*Our Mission: Engage, equip and ignite students, faculty, and Fresno community members to act justly, love mercifully and walk humbly with God. -Micah 6:8* 

Fall 2023 Newsletter



# **A New Energy**

The new school year has brought new faces and a new energy to the ministry. Even our board has several new faces. Ryan Dion, Mellissa Jessen-Hiser and Kara Lerma have recently joined Jeff McGrath and myself. With all of the new ideas that the students and board members bring we are excited about the future of LCM Fresno. Please continue to hold all us involved in your prayers as we touch the lives of the young adults in our midst.

In His service,

Erica Bird

**Board President** 



## **Contact Us**

Address: 2311 E. Shaw Ave. Fresno, CA 93710 Phone: (559) 224-9051 Website: www.lcmoffresno.org Email: lcm@lcmoffresno.org Facebook: www.facebook.com/lcmfresno Instagram: www.instagram.com/fresnolcm

### **New Board Members**

We are happy to report that recently three new people have joined our board. We are looking forward to their help and new ideas for the ministry. There is still room for you if you are interested in being a part of this group.

# Thank You to all those who have financially contributed in 2023!

#### LCM:

Please see our website for a complete up to date list.

#### Scholarship:

Please see our website for a complete up to date list.

#### **Bulldog Pantry:**

Please see our website for a complete up to date list.



### **Day of Service**

In honor of the great work done by former campus pastor Don Romsa the Romsa family and Lutheran Campus Ministries have selected Saturday November 4<sup>th</sup> as a day of service. Making the community around you a better place through community service was very important to him. Because of this we are asking that to honor his memory, people find some way to help their own community on that day. No matter where you live there are countless way to get involved serving your community. Even if you have not been involved in service to your community it is an easy way to start. Just use your interests to find somewhere to help out and then reach out to them to get started. Please join us in engaging in some form of community service on that day as a way to honor Don's life. Make a difference in your community!

## **Bulldog Pantry**



The Student Coordinators continue to do a great job running the Bulldog Pantry So far in 2023 the pantry served 2,590 households. We also celebrated our 15<sup>th</sup> birthday in November. So far in 2023 we have continued in a similar manner while working with about 50 young adult volunteers a month. We are looking forward to our Community Health Fair held in conjunction with our food distribution on October 14<sup>th</sup>. We are partnering with UCSF to bring basic health screenings and vaccines to this event. In October, our volunteers will be teaming up with others in the community to offer some safe Halloween fun too. December will bring our large Neighborhood Market fresh food distribution on the  $2^{nd}$ . Later in the month we will be handing out toys to about 400 children through our partnership with Toys For Tots. The only way any of this is possible, is through many generous people who have donated money, food, household goods, and time. We could not do it without all their help and the help of our donors. We truly appreciate all the support that allows us to love our neighbors in need.

#### A New Way of Donating

Starting this fall the Bulldog Pantry will be launching a new way of donating. We will be focusing on one area of need each week of the year. Each week the details of that need will be listed on our social media platforms with details of how you can donate. Please look for these announcements for specific ways you can help the pantry thrive for many more years to come. Of course, you can always donate any nonperishable food items or make a financial donation.

> "Service is what prayer looks like when it gets up off its knees and walks around in the world." - Michael J. Graham, S.J.

# **Contact Bulldog Pantry**

Address: 2311 E. Shaw Ave. Fresno, CA 93710 Phone: (559) 224-9052 Website: www.thebulldogpantry.org Email: thebulldogpantry@gmail.com Facebook: www.facebook.com/BulldogPantry Instagram: www.instagram.com/thebulldogpantry2007 Twitter: www.twitter.com/BulldogPantry

## A Story From the Pantry

Recently on a warm summer morning at the Bulldog Pantry a single mom and her twin boys worked their way to check in. The boys were overheard asking their mom where that girl was and then they started jumping up and down when they saw her. You see both of the boys have special needs and they have been coming to the pantry off and on since they were young. The "girl" that they were asking about is the coordinator of the Bulldog Pantry. The family is grateful for the friendly faces of the volunteers who find little ways to make the day brighter. Whether it is finding two sheriff's badges for them or just listening to their knowledge of spiders when they see one it is the little things that make the Bulldog Pantry more than just about the food. "You guys are amazing you're more than a food pantry. You give so much of yourselves and your time which is priceless." She says as she heads home with her smiling family and wagon of food.

# Walmart Gift Registry

The Bulldog Pantry has a gift registry list at Walmart. It can be found under Registry For Good: Lutheran Campus Council of Fresno. Check it out for more ways to help us out.