**2018 Diocesan Convention - Food Packing Information**

Convention business will be put aside Friday afternoon so we can “Be the Church”. We have collaborated with “The Outreach Program” to pack over 50,000 meals together. While some of the packed meals will delivered to local food pantries, our churches also have the opportunity to bring back meals to support their local food bank / ministry. If your church would like to bring meals back, please read the info below carefully.

**Quick Info:**

We’ll assemble at the Destin Community Center after lunch. It’s a short walk from the church (1/5 mile on sidewalk). Shuttles will continually run between the church (at roundabout) and community center 2 blocks away and back. Parking is also available (70 or so spaces).

* The Destin Community Center is located at:   
  **101 Stahlman Ave., Destin, FL 32541**
* Plan on wearing comfortable clothes / shoes. No high heels.
* Registration starts at 2:00 pm (you’ll get your hairnet / gloves, sanitizing instructions)
* Food Packing starts at 2:30; we should finish up by 4:30pm. Short service by the Bishop at 4:30.
* Clean up / breakdown at 5pm. Churches can begin to pick up meal boxes (if requested)
* Snacks and drinks will be available during the food packing and there will be refreshments & fellowship afterwards at St. Andrew’s in the big tent (front parking lot from 4-6pm)!

***Food Packing by the Numbers:***

* We will be packing **50,000 meals** over a 2-hour period.
* **Two (2) meal types** will be available: Macaron & Cheese AND Beans and Rice
* Meals will be prepared / sealed in **16 separate food lines** supported by **10-12 volunteers** per food line
* Packaged meals will be boxed up. Each box will contain up to **216 meals**
* Each box weighs **32 lbs.;** Box dimensions are: **10 x 12 x 14**
* Each meal will cost about **.25 cents** (ingredients, packing materials, transportation, and services)

Note: If you would like to donate *(not required)* to help defray some of the expenses, any amount would be most welcome. Each meal will cost about .25 cents (ingredients, packing materials, transportation, and services). Checks can be made out to: Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast and in memo line note “food packing” and your church.

***How to request meal boxes***

If your church wishes to bring home meal boxes to distribute to your local food pantry or food ministry you support, please provide the following information**:**

1. **Identify who will represent your church:** (name / email / cell phone #) *Please: only one primary contact per church.* We don’t have the capacity to coordinate with multiple church individuals or organizations.
2. **Number of meals (or boxes).** Due to the large number of churches, we ask that you limit your request to a max 5000 meals (that’s over 20 boxes).
3. **Meal types:** Please note your food-type preferences (mac & cheese / beans & rice)

Please reply to this email or email [dwight@diocgc.org](mailto:dwight@diocgc.org) with the above information.

**ONLY ONE REQUEST PER CHURCH**

***Distribution:***

Beginning late-Friday afternoon, a church can pick up meal boxes packed during the event. Your pick-up resource will need to be able to lift at least 32 lbs.

**Location:** Destin Community Center, 101 Stahlman Ave., Destin, FL 32541 (gym delivery area off of main parking lot – left side if facing main entrance)

* For those picking up larger boxed amounts, we will provide you with a window of time when you can transfer your boxes to the transportation you have arranged. For example, Church A can pick up 10 boxes from 4:00 – 4:30pm.
* Otherwise, and for smaller-sized requests (5 or fewer boxes), box pick-up will be **between 5 – 6pm**. We ask for patience as during this same time-period we will be breaking down / cleaning the facility.
* If a church did not request meal boxes in advance, we will try our best to make additional meal boxes available. Again, only one request per church.
* **By 6pm, any meal box that has not been picked up will be delivered to a local food shelter(s).**

Thanks!

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