

# THE MICAH 6 AUSTIN MESSENGER

A PUBLICATION OF MICAH 6 OF AUSTIN, TEXAS  
2203 SAN ANTONIO ST./ AUSTIN, TEXAS 78705

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## SPECIAL CONTRIBUTIONS HELP MICAH 6

### LITTLE HELPING HANDS

Micah 6 would like to acknowledge **Little Helping Hands** for consistently providing spirited volunteers for the pantry. Parents and children with Little Helping Hands bag groceries for clients at the pantry four times per month. The clients enjoy seeing and talking with the children. The children take their responsibility very seriously. They have the opportunity to see the people they are helping face to face. When they come to understand that many people struggle to get enough food, they develop an appreciation for the blessing of food they receive every day. (*They are pictured in action on page 3.*)

The purpose of Little Helping Hands is to inspire community service in early childhood. The organization partners with a variety of non-profit organizations as well as the City of Austin to offer opportunities for families to volunteer in the community. Little Helping Hands creates and organizes 25 to 30 activities each month that are suitable for families with young children and even provides snacks and drinks for the volunteers. For more information, go to the website at <http://littlehelpinghands.org>.

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### FUNDRAISERS BOOST MICAH 6 REVENUE

Micah 6 greatly appreciates all those who organized and contributed to fundraisers this past winter and spring:

- Worshippers at the **Micah 6 combined service** at **University United Methodist Church** contributed \$2,216.
- A House concert at the home of **Michael and Beth Vivio** and featuring the vocal group **A Gracious Plenty** – and special guest **Elvis Presley** – generated \$3,278.
- **Lamda Omega Alpha**, a Catholic fraternity at the University of Texas, organized Meatfest, which raised \$841.
- Participants in the ecumenical Holy Week services sponsored by the **Northwest Area Churches** and held at **Highland Park Baptist Church** contributed \$762.
- **University Avenue Church of Christ** directed its Mother's Day collection to Micah 6 totaling \$5,079.
- Many church members raised money for the **Crop Walk**. Micah 6 will receive a percentage of donated funds this summer.

Many thanks to all who helped make these events successful!

## MICAH 6 LENDS A HAND TO STREET YOUTH

### FREEZE NIGHT SHELTER

This past winter, Micah 6 partnered with **LifeWorks** to operate an overnight shelter for street youth in the university area on very cold nights. The shelter opened on nights when the temperature forecast was 32 degrees or colder and when the forecast was 35 degrees or colder with precipitation. It was located at the LifeWorks Street Outreach Drop-In Center in the basement of the **Congregational Church of Austin** at 23<sup>rd</sup> Street and San Antonio.

The participants were clients of LifeWorks, which provides housing, counseling, education, life skills training, and various other services to homeless and at-risk youth in order to help them achieve self-sufficiency.

Volunteers from Micah 6 Coalition churches prepared and served hot meals to the youth, and Micah 6 paid for LifeWorks staff to stay overnight at the shelter. In total, youth spent **128** nights at the shelter, and some youth had repeat stays. Volunteers said they appreciated the opportunity to talk with the youth and learn about the challenges they face in their daily lives.

### FIG LEAF STORE OPENS FOR STREET YOUTH

Micah 6 is lending a hand to the **Fig Leaf Store** at **University United Methodist Church**. The Fig Leaf is collaborating with LifeWorks to offer free clothing to the young adults living on the street in Austin. LifeWorks clients visit the Fig Leaf on Thursdays from 3:00 to 4:00 PM. This service has become very popular in just a few months with as many as 15 youth arriving on each Thursday. The Fig Leaf is also open to the general public on Saturday mornings.

Micah 6 is funding the purchase of snacks and drinks for the youth, who have said they enjoy hanging out at the Fig Leaf. If you would like to **volunteer** at the Fig Leaf on Thursday afternoons to chat with the youth while they shop for their clothes, contact **Jane Leifeste** at 968-4003 or leifeste.jane@gmail.com.

Unfortunately, the clothing racks at the Fig Leaf are getting bare.

Donations of **gently-used clothing** are greatly appreciated. The items most needed for men are all sizes of dark-colored shirts, shorts, jeans, socks, shoes, and backpacks. For women, plus sizes and maternity clothes are in demand. Please bring your items to University United Methodist Church at 2409 Guadalupe Street between 8:30 AM and 5:00 PM Monday through Thursday or 8:30 AM to noon on Friday or Sunday. Place the items in the collection bin located inside the door facing the 25th street parking lot. Thank you!



## WHAT THE PANTRY NEEDS NOW

### Food Donations

Micah 6 has an ongoing need for canned meat & fruit products (no glass) and plastic grocery bags. The **Capital Area Food Bank** has not been able to fulfill the pantry's order for these items on a regular basis, and the pantry has been purchasing them at retail prices. Donate through one of the member or supporting churches, or place your items in the food barrels at one of the following **Randalls** locations for your convenience:

- 715 Exposition Blvd. at Lake Austin Blvd.
- 2727 Exposition Blvd. at Westover Rd.
- 5311 Balcones Dr.

### Volunteers

Micah 6 needs more volunteers in the summer when students are away. Shifts are available on **Thursday morning** to unload the delivery from the Capital Area Food Bank and during pantry openings on **Thursday evenings** and **Saturday mornings**. If you can take on a regular day of the month, that is especially appreciated. If you can only come a few times, it would still be a great help. Contact Pantry Director **Linda Williams** at [lindahop@lindahop.com](mailto:lindahop@lindahop.com) or 826-3015 to sign up.

### Did you know?

If you are a regular Randalls shopper and have a **Remarkable card**, you can designate contributions for Micah 6 by using the number **11964**. Ask for a Good Neighbor Charity Addition/Deletion Form at the Customer Service Desk to link your card to Micah 6 with this number. Randalls will donate a percentage of your purchase to Micah 6 each time you use your Remarkable card.



**Volunteers  
from  
Little Hands**





## RECENT PANTRY NUMBERS

	Shopping Visits	Persons Fed	New Client Households
Jan	1,562	4,883	304
Feb	1,357	4,079	213
Mar	1,564	4,795	225
Apr	1,609	4,857	230
May	1,463	4,282	215

### MORE THANKS!

#### Perfect score on recent inspection

Thank you to Pantry Director **Linda Williams** and all of our volunteers for helping to achieve a perfect score on the pantry's recent inspection by the Capital Area Food Bank. Way to go!

#### Outgoing board members

Thank you to outgoing board members **Gretchen Olson Kopp** from First English Lutheran Church (past Board president), **John Bell** from University United Methodist Church, and **Pastor Larry Bethune** from University Baptist Church, representing the senior pastors. Thank you for your leadership and dedication!

#### New board members

Micah 6 welcomes new board members **Jane Leifeste** from University United Methodist Church, **Jackie Chuter** from First English Lutheran Church, and **Father Charles Kullmann** from St. Austin's Catholic Parish representing the Senior Pastors. We look forward to working together to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with our God.

### Member Churches

All Saints' Episcopal Church  
Congregational Church of Austin  
First English Lutheran Church  
Highland Park Baptist Church  
Hyde Park Presbyterian Church  
St. Austin Catholic Parish  
University Avenue Church of Christ  
University Baptist Church  
University Christian Church  
University United Methodist Church  
University Presbyterian Church

### Supporting Churches

Central Christian Church  
Southwest Family Fellowship

*The mission of Micah 6 of Austin is to work together to identify and meet the needs of the homeless and the impoverished in the University of Texas campus area.*

### Micah 6 Messenger

Editor Sue Williams  
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512-257-8699

Website micah6austin.org

The Micah 6 Food Pantry location:  
University Presbyterian Church  
2203 San Antonio St.  
Thurs 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. &  
Sat 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.

*What does the Lord require of you?*