

NEIGHBORHOOD LIFE

Rufus Van Horn

Our Mission Statement: *To do God's work in our neighborhood through service, fellowship, and worship.*

2017 was another year that was just three sweet.

Again this year, the committee helped with donations to the weekly Food Basket. The parish provided our request for jars of baby food for the St Luke's Food Pantry on Eason Blvd, which deliveries were made possible by Sue Ann Averett.

We like it when people eat. We agreed to provide dinner for Wednesday night Lenten service in March, and we helped with care package packing during the October dinner put on by the Lutherans. We fed about 100 folks in the community center at Salvation Army in August. We also set up in front of the church for the Tupelo Christmas Parade, offering hot chocolate in front of the Narthex.

As per tradition, we started the year with reflections on the 2016 Saints' Brew Christmas dinner. Last December (2016), we served 100 guests and estimate that about 50 parishioners contributed food, money, or gifts for the event. We spent about \$500 on the dinner. We look to have another successful dinner on December 17th.

At this year's Festival on the Field at Robins Field, we set up our traditional PlayDoh table for the neighborhood children. Our tent allows for a fun and conversational oasis away from the continually growing balloon line, madness of the bounce castles, and the "Will it be good or not this year?" (it was) food line in the shade.

Again, this year's fair weather Trunk or Treat allowed for a triple stacked hay maze. The maze has become one of our highlights, as the kids are mostly great, and we have an easy go-to setup to add to the Trunk or Treat event. We did not run out of candy thanks to the church's donations.

Finally, we look forward to being a friendly face of All Saints' at various neighborhood activities in 2018 and welcome your participation in any or all events this upcoming year.