

harvest

A NEWSLETTER OF THE BLUE RIDGE AREA FOOD BANK



Reaching Older Neighbors in Need with Food and Hope

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Happy Anniversary Thirty-five Years of Impact

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BLUE RIDGE AREA
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Reaching Older Neighbors in Need *with Food and Hope*

Cynthia Fox is retired and gets by on disability income. During her working years she held roles that helped others — a nurse's aide, and an emergency medical technician. Though her weakened health limits her activities, she continues to care for others.

"It's hard for seniors and the elderly. I wish I could do more to help, but I'm a prayer warrior," said Fox, who prays and looks out for neighbors in their 80s and 90s.

Fox, 62, lives alone.

Without children of her own, and only occasional visits from her mother and a beloved nephew, her cat Jon-Luc keeps her company most days.

"I have to have something to love on," she says of the cat she named for the biblical disciple John, and the "Star Trek" TV show character Captain Jean Luc Picard.

Fox lives on less than \$1,000 per month, and except for the occasional cat sitting job, it's hard for her to stretch the dollars she receives.

But at Plaza Apartments in Staunton, where Fox and Jon-Luc live, nourishment and hope are delivered in a box, every month.

Through the Food Bank's Reach Program, food is delivered to seniors, and individuals with mobility challenges. Initiatives such as the recently piloted Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) allow the Food Bank to provide food boxes packed with shelf-stable supplies of fruits, vegetables, dairy, peanut products, cereals, rice, meat, and poultry to qualifying resident, age 60 and older.

"Food insecure seniors consume fewer calories and come up short on nutrients such as vitamins A and C, iron, and calcium," said Cheryl Cooper, director of Agency Relations and Programs. "Through the Reach Program and CSFP resources, we have an opportunity to reach more seniors in our area who are susceptible to poor nutritional and health outcomes."

Because of the rapidly aging Baby

Boomer generation, the number of food insecure seniors is expected to increase by 50 percent by 2025.

Also, hungry seniors are increasingly isolated and sick, suffering from chronic diseases that could be managed better if they have nutritious food to eat.

Through the Reach Program and CSFP, the Food Bank can do more to help older adults like Fox make healthier choices in the places where they live. The Food Bank plans to serve a total of 2,500 seniors each month by May of 2017.

"Everyone loves the cornflakes, sweet potatoes, canned fruits, and juices," said Kristi Sears, site coordinator for Plaza Apartments. Sears took over the role of serving residents after her aunt retired from the position. For Sears, outreach and service have long been a family affair. Her teenage son volunteers at the complex from time to time, helping to distribute the boxes the Food Bank brings.

"I like the vegetables," said Fox, who battles diabetes

and is on a quest to lose weight. She appreciates the healthful food choices that come in the monthly boxes.

“Since we began distributing these boxes in May, more residents have expressed interest in receiving the additional sustenance,” Sears added. “Word about the quality of the food boxes has spread.”

“In your mind you think, ‘I’m getting the box in three more days, so I can make it,’” Fox said. “It’s a great big blessing.”

Fox vows to care for her own health, which can allow her to continue helping others. And with a supportive community around her, including Sears and the Food Bank, she has the resources she needs to reach her goals.



Cynthia Fox with Kristi Sears



Cynthia Fox and Jon Luc

CHEW ON THIS

Whatever happened to Government Cheese?

The Evolution of Federal Partnerships for the Hungry

Starting in the late 1800's, government programs that sprang from agriculture provided nutrition to both consumers and food-insecure individuals. These services evolved over the next 100 years; 1981 proved to be a pivotal year for cheese in particular.

In 1981, American dairy farmers amassed a surplus of more than 500 million pounds of cheese. Schools couldn't use all that was available. To prevent the surplus from going to waste, President Reagan released 30 million pounds of cheese to each state willing to distribute the commodity to individuals who were struggling financially – two pounds of cheese per person.

1981 was also the year the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank was founded – the first USDA food we received for distribution was 66,000 pounds of cheese.

That same year, The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) was created. TEFAP is a federal program designed to work with organizations and non-profits – including food banks – to move food to those who needed it. Today, TEFAP is funded through the Farm Bill and food availability tracks the commodities market. And it's no longer just cheese! TEFAP food includes a variety of items like fruits, vegetables, meats, and more.

Today TEFAP is just one of several vital federal programs that help charitable organizations feed people in need. Others that benefit Blue Ridge Area Food Bank clients include the National School Lunch Program, the Summer Food Service Program, and the latest to be approved in Virginia – the Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) designed to reach homebound seniors (see page 2).



A Love of Food Brings People Together

A look at how people who love food use their passion to help people who need food.

Something big can grow from a small idea, which is what happened when food writer and attorney Simon Davidson (photo, right) decided to use his website “The Charlottesville 29” to do some good. The premise of Davidson’s site is to answer the question — if there were only 29 restaurants in Charlottesville, what would be the ideal 29?



29 Unique Dinners

It took very little coaxing before the 29 chefs, owners, and many other local restauranteurs, foodies and food vendors began to offer once-in-a-lifetime dining experiences supplemented by fine wines, music, cheese, coffee, celebrity guests, photography and more. Davidson’s goal was to raise \$29,000.

McGuireWoods, the law firm where Davidson works, sponsored the event to cover administrative expenses so

Supporters in other communities have also come together around food to help feed. Regretfully we cannot list them all, but here’s a sampling:

- **Draft Taproom**, a new restaurant opening on Charlottesville’s Downtown mall, promises to pay their employees a living wage so that all diners’ tips can be donated to the Food Bank
- When **Chili’s of the Mid-Atlantic** held a training for employees at Massanutten, they organized a food drive and collected more than 1,300 pounds for donation
- **Three Brothers Brewing** (now **Brothers Craft Brewing**) in Harrisonburg crafted a special recipe and proceeds benefited the Food Bank
- **Village Market & Bistro** in Winchester participated in a social media campaign sponsored by **Fortessa** which generated funds for food bank programs
- The owner of **Candy’s Diner** in Woodstock contributed generously because she saw her own customers in need
- **Staunton City Parks & Rec** and the **Staunton Food Policy Council** sponsored a food truck roundup in June at Gypsy Hill Park, with trucks donating a portion of their sales to the Food Bank, especially **Gloria’s Pupuseria**

that all donations could go to the Food Bank.

And after two months of exciting online bidding wars, 57 donors plus matching gifts and the sponsorship generated more than \$82,400 or 329,600 meals. “The credit belongs to the restaurants,” Davidson said. “It was an amazing outpouring of generosity by our food community.”

Restaurant Week’s Collective Power

In July, the owners of 37 restaurants participated in the summer Charlottesville Restaurant Week, the bi-annual celebration of local dining organized by **C’ville Weekly**. July’s event collected more than \$15,000 to support the Food Bank — \$1 of every meal purchased helped to feed hungry neighbors.

Of course the success of these events is also credited to the hundreds of diners and donors who participated.

One meal flavored with compassion makes another meal possible for those who need a helping hand.

The collective efforts that made these events both enjoyable and purposeful are needed. Here’s why: The Food Bank serves an average of 114,400 food-insecure individuals in western and central Virginia each month. Working through a network of 215 partners — including food pantries, soup kitchens, and shelters — we get meals on the tables of those who need it most. Last year we distributed more than 24 million pounds of food, or 20.5 million meals.

Thank You!

The following restaurants, vendors, and supportive friends in the greater Charlottesville area made the Charlottesville 29 Dining Auctions and the 2016 Charlottesville Restaurant Week successful. Those with an (*) participated in both.

Ace Biscuit & Barbecue	Hamiltons’	Shenandoah Joe’s
Shebeen	Himalayan Fusion	South Street Brewery
Al Carbon	Justin Ide Photography	Sultan Kebab
Bang! and The Space	Lampo	T&N Printing
Bavarian Chef	Luca Paschina	Tavern & Grocery
Beer Run	Lumi	Tavola
Bizou *	MarieBette Café & Bakery	Ten
Bodo’s	Mas	The Alley Light
Brookville Restaurant *	Maya Restaurant *	The Bebedero
Burtons Grill of Charlottesville	McGuireWoods	The Clifton Inn
C & O Restaurant *	Melting Pot Charlottesville	The Ivy Inn Restaurant
Café Caturra	Mezza Tapas	The Pointe at Omni
Caromont Farm	Mican	The Rock Barn
Champion Brewing Company	Milan	The Wine Guild
Citizen Burger Bar	Miso Sweet	Timberwood Grill
Commonwealth Restaurant and Skybar	Nude Fude	Tom McGovern Photography
Donnie Glass	Oakhart Social	UVa coaches:
Downtown Grille	Orzo Kitchen and Wine Bar, Inc.	Brian Boland, men’s tennis
Dr. Ho’s Humble Pie	Pad Thai	George Gelnovatch, men’s soccer
Dr. Jeff Long	Palladio	Bronco Mendenhall, football and his entire coaching staff
Duner’s	Parallel 38	Julie Myers, women’s lacrosse
Early Mountain Vineyards	Peter Chang’s China Grill	Brian O’Connor, baseball
Estelle Knott	Petit Pois	Watermark Design
Fellini’s	Potter’s Craft Cider	Zinburger
Fig Bistro & Bar	Prospect Hill Plantation Inn	Zocalo *
Fleurie Restaurant *	Public Fish & Oyster *	
Fossett’s at Keswick Hall	Revolutionary Soup	
Fry’s Spring Station Pizza	Rocksalt	
Graze Restaurant Group	Savoir Vivre - Tempo	
	Shadwells Restaurant	

Great news for those age 70½ or older!

Now you can donate to the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank directly from your Individual Retirement Account (IRA).

By making your gift with a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) — including all or part of your required minimum distribution — you can reduce your taxable income and potentially your tax burden.

The change in IRA rules permitting charitable distributions encourages Americans to give back to their communities during their lifetime.

Remember, for every \$1 you contribute to the Food Bank, you help us provide 4 meals.

For more information, contact your financial advisor or the company managing your IRA, visit our website at brafb.org/give/IRA, or call Karen Ratzlaff, Chief Philanthropy Officer, at 540.213.8404 to learn more about how the charitable IRA rollover provision can help you support the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank.



Looking to Help?

New Ways to Get Involved Are Unveiled

Every week we receive inquiries from compassionate community members wanting to help us solve hunger. Last year, collectively, volunteers saved the Food Bank more than \$637,000, the equivalent of 12 full-time staff positions. Volunteers are a big reason why our work is so efficient and cost-effective, and we are grateful for their efforts!

SPECIALIZED VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Now, people with specialized skills that draw upon professional experiences or interests may be able to put those skills to work for the Food Bank. If you have particular talents to contribute, you are looking for a long-term volunteer opportunity and have some flexibility in your schedule, and you want to make a difference in solving hunger, this may be for you.

For example, as of this publication date we currently need:

- Volunteer Team Leaders to orient new volunteers and supervise the work of volunteer groups (all locations)
- In-office administrative support (Charlottesville and Verona locations) and a substitute/on-call receptionist (Verona location)
- Talented photographers, writers, videographers, and video editors (all locations)

Additional Specialized Volunteer opportunities will be added to our website as needs are identified.

If you want to get involved and help the Food Bank, visit brafb.org/volunteer to learn more about all our needs and how you can get involved.



Family Volunteer Days Announced

We know young people want to help fight hunger too, and we appreciate their passion. This fall we'll pilot Family Volunteer Days at times convenient for parents and teens to work together on meaningful projects and learn about hunger in the Blue Ridge.

VERONA HEADQUARTERS

Limited to 20 people per shift

Saturday, October 29 10am–Noon
and

Wednesday, December 14 4:30–6:30pm

CHARLOTTESVILLE WAREHOUSE/ DISTRIBUTION CENTER

Limited to 10 people per shift

Wednesday, November 16 4:30–6:30pm
and

Saturday, December 10 10am–Noon

If you and your child or children would like to participate on one of those dates, mark it on your family calendar and let us know!

Call or email Jennifer Clark-Robertson at 540.213.8402 or volunteer@brafb.org to reserve your spots. Register at least one week prior to your preferred shift.

At The Community Table, Everyone Dines

Hunger is often a hidden problem.

Many never imagined they'd need a food pantry to prepare meals for their families. Folks who didn't finish high school and men and women with college degrees must now stand in lines and wait to receive much-needed sustenance.

But at The Community Table for the Rockbridge Area in Lexington, Virginia, the problem of hunger is out in the open, and diners—from the well-heeled to the underprivileged—eat together without judgment.

The Community Table, one of the Food Banks 215 valued partners, is known as a community meal site. While most partners (99 percent) operate as traditional food pantries, The Community Table offers a different type of experience.

It's a moving and respectful scene. Volunteers serve as wait staff, and greet, seat and serve the patrons who come in each Monday evening and Wednesday afternoon. Before the doors open, volunteers cover the tables in linen, prepare the beverages, and pray. One evening recently, program leader Vickie Hickman acknowledged two long-time volunteers who attended Virginia Military Institute. They had graduated and were serving for the last time.

Professional chefs from local restaurants prepare wonderful three-course meals. The menu is derived from food acquired from the Food Bank. There aren't many options to choose from, but the point is that patrons have a choice. Volunteer servers take their order and deliver the food with a flourish.

It's a restaurant without a cash register.

Those who can pay for their meals leave donations, those who can't pay leave an indelible mark on guests with whom they break bread.

One diner, 68-year-old Robert Byrd, started a taxi business after he lost his job. Business was good until competition from ride-sharing companies hurt his profits. He comes to the Community Table regularly.

"I like coming here and talking with different people," Byrd said. "The food and the company are really enjoyable, and I've made a few friends."

Behind Byrd's table sat a couple who decided to dine here on a whim. Lauren was in the grocery store picking up items for dinner when her husband Justin called and asked if she wanted to eat at The Community Table.

"I said yes, good idea. I was happy to have a night off from cooking," she said. The couple brought their two children who happily ate eggs, sausage and pancakes—it was breakfast-for-dinner night, a fan favorite.

Some nights, David Faulds, a popular Lexington chef, prepares multiple-course dishes including the house salad, vegetable, chicken and pasta casserole, green beans, and beverages such as pear mint smoothies.

"During the three years I've prepared food here, I've been able to get to know a lot of the patrons. My wife even encouraged single moms she knew to come here," said Faulds. "Too many of our patrons have never experienced being served a four-course meal in a high-end restaurant."

But for one night per week, a night on the town is possible for all neighbors in Lexington.



If you would like to dine at The Community Table or support their work, visit: <http://thecommunitytable.wix.com/rockbridge>.

HUNGER HEROES

We are deeply grateful to the following Hunger Heroes for hosting events and contributing funds that have helped us provide relief to people in need. We're also thankful to those who support these initiatives with their time, talent, food, and funds.



Legal Food Frenzy 41,588 meals

This friendly competition among law firms and legal organizations across Virginia raised food and funds for individuals and families in need.



Music Feeds Us 10,000 meals

Talented musicians concerned about hunger in their communities performed in a free music series that raised donations of funds and food.



Cville Weekly and Charlottesville Restaurant Week

Diners enjoyed meals at 37 restaurants and \$1 for every meal purchased benefited the Food Bank (see page 5).



The Charlottesville 29 Restaurant Auctions 315,000 meals

Restaurants donated a unique dining experience for auction (see pg 4).



Neighbors-4-Neighbors School Food Drive 8,144 meals

Thirty public and private schools and school administrative offices in Charlottesville and surrounding counties participated in this annual food drive, led this year by 8th grader Ryleigh Katstra.



24th Annual Stamp Out Hunger 264,173 meals

This national food drive is made possible by the postal workers who collect donated bags of food from homes around the country. Thanks to generous and caring neighbors and hard-working postal carriers, the Food Bank beat last year's record!



Ameriprise 312 hours & 32,769 meals

During their National Day of Service, Ameriprise staff and customers volunteered at Food Bank warehouses in Charlottesville, Lynchburg, Winchester and Verona and donated funds to nourish hungry neighbors.



Canstruction: Harrisonburg and Lynchburg 20,790 meals

These two cities helped feed hungry neighbors while showcasing the creativity of their residents, who assembled unique structures from canned food during the annual competition and food drive.



\$115,000 in 2015-16

During school and over the summer months, Our Family Foundation, the giving arm of Giant Food, helps ensure that kids have the nutrition they need to learn and grow through their support of the Family Backpack Program and Summer Kid Packs initiative. Over the last four years, Our Family Foundation has generously provided \$456,816 in grants to help alleviate child hunger in the Blue Ridge area. We think that's pretty awesome!



Fridays for Food
13,608 meals

This once-a-month event is held during the Friday's After Five concert series in Charlottesville. Thanks to a partnership with the Sprint Pavillion and Red Light Management, music lovers groove to good tunes and support hunger relief.



Charlottesville Radio Group
\$69,778 in-kind support

Through a grant for free air time from the Charlottesville Radio Group, the Food Bank will be able to inform and mobilize the public about ways to help nourish individuals and families in need.



Stuff A Truck
35,000 meals (goal)

Media partners WHSV-TV3, CBS 19, Monticello Media and iHeart Radio Work in conjunction with Martin's in Harrisonburg, Staunton and Waynesboro, and Giant Foods in Charlottesville to collect food and funds for hungry neighbors during this day-long food drive that occurs each September.



Berglund Oak Ridge Toyota
24,000 meals

They sponsored a radio contest to support local charities, and funded Summer Kid Packs to provide food to Lynchburg-area children.



Woodforest Bank Charitable Foundation
29,200 meals

With their financial support we can send food bags home with school kids.



ConAgra Foods Foundation
Priceless

By funding a two-year Child Hunger Corps position, the Food Bank can now evaluate the effectiveness of child hunger programs and lay the foundation for future initiatives.



Columbia Gas of Virginia
20,000 meals

A surprise gift will go a long way to extend our *food print!*



Abbott
106,100 meals

They adopted Altavista Elementary and annual grants since 2012 have helped feed vulnerable kids.



Sysco of Virginia
40,000 meals

This food service corporation doesn't overlook their neighbors in need.



UVA Frank Batten School of Leadership & Public Policy
52,000 meals

Under the leadership of Professor Paul Martin, students researching local nonprofits and the role of philanthropy awarded two generous grants to the Food Bank.





Nourishing Lives for Thirty-Five Years

1981-82

- The first pallet of donated food consisted of taco shells and chocolate sauce
- The first USDA donation consisted of 66,000 pounds of cheese
- By the end of 1981, the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank had distributed 233,049 pounds of food through 202 partner agencies
- The first regional distribution warehouse opened in Winchester and was called the Lord Fairfax Area Food Bank, followed not long after by a location in Charlottesville called the Thomas Jefferson Area Food Bank

2015-16

- We distributed 24.6 million pounds of food or the equivalent of 20.5 million meals
- 5.9 million pounds consisted of fresh produce
- We launched Walk the Line to promote healthy eating and physical activity with our clients
- We are serving an average of 114,400 people every month

As the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank looks to its future, it's important that we acknowledge the work of our predecessors who helped tens of thousands of struggling individuals in central and western Virginia.

Our founder and first executive director, Phil Grasty, and the board members he recruited sought to meet those needs when they opened the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank in 1981. That year, the nation's largest hunger relief organization, America's Second Harvest (known today as Feeding America), granted the Food Bank conditional membership, and commented that our operation was a "major experiment in food banking" because of our multi-county, rural service area. The first warehouse was a small space in Staunton.

The Food Bank evolved significantly in its subsequent 35 years of operations. In 1985 the headquarters was moved to Verona, where subsequent renovations added space to ensure we could acquire and distribute many millions of

pounds of food. In the first year, branch locations opened in Winchester and Charlottesville. Within the next two years, an additional, regional warehouse opened in Lynchburg, and a number of Outreach Programs were started to reach specific populations — primarily children.

Partner agencies, the non-profits and organizations that distribute food the Food Bank acquires, benefited from the addition of the Partner Pick-Up Program that rescues food from grocery stores and moves it directly to the front lines. Outreach Programs grew to include nutrition education programs and to meet the needs of rural seniors.

Today, the Food Bank is realizing the success of its third renovation project in 2014-15 which added room to safely store and distribute more fresh produce, and saves money on costs associated with repackaging bulk food items.

The impact of the Food Bank's work has come a long way in 35 years. With your help, we're sustaining life, restoring options, and providing hope.

>> To hear Food Bank voices from the past 35 years, visit www.brafb.org/voices.



Thank you!

We sincerely appreciate the generosity of our friends working in state and federal government jobs who choose to designate their donations to the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank during the CVC and CFC campaigns held this time each year. *You are making a difference!*

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A Little Inspiration Goes A Long Way

Phil Grasty didn't exactly set out to create a regional food bank.

In 1981, our founder and his wife, Mary, operated a ministry for young adults. The ministry's Board raised just enough to cover basic expenses — all except for food. Phil looked into a new food bank in Richmond to see if it could help, and that's when he had a revelation.

Phil realized that dozens if not hundreds of organizations serving people in need faced the same challenge as his own. And for food pantries scrambling for donations to fill their shelves, that challenge was especially acute. A food bank could fill a critical need by working with grocery stores across the region, and with food manufacturers and processors across the country, to keep a steady supply of food coming into the Blue Ridge Area.

So 35 years ago this November, Phil Grasty became a food banker.

His story is a lesson in the serendipity – Phil would call it providence – of inspiration. Few of us will ever start a nonprofit, but most of us will experience moments that move us to act in ways that help others... a gift to charity, a few hours of time for a local cause, leadership on a board, meals for a neighbor who is ill.

In these moments, we are inspired to reach beyond our own lives to create comfort and happiness in the lives of others. It's the best part of being human.

I'm grateful to Phil for what he created and nurtured for 20 years. And I'm equally grateful to all of you who help us carry out our mission today.

Thank you!



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael McKee". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Michael McKee, CEO



NON-PROFIT ORG
POSTAGE & FEES
PAID
BLUE RIDGE AREA
FOOD BANK

PO Box 937
Verona, VA 24482



OUR MISSION is to feed hungry people through a network of community organizations in central and western Virginia, and to engage our communities in the fight to end hunger locally and nationally.

BRANCH LOCATIONS

Shenandoah Valley Area Branch & Headquarters
PO Box 937
96 Laurel Hill Road
Verona, VA 24482-0937
P: 540.248.3663
F: 540.248.6410

Thomas Jefferson Area Branch
1207 Harris Street
Charlottesville, VA 22906-6415
P: 434.296.3663
F: 434.296.9621

Lynchburg Area Branch
501 12th Street, Suite B
Lynchburg, VA 24504-2527
P: 434.845.4099
F: 434.845.6153

Lord Fairfax Area Branch
1802 Roberts Street
Winchester, VA 22604-2342
P: 540.665.0770
F: 540.722.4217

GET INVOLVED

For more event details, visit our Events page at brafb.org, or call 540.248.3663

October 10th Annual Virginia Hunger Symposium

Blue Ridge Community College will host events and activities that educate and promote awareness about hunger across central and western Virginia. This year's symposium will take place Oct. 24 to 27. Featured events include an Empty Bowl Dinner and a concert by Jen Chapin.



Scouting for Food

Area Boy Scouts will be sweeping neighborhoods for food donations during their largest annual food drive. Bags will be distributed in Winchester, The Shenandoah Valley, and the greater Charlottesville area. Dates vary by location.



Homebrew For Hunger

This event will take place this fall at Fifth Season Gardening in Charlottesville. Whether you make your own or just enjoy the taste of craft beer, this is a fun occasion to mingle with people who know the good stuff. Check our website for date.



DCCU Shred Days

Bring your personal documents and have them securely shredded by DuPont Community Credit Union - all while helping hungry neighbors. Bring non-perishable food items to DCCU locations throughout the Valley in October. Check our website for dates for each location.



November Holiday Food Drive/ Shop To Stop Hunger

NBC29, Z95.1 and The Daily Progress ask that you join them in nourishing neighbors in need during the winter holidays. Just drop non-perishable food donations in marked Food Bank barrels at Kroger stores in Staunton, Waynesboro, Harrisonburg and Charlottesville from Nov. 19 to Dec. 16.



December Christmas At Augusta Stone

Join us for the 20th annual benefit Christmas concert on Dec. 5 at Augusta Stone Church in Fort Defiance. Enjoy acoustic and folk holiday music from talented performers. Freewill offering.



Twelfth Night Concert

Savor the sounds of the holiday season one last time with beautiful choir music. Choirs from the Staunton Church of the Brethren and Olivet Presbyterian Church will perform in their 16th post-holiday concert on Jan. 8.



EIGHT YEARS AND COUNTING! We're proud to be awarded four stars for sound fiscal management, the highest possible rating by America's largest charity evaluator, Charity Navigator, for the 8th consecutive year.