operations of the Dining Car run smoothly through our volunteers. As one of the founding coordinators, Dorothy originally volunteered with GCS working several days each week, cooking, ordering food, shopping, and coordinating volunteers.

"The atmosphere is what drew me in, time and time again," she said. "I don't do happy – I do joyful and kindness. And there is a lot of joy and kindness from both the volunteers and the guests that we serve." The soup kitchen serves as many as 150 individuals a day.

"The increase in the number of volunteers since Dorothy began as volunteer coordinator is enough to show what a difference she has made, but that's only part of the story. She spends quality time with each person who expresses an interest in volunteering, making sure they understand the process and commitment required. Most importantly, she is a welcoming face to all who are interested in GCS or want to know more about our programs. She has and continues to take part in virtually every event we have. "Her dedication has been invaluable. I don't see how we could operate without her, states Executive Director, Karen Bray."

"There are about 150 volunteers who are regulars, and that right there alone can help you understand the love and work that goes in this community," Bray said. "People come in for fellowship and encouragement and to keep a positive outlook on whatever situation our visitors go through."

THE GREEN HOUSE

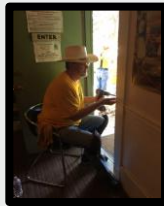


"God's Work Our Hands"

One, of nine teams sent out by Trinity Lutheran Church, in Sherman, as part of their annual "God's Work Our Hands" Community Service Sunday, visited Grand Central Station's, The Green House Food & Clothing Pantry this month. The team of 10 weeded flowerbeds, trimmed hedges, and cleaned out gutters.

Inside, they swept & mopped floors, vacuumed carpets, and worked to organize the clothing room. The group brought \$500 worth of food to stock the shelves.

If your group or organization is looking for a service project opportunity please keep the Green House in mind.



GRAND CENTRAL STATION NEEDS VOLUNTEERS!

Is your Church or business looking for a mission/outreach program? Are you personally looking for a meaningful volunteer opportunity?

Grand Central Station's existence depends on volunteers to prepare and serve meals, greet our visitors, sort, and hang up clothes, pack food bags for our children, pick up and deliver food, and help with our ministry!

For more information on a program that meets your individual, church or organization's needs please contact our volunteer coordinators below!

Dorothy McKee – Dining Car - dodiemckee@gmail.com;
Deb Allison – Greenhouse - debora_allison@yahoo.com; or
Suzi Hamel – Children's Express at suzi.hamel@gmail.com

IMMEDIATE NEED

NTFB—FOOD DISTRIBUTION VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Grand Central Station needs volunteers one or more Thursday's a month to meet the North Texas Food Bank truck from 10:30 – 12 noon for The Dining Car, Children's Express and Green House food distribution.

Responsibilities: Volunteers meet the Food Bank Truck at the distribution site (The bulk of the work is at the beginning; many hands make light work.) Volunteers help to: Unload the Food Bank truck, organize the product, and or deliver and unload to GCS Warehouse or Greenhouse; (if volunteering for this portion, must provide own transportation).

Physical Requirements: Standing and lifting (approx. 20lbs).

Physical Location: This distribution takes place *outside* in a parking lot rain or shine each Thursday at the Northwest corner of the Sunset Blvd and Hwy 56 parking lot. Look for the North Texas Foodbank truck. Please dress accordingly. We are asking for support to share this community outreach ministry by providing individual volunteers, or a team one day a month.

*Your commitment to serve the under-served citizens in the Texoma area is appreciated.
You are making a difference in their lives!*

We are always scouting around to add new volunteers! Let us know if you or your friends would like to volunteer at the Soup Kitchen!

On behalf of Grand Central Station, Visitors, Staff, and Board, we thank you for your continued support!

Thanks to your support you have helped feed hungry families and individuals throughout Grayson County and provided life-changing programs that help our struggling neighbors. We are grateful for your generosity. As many of you know, Grand Central Station relies heavily on the support of individuals like yourself to continue our mission.

Please donate today, or send a check to: Grand Central Station P. O. Box 3173 Sherman, Texas 75091.

GRAND CENTRAL STATION

110 South Throckmorton
Sherman, Texas 75090