

Bread Basket update

October, 2009

Local Economic Situation Worsening?

About a year ago, the Stock Market saw one of its worst days when it crashed 777 points. In actuality, the economy entered into recession in late 2007. For the most part, the North Texas area has not been effected as much as other parts of the country. However, if what we are seeing at Bread Basket is an indication of what is happening with our economy, I would say we are beginning to see real trouble.



We are beginning to see a serious spike in the numbers of people who are calling for help with food and utilities. We are hearing of more and more people who are out of work and for the first time in their lives are going to food banks and mercy ministries seeking assistance.

Across the nation, food banks and helping agencies have been under tremendous pressure to meet the needs of a growing number of people. We are experiencing those same pressures.

We are being told that we now have a 9.5% national unemployment rate but as much as a 15% expanded definition if you include the people who have given up looking for a job or have accepted a lesser paying job and are now under employed. Just today, reports are out that we should expect the economy to slow in 2010? How much worse can it get?

We are doing all we can to help the folks who are calling us. Thanks to you and your support, we are making a difference and offering prayer and hope for tough times.



There is Good News to report. When people go through tough times, they often find themselves looking to God for answers. One of the really neat things we often see is the surprise people experience when they come to Bread Basket for the first time.

Today a couple came to BBM for the first time for help. The lady recently lost her job and her husband is under employed. They loved the time of ministry and asked if they could just come for the ministry time and volunteer if we needed them. They had not been in church of late but feel they have found a spiritual home at Bread Basket. They came for food but received much more, they also found a place where Jesus is worshipped and glorified.

Have You Considered Volunteering?

Have you considered volunteering at Bread Basket? We are open to serve the public Monday through Thursdays in the morning hours and we could really use your help!

- On Mondays, we gather to receive calls from the clients so that we can schedule them for the coming week. Monday is also our food prep day. We prepackage and label foods for distribution. We arrive and get started at 8:30 am and are finished up around noon.
- On Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, we open the doors at 8:30 to begin the food preparation. Our ministry time begins at 10:00 and lasts about an hour. Afterward, the food is distributed and clean up. We are finished about 12:30 to 1:00pm.
- The benefits are you will make great friends, have fun, enjoy worshipping the Lord and hearing the Word, and will be greatly appreciated by the people you have helped.

If you have any questions about volunteering, please call Mark at 817-307-4092. Thank you!

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Bread Basket to Receive New Website Thanks to TCU Business School

Sometime next month, Bread Basket will post a new and exciting website thanks to Texas Christian University's Business School.

This comes as a blessing from the Lord as we have needed an upgraded website for a couple of years now. This service is being to Bread Basket free of charge.

We are presently working with some really smart kids who are designing and building a 21st Century website for us. We are really excited about the things we will be able to do and how our ministry will be expanded by it.

Once again, the Lord has had mercy on us and sent us the help we need. The launch date should be sometime in November, just before Thanksgiving.

Getting the Word Out

Something new and exciting is in the works. We are strong believers in getting good books into the hands of God's people. The Lord has given us an opportunity to distribute the works of Dr. Walter Fiscus to all who are interested free of charge. Dr. Fiscus led a ministry called Partners in Prayer for many years and lived here in Fort Worth. This year I discovered some of his writings and started asking questions about him. He is now deceased. I met some of his friends and offered to house his books in our warehouse because they were closing his ministry. We were given the opportunity to share them with people who are hungry for a deeper life message. But there is more.

We are also going to be offering a couple of titles by DeVern Fromke through a new program being offered by his ministry. More information will be forthcoming. Both of these authors have a message we need for the days we are in.