the ministry messenger

Neighbors Helping Neighbors

The Impact of the Economy on Our Clients

It is probably not surprising to anyone that the cost of food has risen 4.9% in 2023 or that the cost of eating out has gone up 7.9% according to the most recent Consumer Price Index (CPI) report from the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Additionally, according to the CPI Inflation Calculator, the amount of goods a dollar can purchase has declined greatly over recent years, (see graph below) losing more than 30% of its buying power since 2008.

Compounding the problem, wages are not keeping pace with inflation. The last increase to the minimum wage in North Carolina was in 2008, when it the rate increase from \$6.55 per hour to \$7.25 per hour and for tipped employees to \$2.13. The increasing gap between the cost of living and wages means more of our neighbors are experiencing a financial crisis. This is especially true for those living close to or below the Federal Poverty Level (FPL), which is currently \$30,000 for a family of four.

	2008	2019	2022	2023
Dollar Value	\$1.00	\$0.82	\$0.71	\$0.69
Average Cost Loaf of Bread (*FRED)	\$1.29	\$1.30	\$1.70	\$1.98
Federal Poverty Level (FPL)	Family of 4 \$21,200	Family of 4 \$25,750	Family of 4 \$27,750	Family of 4 \$30,000
Minimum Wage/Hour	\$7.25 ₀ \$2.13 + tips			

*Federal Reserve Economic Data

As the largest non-profit provider of emergency assistance in our community, we are overwhelmed with record numbers of requests for housing, utilities, and food assistance. Last month we responded to 205 requests and paid out \$92,169 for housing assistance. For the third month in a row, our gualified housing requests have exceeded our budget allocations. Our pantries are feeling the weight of need as well. CCM provided 24,645 pounds of food to 455 people last month, while our food donations are down approximately 40% for the year.

We are so grateful to those who have generously donated and graciously volunteered hours to help our neighbors in crisis. As the need rises in our community, we hope you will consider an additional gift of support this calendar year to continue to help our neighbors in these difficult times. Thank you for helping Crisis Control Ministry to serve our neighbors and our community through your support.

Winston-Salem Office: 200 E. Tenth Street T: 336.724.7453

Kernersville Office: 431 W. Bodenhamer St. Winston-Salem, NC 27101 Kernersville, NC 27284 T: 336.996.5401

www.CrisisControl.org

North Carolina Association of Free & Charitable Clinics





Financial donations. Your gifts impact the lives of our neighbors.

Food donations. Through food drives and supporting our gift of the month, you help keep our pantries stocked!



Autumn 2023 A Publication of Crisis Control Ministry



Your Support Impacts Lives

We can sometimes become so focused on the overwhelming needs and forget that they are met and overcome through the small acts of kindness each day.

We are blessed with generous donations of day-old bread from many grocers and bakeries. Any extra that we may have is placed in our lobby for clients to take.

One day a new client asked about the bread. When she was told to help herself, she almost couldn't believe it. "You mean, I can have as much as I like?" she asked with a great smile. When you see the joy that an extra loaf of day-old bread can bring, you realize that even the smallest gifts are met with great appreciation at Crisis Control Ministry.

These are the moments where we see and feel the amazing impact of the work we are able to do, with your help.

Thank you for your support!





Help Fill Our Pantries

Our client-choice food pantries in both the Winston-Salem and the Kernersville locations are especially low.

For a list of most needed items, scan the QR code or visit crisiscontrol.org.



Gift of the Month

October:	Beef Stew
November:	Sugar, Flour & Baking Items
December:	Canned Mixed Vegetables

Location Hours

Winston-Salem:

Monday-Friday 9 a.m. - Noon 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Kernersville:

Monday-Friday	9 a.m Noon	
Tues. & Thur.	1 p.m 4 p.m.	

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Margaret Elliott

THE MINISTRY MESSENGER is a quarterly publication of Crisis Control Ministry.

Crisis Control Ministry provides assistance with basic life needs to those facing a crisis in Forsyth and Stokes Counties.

Send editorial ideas to The Ministry Messenger Editor: Tammy Caudill, PR & Marketing Manager Crisis Control Ministry 200 East Tenth Street, Winston-Salem, NC 27101 tcaudill@crisiscontrol.org



I often hear people say, "I can't give a lot," but it doesn't take "a lot" to make a big impact at Crisis Control Ministry. Many donors have a common misconception that their gifts must be 'large' to make a difference, and nothing could be further from the truth. Recurring gifts are a case of givea-little, change-a-lot.

Recurring gifts, where donors automatically give every month from their bank accounts or credit cards, can have a tremendous impact. They make it easy for donors to give by automating small gifts on a regular schedule, and donors are often surprised at the total amount they were able to give at the end of the year. These gifts are especially valuable to Crisis Control Ministry because they add up over time and make a meaningful difference to those in need.

When donors continue to give month after month, year after year, their giving impact grows exponentially. Recurring gifts can also be adjusted or stopped anytime, making them a flexible and responsive option for donors whose desires or finances may change throughout the year. Please consider starting a recurring monthly gift to Crisis Control Ministry today and see the impact your "small" gift can make this year. You can set up your monthly giving at crisiscontrol.org/donate and check the "Make this a monthly payment" box.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or to talk about other ways that you can give.



Angie Wilson, Director of Philanthropy p: 336.727.9976 e: awilson@crisiscontrol.org



Walk Local - Impact Global

Join us at the 45th Annual Winston-Salem/Forsyth County CROP Hunger Walk on Sunday, October 15th. The fun begins around 1:30 p.m. at Corpening Plaza, downtown Winston-Salem with music from WBFJ, dancing, facepainting, a photo booth, socialization, and educational activities. The 1.4-mile walk kicks off at 2:30 p.m. with Cameron Kent as the emcee. The walk route goes into Old Salem and back. Along the

route, you'll find education stations where youth will learn about the global issues of water, food, education, and hospitals in third world countries. As walkers return, they'll be treated to ice cream sandwiches and live music. Funds raised support the work of Crisis Control Ministry, Sunnyside Ministry, and Church World Service. We hope to see you walking with us this year!

Learn more at cropwalkforsyth.org.



2023 Holiday Honor Cards

HELP NEIGHBORS BY HONORING FRIENDS, FAMILY & COLLEAGUES



Introducing Two New Card Designs

C23 *Chickadee Tidings* Original art by Barbara Campbell





J23 *Merry & Bright* Original art by Beth Jones

L his holiday season, you can help provide food, medication, housing, and utility assistance to our neighbors in crisis by purchasing Crisis Control Ministry Holiday Honor Cards. Proceeds from card sales are used locally to help our neighbors in Forsyth County and Stokes County.

The Holiday Honor Card is,

- the perfect way to spread holiday cheer while giving back to the community.
- a great alternative gift for those friends and family members that are hard to shop for.
- a memorable tradition of recognizing important clients or colleagues.
- a wonderful way to honor special people in your life.
- the best means of taking the work out of sending holiday cards.

For a minimum tax-deductible donation of \$5 per card, Crisis Control Ministry will beautifully hand address, stamp with a holiday stamp, and mail these high-quality cards FOR YOU. Or, if you prefer to sign, address, and send the cards yourself, you can pick them up at our offices, or we can mail them to you (shipping and handling charges apply).

This year you can choose from the two new designs for 2023 or eight designs from previous years, pictured on the next page.



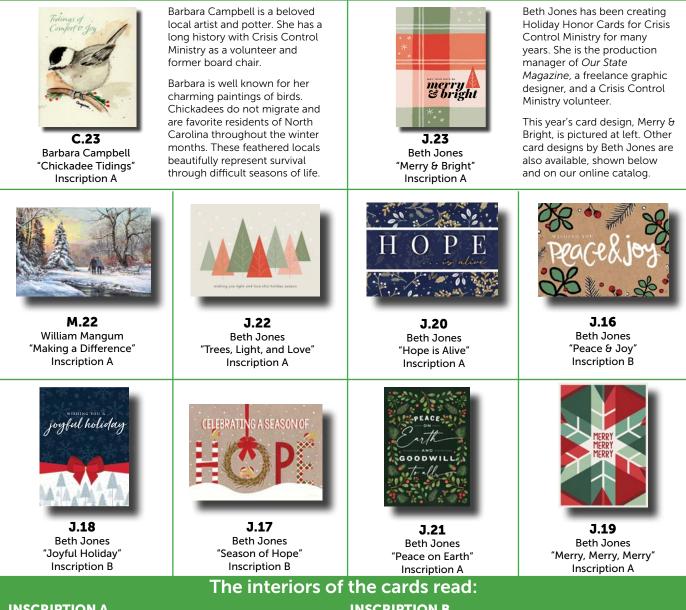
To order cards:

- scan this QR code
- visit crisiscontrol.org/HolidayCards
- fill out the enclosed order form, and mail to:
 - Crisis Control Ministry Holiday Cards, 200 East 10th Street, Winston-Salem, NC 27101

For more information: contact Angie Wilson at 336-727-9976 or awilson@crisiscontrol.org.

See order form on next page for all available designs.

HELP NEIGHBORS BY HONORING FRIENDS, FAMILY & COLLEAGUES



INSCRIPTION A

"A gift has been made in your honor to Crisis Control Ministry by (your name). This gift will enable our neighbors in crisis to share in the bounty of God's love for all people during this season of sharing."

INSCRIPTION B

"A gift has been made in your honor to Crisis Control Ministry by (your name). This gift will enable the hungry and homeless in our community to share in the bounty of God's love for all people during this season of sharing."



Scan the QR code to order online or visit crisiscontrol.org/HolidayCards

crisiscontrol.org



Holiday Honor Card Order Form

Section A: Your Contact Information			
☐ Dr. ☐ Mr. ☐ Mrs. ☐ Ms. ☐ Hon. ☐ Miss ☐ Rev.	Your Name (First, Last)		
Company Name (if applicable)			
Address			
City		State	Zip Code
Contact Number	Email Address		

Section B: Ordering Your Cards

Please select the designs and quantities of cards you wish to order in the table below.

Card Design ID	Design Description	Qty Ordered
C.23	Chickadee Tidings	
J.23	Merry & Bright	
M.22	Making a Difference	
J.22	Trees, Light, and Love	
J.20	Hope is Alive	
J.16	Peace & Joy	
J.18	Joyful Holiday	
J.17	Season of Hope	
J.21	Peace on Earth	
J.19	Merry, Merry, Merry	
	Total Cards Ordered	
	X 5 =	\$
	Delivery Option 3	\$
	+ S&H Fees*	
	Total Donation Due	\$

Shipping & Handling*

*Applies only to sets of blank cards that are mailed to you to personalize when Option 3 is selected as a delivery option in Section C.

Total # of Cards Ordered	S&H Fee Required	
1-4 cards	\$ 2.00	
5-10 cards	\$ 6.00	
11-20 cards	\$ 8.00	
21-100 cards	\$ 10.00	
100+ cards	\$ 15.00	

If you selected Option 3 as a delivery option: find the S&H fee in the table above that corresponds to the number of cards you ordered and enter it into the S&H box in the table to the left. The fee is considered part of your donation.

Section C: Delivery of Your Cards

Please check the delivery option for your Holiday Honor Card Order.

□ Option 1: Mail my cards FOR me. My list of honorees and their addresses are included on the back of this form or were/will be emailed to give@crisiscontrol.org. CCM will begin mailing cards December 1; orders will be processed as they are received.

□ Option 2: I will pick my cards up from Crisis Control Ministry. *Please circle location:* Winston-Salem/Kernersville. *CCM will contact you when your order is ready for pick-up. Processing of orders will begin after October 30th*.

Option 3*: Mail my blank cards TO me to personalize myself. ******Please add S&H charges to your order in Section B.*

Section D: Making Your Donation				
My payment is enclosedCharge my credit card	\Box I made my donation online on _		(date)	
Card Number:		Exp. Date	/	Security Code
Signature:				



Holiday Honor Card Addressee List Mail this completed form with your donation to:

Crisis Control Ministry - Holiday Cards 200 East 10th Street

Winston-Salem, NC 27101

Which Card?	Name(s) of Recipient(s)	Address	How should the card be signed?
Card ID#	Who to send it to.	Where to send it.	Who is it from?
J.20	John Jones	123 Sesame Street, Winston-Salem, NC 27101	G-ma Jones



Rhythm & Hope photos, credit Alex Baum

Community Gathered to Celebrate Crisis Control Ministry's 50 Years of Service

On August 26th, Crisis Control Ministry hosted Rhythm & Hope for the community. Thanks to generous donors, this concert event was free and open to the public. "This is our 50th year of serving the community. We wanted to celebrate with all our neighbors, including those who we serve and those who have helped us serve," commented Margaret Elliott, Executive Director. "We were thrilled by the number of people who came out to celebrate and by the gratitude expressed through all the stories from volunteers, donors and clients about how Crisis Control Ministry has made a positive impact on their lives."





It was truly beautiful to see the love neighbors showed for each other at this event. They ate together, played games and danced together to the tunes of Souljam and the Phase Band.

Thank you to all who gave!

While admission was free, many of the more than 750 guests gave financial donations, and nearly 500 pounds of food.

If you were unable to attend but would like to donate, scan the QR code, or visit our website.



crisiscontrol.org/donate





Thank you to everyone who attended.

Special appreciation to all of our sponsors, including those who remained anonymous.



WAIT!

Don't throw those almost-used gift cards away!!



That small balance left on Visa, Master Card, American Express, Walmart, or Amazon Gift Cards after you shop this holiday season can help our neighbors at Crisis Control Ministry.

You can donate gift cards with small remaining balances (\$0.10 and up) to CCM now through the New Year.

> Mail cards to: Crisis Control Ministry 200 East Tenth Street Winston-Salem, NC 27101



200 E. Tenth Street Winston-Salem, NC 27101 Client: 336.724.7453 Admin: 336.724.7875 www.crisiscontrol.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Org. U.S. Postage **PAID** Permit No. 324 Winston-Salem, NC



Love • Stewardship • Listening • Grace • Truth • Collaboration • Better Lives • Transformation