



The Quarterly Truth NEWSLETTER

Fall 2019

SOJOURNER TRUTH MINISTRIES, INC.

501 High Street Williamsport, PA 570-323-1797

HOURS OF OPERATION: Monday – Saturday 8:00 am – 1:00 pm Sunday - Closed

Rev. C. Angelique Labadie-Cihanowyz, Director

Website: stmwilliamsport.org

Want me to come and share about Sojourners to your church or group? Invite me! I'd love to!

Vision Statement Sojourner Truth Ministries shall be a loving, spiritual, and inclusive Christian mission.

Mission Statement Sojourner Truth Ministries loves all people, creates community, builds character, and equips us to be faithful disciples of Jesus Christ.

We are supported by these foundations:



AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM BEGINS

The After School Kids Program (ASK) at Sojourner Truth Ministries will be starting back up on October 9th. It is offered to children ages 6 through 12. This is a Christ centered program meant to help children succeed academically and socially.

A snack is offered as well as homework help. Games, music and group activities are also offered to the children. ASK is open from 3:30 to 4:45pm on Tuesdays and Wednesdays each week at no cost to participants. We are looking for volunteers. No particular skills are necessary, only the ability to work well with children. However, if you are an educator, we would be especially interested in having you be a part of this wonderful and much needed program. For more information or to volunteer call 570 323 1797.

After School Kids program has a new leader! Welcome Jerry!

Hi, my name is Jerry Kabat, and I just started here at Sojourner Truth as the volunteer manager of the After-School Kids Program (ASK). I recently moved to the area from upstate New York (Oneonta) after retiring as a licensed social worker (LMSW) with the state of New York. I spent most of my state service in the mental health field counseling adults, children and their families.

The span of my career included stints as a case manager, therapist, supervisor and administrator. Although I worked for a state agency, my primary focus was and still is to serve my Lord Jesus Christ wherever He leads me. I am here at STM now, following God's call. I am looking forward to leading ASK for this school year. If you are interested in working with me, I would love to meet with you.



WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Monday - Friday - Breakfast 8:00am & Lunch 12:00Noon (Devotions 11:45am)

Saturday - Dinner Church - upstairs 11:30am (followed by Meal)

Tuesday & Wednesday - After School Kids - 3:30pm - 4:45pm

Sojourner House

GOALS for our Ministry House for Women Leaving Homelessness behind Many thanks to all who have given toward our project to not only turn the former house (attached to the Sojourner Truth building) into usable housing, but to get a program up and running. The goal is to provide communal, short-term (6 months) housing for women who have fallen through the cracks of society and likely of other programs in the Williamsport area. The program is completely Christ-based, and residents will be given not only tools to get by, but Truths to live by and thrive. Physical work has been productive, and the upstairs is looking great!

At this writing we are awaiting architect drawings of changes, and work is being done to add a downstairs bathroom and open up the kitchen-dining room areas. Windows have been gifted and are in the process of being installed. So many people have invested, and the walls are full of Scripture and prayers beneath coats of paint. There is still much to do, and volunteers are welcome!

We are just over half of our financial goal beyond the building. We are well on our way to raising the funds for an anticipated years' worth of expenses prior to us being able to open.

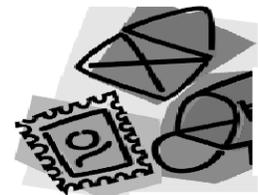
An advisory panel meets biweekly to iron out details in policies and procedures, and we are at the point of accepting volunteer applications for mentors, volunteer staff, training, and many other positions. This House is already filling with hope, and we eagerly anticipate filling it with new residents and volunteers, while being able to serve others more effectively. Won't you please join us, if you haven't already, in your support? Would you or your company help to get us up and running with a gift of \$10,000 or more? Will you gift any amount toward this goal? Would you sponsor a resident at \$200 per month? Please contact us for details, or visit www.stmwilliamsport.org Any gifts for the House go into a separate account, please mark accordingly. We are so grateful to team up with so many!

Supplies we frequently use (and run out of)

*Bleach
dish detergent
powdered creamer
paper cups
(no styrofoam please)
powdered drink mix
food service gloves
hand sanitizer
feminine hygiene supplies*



*Always in need of
Postage Stamps and thank you notecards*



NEW VOLUNTEER

Jaime Gatusky



Hello and God Bless you all!! My name is Jamie Gatusky, I am so excited to introduce myself as the newest member of the Sojourner team.

I will be serving God and our community as the resource advocate. I am a Christian woman in long term recovery, a wife, and a daughter. However, I was not always walking the path God intended.

For many years I struggled with healing from a volatile childhood, that I attempted to smother with destructive, self -inflicted behaviors, which eventually led me to prison.

I was born in Bethlehem and raised in Nazareth Pennsylvania, and yet with such obvious naivety I went 40 years not realizing that God was with me through it all. It took a near death experience on a bitter February in 2017 to acknowledge His loving arms wrapped tightly around me. I came to Williamsport upon being released from state prison in 2016. I knew no one and had spent four years incarcerated. I was directed to visit Sojourners to obtain clothing and receive meals. Little did I know that He was giving me a glimpse of where the path was heading. Since those dark days of my past, I have experienced miracles and blessings in abundance! I am now baptized, the suffering has been lifted from my heart, and I am able to finally live a life I never thought I was worthy of. PRAISE GOD!!!! It is an honor to have been chosen by God, to serve the same individuals I sat with once, when I knew no one and had nowhere to go. I am passionate about assisting with whatever may need to be taken care of. Whether it may be a physical, emotional, or spiritual need, I will seek God's direction to obtain the needs of others. As I continue this journey I no longer fear having to walk alone. I rest in the knowledge that God, my family, and the other employees will guide and lift me up when I am uncertain of where to go. Thank you for the amazing opportunity to have my life to come full circle in so many ways!!!! PRAISE GOD!!!!!! I look forward to meeting and hearing from you all.

Tina Knipe, STM Board

My name is Tina Knipe and I have been involved with STM for over 10 years serving 2 terms on the Board, so I am familiar with STM and how it functions. I am impressed with the current leadership and would like to be a part of STM again. Here are several reasons for my return to the STM Board:

- I know many of the Sojourners and have kept in touch with several of them over the years by dropping in on luncheons and stopping to visit.
- Have known Pastor Angelique for several years and am impressed with her mission and commitment here at STM
- I have worked with several members of the Board previously and recognize what they have accomplished in the past few years.
- Have helped with the after school program and several fundraisers of STM

I am looking forward to serving Sojourner Truth Ministries and being more involved with their missions.

Volunteer Orientation is the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month, 9 am.

If this cannot work, please call for other arrangements! 570-323-1797

A great way to connect!

THANK YOU FOR ALL WHO ARE GIVING TO SUPPORT OUR WORK!!

If you are no longer interested in receiving this newsletter, please leave a detailed message with your name, address and phone number... call 570-323-1797 and we will remove you from this mailing list*

If you want to save paper and **receive email newsletter**, please email your name and contact information asking for EMAIL NEWSLETTER to Angelique4stm@gmail.com

We are willing to come to share more about who we are and what we do in the community-invite us! Pastor Angelique or Jamie Gatusky, our resource advocate, would love to visit and meet you! Call to schedule.

570-323-1797 or Stmwilliamsport.org



SOJOURNER TRUTH MINISTRIES
501 HIGH STREET
WILLIAMSPORT, PA 17701
STM newsletter Winter, 2019

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S.POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT No. 269
Williamsport, PA 17701

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Inside This Issue

-  **After School Kids Program**
-  **Ministry Update & New Members**
-  **Sojourner House Update**
-  **A Reflection**

Address here

A Reflection

Hello to you all. I've been considering the subculture of suspicion, even the potential of conspiracy theory overload in which much of society has become immersed. It seems our deceitful minds can allow or even encourage us to develop reasons or excuses or ways to avoid attempts to overcome – confessing to God our weakness to submit to being shaped or conformed into the image of God. There are times when we wander, lose direction, or become confused about that which we have been called to do.

Out of chaos, Jesus calls, “If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink.” (John 7:37) He fills us and guides us along the paths of righteousness for His Name’s sake. Jesus keeps us from being cynical and deluded; encourages us to love others as we have been loved; strengthens us in our battle against the enemy; keeps us from gossip, envy and jealousy. Romans 15:13 declares “May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.”

-Len Richards, Board President

