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Food for Thought from the Berkshire Food Project



[www.facebook.com/
berkshirefoodproject](http://www.facebook.com/berkshirefoodproject)

We post our daily menu on Facebook – you can check to see what’s for lunch there every day!

Happy Holidays!

On November 19, we began our holiday season with our traditional Thanksgiving meal. This year we split our three hour meal between two seatings, spanning the lunch and supper hours. We served 282 people in our dining room and sent home another 90 meals! Over 50 volunteers joined our four staff members that day – it was a real community effort! The preparation of the meal began days earlier and involved even more volunteers and community partners. In particular we want to thank Greg Roach at Buxton School for cooking half of the turkeys for this year’s meal and the Northern Berkshire Community Coalition staff for spending their weekly staff meeting time volunteering during the lunch seating.

Whether you donated a turkey, peeled squash, set the tables, cooked, cleaned or sat down and enjoyed a meal with your neighbors, we thank you for your part in making this event a success.

BFP Staff

Kim McMann, Executive Director

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Darlene Ellis, Kitchen Manager

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Tony Perry, Kitchen Assistant

Barbara Worthington,

SCSEP Outreach Assistant



North County Christmas

Sunday, December 9th
3:00pm

First Congregational Church
Main Street, North Adams

featuring
The North County Chorale & All Saints Bell Choir

Freewill offering to benefit Berkshire Food Project

Michael Daunis, Director
Scott Bailey, Accompanist
Paul DeJong, Cello
Todd Reynolds, Violin
Gerol Petruzella, Flute

AND NOW... it is time for North County Christmas!

On December 9 at 3 PM this annual tradition will feature the North County Chorale, the All Saints Bell Choir, Mike Daunis, Scott Bailey, Paul DeJong, Todd Reynolds. This is an incredible lineup of musical talent and a very inspirational afternoon of music. But there’s more – while you don’t need a ticket and it’s a free event, there is a free will offering. If you choose to donate, every penny goes right to the Berkshire Food Project!

Please Join Us!

Everybody is Welcome!

Do you know about the Berkshire Food Project? We are located at 134 Main Street (inside the First Congregational Church) in North Adams, MA. Every weekday we serve lunch from noon to one right in downtown North Adams. All are welcome – we have no income guidelines or other criteria. Everybody is welcome and encouraged to join us. We cook from scratch using fresh ingredients – our food is delicious! Our dining room is a place where people from all different backgrounds can break bread together and learn from each other. When we socialize with people who are different from us, we are exposed to different situations and experiences... and we can learn about the barriers that can get in the way of success for some families and individuals. If you are able to join us for lunch, we hope you will find it is an opportunity to learn more about our community. You may run into elected officials or other policy makers in our dining room as it is a great place for them to stay in touch with people whose voices are often not heard. You may meet students from local colleges. You may run into neighbors and friends – we serve great food in a welcoming environment! If you haven't been in for lunch, please join us soon. We open at 11:30 AM for coffee and snacks; lunch is served from noon to 1 PM.

The Berkshire Food Project seeks to alleviate hunger, food insecurity, and social isolation by serving healthy, no cost meals and connecting people to other resources, all in a dignified and respectful manner.

VOLUNTEERS ALWAYS WELCOME!

Each month volunteers spend about 750 hours working in the Berkshire Food Project kitchen and dining room. During an average month, we serve about 2,000 meals in the dining room each month and send home enough food for another 1,000 meals at home.

We pick up daily donations from several area stores including several Cumberland Farms. We also regularly pick up at several others including Walmart, Wild Oats and Big Y.

Through the generosity of Berkshire Grown, we get shares from Caretaker Farm each summer and weekly cheese from Cricket Creek Farm. Throughout the growing season many local farmers and residents donate fruit, vegetables and even eggs.

The Berkshire Food Project has three staff and another is provided through Elder Services' Senior Community Service Employment Program.

If you would like to volunteer, there are a variety of opportunities from cooking and serving lunch to picking up donations at local stores and farms to providing companionship in our dining room and more. Please call us or stop in to talk about how you can find a fulfilling volunteer position with us.

SNOW DAYS

We want everyone to stay safe in winter – when we anticipate snowstorms we provide extra food to take home, in case the weather prevents people from safely coming to lunch. In an effort to have a consistent and widely available cancellation policy, we follow the North Adams Public Schools for cancelling due to winter weather. If the schools are closed, the BFP is too.

However, if school is simply delayed, we are OPEN.

We want our diners and our volunteers and staff to all stay safe! If you are not sure, call us! 664-7378.

CHRISTMAS MEAL

Our traditional holiday ham dinner will be on Friday, December 21, 2018 from 12 noon to 1 PM.

The Berkshire Food Project • 134 Main Street, PO Box 651 • North Adams, MA 01247 • 413-664-7378

www.berkshirefoodproject.org