



The Gathering of Southeast Wisconsin, Inc.
804 East Juneau Avenue
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202
Contact: Natalee Kashou
Ph 414-272-4122
Fax 888-352-3716

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Local Soup Kitchen Provides Fat Tuesday Meals to Homeless

The Gathering continues to raise hunger awareness by celebrating Mardi Gras

MILWAUKEE, WI (February 28, 2022) – The Gathering is a local community meal program that has been providing free meals to the hungry and homeless populations of Milwaukee since 1982. In recognition of Mardi Gras 2022, volunteers and staff of The Gathering are distributing festive southern meals for Dinner on Monday, February 28, 4:30-5:30 PM at Ascension Lutheran Church (1236 S Layton Blvd) and Breakfast on Tuesday, March 1, 8:30-9:30 AM at Running Rebels (1300 W Fond du Lac Ave).

Last year, The Gathering hosted a virtual Mardi Gras fundraiser with programming provided by guests, staff, volunteers, community partners along with raffle drawings, divination readings and live music. The evening of the virtual event, all attendees were delivered southern creole meals right to their doors. The fundraiser successfully brought in over \$10,000 to directly support The Gathering's meal program operations.

Traditionally, Mardi Gras is celebrated around the country the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday. It's a day for individuals to enjoy all the richest foods before the Lenten season begins. The Gathering, now an interfaith ministry, was founded with Christian roots and finds it appropriate to celebrate the festive holiday.

Rather than fundraising, and in effort to bring forward a sense of community to our neighborhoods, the theme of this year's celebration is to put an emphasis on the individuals whom The Gathering serves.

To learn more about the festivities taking place, visit www.thegatheringwis.org/mardi-gras-2022

About The Gathering of Southeast WI, Inc.

The Gathering was founded in 1982 and over the years, has provided the community with a Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner program that run throughout the week across four different meal sites. The Gathering provides other programming such as the Bag Lunch Program and Fresh Produce Preservation Project. Its Mission is to provide meals to the hungry and homeless population who would otherwise go hungry or without. The Gathering works with over 2,000 volunteers and serves nearly 90,000 meals in a fiscal year with only 7 paid staff members. To learn more visit, www.thegatheringwis.org

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