



FaithWorks

Your Faith At Work



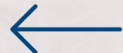
# NEWSLETTER

Fall 2023

## FEEDING THE HUNGRY

Thanks to you a record number of families were served this year, and we still have a month to go. Read more in our Ministry Update!

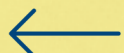
SEE INSIDE



## THIS IS YOUR MINISTRY

FaithWorks Executive Director, Wright Culpepper, invites you to meet one of FaithWorks dedicated volunteers and join in on your FaithWorks ministry.

SEE INSIDE



## HOW TO GET INVOLVED

To host your own food drive or find out how to get involved with Sparrow's Nest or any of the other FaithWorks ministries, call Tab Miller (912) 261-8512. You can also visit us online to find out more about volunteering in our community at [www.FaithWorksMinistry.org](http://www.FaithWorksMinistry.org)

### Call Us Now

-  (912) 261-8512, Extension 114
-  [Tab@FaithWorksMinistry.org](mailto:Tab@FaithWorksMinistry.org)



Founded in 1995, FaithWorks serves the needs of people in Glynn, Camden, and McIntosh Counties by providing food assistance, pastoral care, case management, urgent financial assistance, and a host of other services to over 20,000 people each year.

# The Wright Way

## THOUGHTS FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Rev. Wright Culpepper

### ➤➤➤ THIS IS YOUR MINISTRY

From where I am standing, I see a wonderful, vibrant community of neighbors here in the Golden Isles. The willingness of neighbors to engage with neighbors lifts my spirits. It reminds me that when people ask me about FaithWorks and who we are, I can answer them by saying FaithWorks is a ministry of this community. It belongs to each and every volunteer and supporter like you who wants to make sure there's a safety net for any one of us should we ever hit hard times.

### ➤➤➤ SERVING OUR NEIGHBORS

I can share with you hundreds of stories of people in our community who are making a difference, making our community more kind and more decent, helping to knit together this safety net.

Many are very much like Bob Nesbit who has been delivering food for 18 months to the families we serve through the Sparrow's Nest food pantry. Bob moved to the area to enjoy our wonderful climate and to be a part of our community through volunteerism.

"I've met some wonderful clients and have developed good friendships over the past 18 months.

The poverty in our area is hard to witness at times, but I know the work that we do is making a difference in so many lives." Did you notice he said we?

In delivering donated food to families in need, Bob sometimes encounters hardships our neighbors experience. "I'd say the motel deliveries are the hardest, especially single moms with multiple children, many times being relocated due to domestic violence." And yet still, he comes back to his ministry each week to serve even more of his neighbors.

### ➤➤➤ GET MORE INVOLVED TODAY

So, yes, FaithWorks is Bob's ministry. And it belongs to each and every one of you who cares enough about the well-being of our community to get involved, whether it's through a contribution of time, talent, or treasure. **We would love to have your help serving guests at The Well or at the Helping Hands food pantry in St. Marys. Our team is also available to speak with your church or local service club about ways to get involved in our community.**

Call Tab Miller (912) 261-8512, our Director of Operations and Volunteer Ministries.



*Bob Nesbit with Sabra Slade, Sparrow's Nest Manager, and Rocket who joins Bob on food deliveries to FaithWorks clients.*

# Ministry Highlights

## ➤➤➤ PASTORAL CARE HIGHLIGHTS

The Rev. Gareth Allcott, services assistant pastor at St Mark's Episcopal Church, recently joined FaithWorks' Pastoral Care Team. Rev. Allcott serves with Rev. Wright Culpepper, Rev. Peter Vivencio, and Thornton Willingham as a chaplain at the Brunswick campus of Southeast Georgia Health System. The Pastoral Care Team is on-call 24-7 to talk to physicians, nurses, patients, families, and families struggling with the moral dimensions of life and death decisions.



## MEETING COMMUNITY NEEDS

**Our Mission: We seek to foster relationships and community spirit by connecting people to eliminate prejudice and to heal brokenness. This mission is carried out through seven ministries: Sparrow's Nest, Helping Hands food pantry (St. Marys), Pastoral Care Services, Cancer Network of Hope, Samaria Initiative, The Well and Open Doors.**

## ➤➤➤ SPARROW'S NEST HIGHLIGHTS

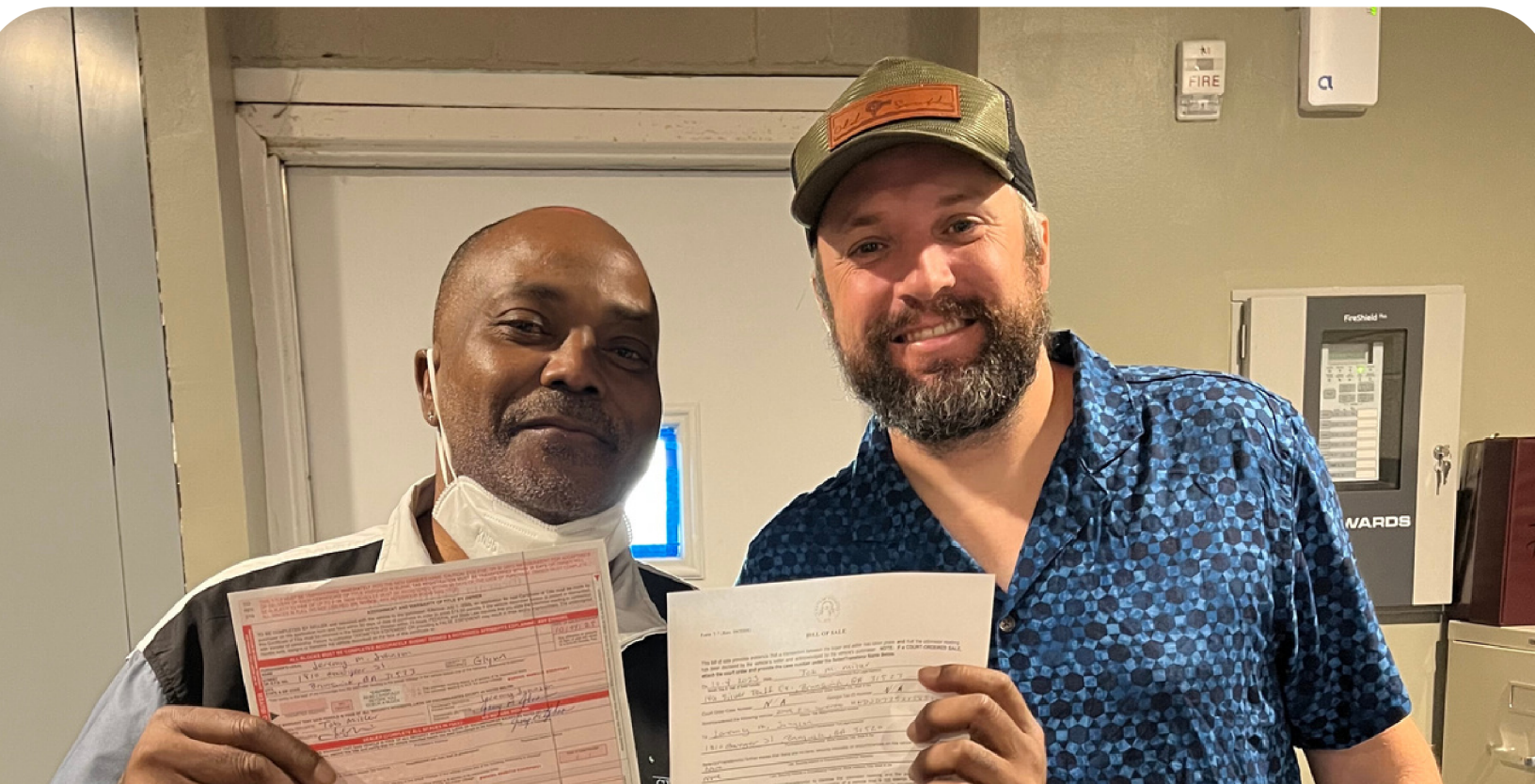
FaithWorks has seen a dramatic year-over-year increase in the number of families needing assistance this year. Fortunately, thanks to compassionate supporters like you, the number of food donations and volunteer hours has grown to help the Sparrow's Nest ministry keep pace.

The number of new families served has grown by 68 percent over the previous year, while the total value of food items and hygiene items has grown by 76 percent, and the number of volunteer hours grew by 32 percent. Thank you for renewing your commitment to your neighbors and our community!

## ➤➤➤ OPEN DOORS HIGHLIGHTS

Meet Jeremy Johnson. He's pictured here with FaithWorks' Tab Miller. For many years, Jeremy was a guest and volunteer at The Well. During that time, Jeremy would help with checking in guests and getting new guests registered. After experiencing a health crisis last Spring, Jeremy began to take on more responsibility. His attentiveness caught the eye of The Well staff and Jeremy was hired to provide security services. Today, he is paying rent at FaithWorks transitional housing program, Open Doors. He has also saved up enough to purchase a car.

*Ministry Highlights (Continued on Page Four)*



# Your Faith At Work



## PATRICK DUNN "MATCHES IT UP" TO HELP FAMILIES IN NEED

Patrick Dunn has been volunteering at Sparrow's Nest since he was seven years old, making food bags and delivering them to families who lived near the Sparrow's Nest. A sophomore at Frederica Academy, this summer Patrick spearheaded the "CAN You Match It" campaign started in 2018 by Maizy and Shep Davenport to collect non-perishable food items. Patrick visited Vacation Bible Schools and other groups asking for their help. Patrick says, "It was awesome to remind the kids that they are never too young to help out in their community."

This summer, he helped collect 2,438 cans and raised a \$1,000 matching donation. Since 2018, the "CAN You Match It" service project has provided more than 12,100 food items and raised \$7,300 to help families in need. Thank you, Patrick and friends!

## Ministry Highlights



### JEREMY - OPENED DOOR TO SUCCESS

Under the guidance of staff and volunteers, Jeremy continues to work on budgeting and saving up for his own apartment. He says his whole life has changed because of Open Doors.

FaithWorks' Open Doors program operates three transitional homes in Brunswick for people like Jeremy who experience homelessness and now seek to leave the streets. Open Doors transitional housing is available for 6-12 months. During this time, residents receive assistance in securing better employment opportunities, assistance with budgeting, and help securing permanent housing.

## FAITHWORKS MINISTRY NEEDS

**Join the Turkey Team** - Through supporters like you and Sparrow's Nest volunteers, FaithWorks provides local families with Thanksgiving turkeys and hams for the holidays. Contact Sabra Slade, (912) 261-8512, Extension 110.

**Volunteers** - FaithWorks seeks volunteers to help serve in each of its ministries. Please contact Tab Miller, (912) 261-8512, Extension 114.

**Speaker's Bureau** - If you are involved in a church or club like Kiwanis and want to hear more about community needs, please contact us. We would love to visit with you.

