

# FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



## Event contact:

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## **THE GATHERING MEAL PROGRAM TO MOVE POTS AND PANS THROUGH DOWNTOWN MILWAUKEE “FIRE BRIGADE STYLE” FROM 12:00-1:00 P.M. ON MARCH 28<sup>TH</sup> ONE HUNDRED PLUS VOLUNTEERS TO HELP MOVE THE GATHERING TO NEW LOCATION**

Milwaukee (March 23, 2017)...The Gathering of Southeast Wisconsin is moving its downtown meal programs from St. James’ Episcopal Church at 8<sup>th</sup> and Wisconsin to the Capuchin Community Services’ St. Ben’s Community Meal location at 9<sup>th</sup> and State.

The move will be celebrated on Tuesday, March 28th, 2017 from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. with a fire brigade of volunteers sending pots and pans from the old location to the new location. One hundred plus volunteers will gather at St. James, 833 W. Wisconsin Avenue at noon and spread out across the four block area along 10<sup>th</sup> Street to form a brigade that will pass the pots and pans to one another. The event will end at 1:00 p.m.

The Gathering will serve breakfast from the St. Ben’s meal hall Monday through Friday mornings, beginning March 27, plus a Saturday lunch. Capuchin Community Services will continue to serve dinners Sunday through Friday evenings. The two organizations remain separate non-profit entities.



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**ABOUT THE GATHERING OF SOUTHEAST WI, INC:** The Gathering, founded in 1982, serves 90,000 free meals annually to Milwaukee's hungry and homeless through four Milwaukee locations. (See below for specific site information.) All meals are cooked on-site; 98% of direct service is done by volunteers; over 150 groups from corporations, faith communities, schools and service clubs participate. For more information consult the website at [www.thegatheringwis.org](http://www.thegatheringwis.org).

**THE GATHERING AT ST. JAMES (SOON TO BE STATE STREET):** The Gathering's downtown meal program serves breakfast Monday through Friday mornings and a Saturday lunch. Additional guest services including mental health, medical, legal and housing assistance, supply distributions and "dinner-to-go" bags following Saturday lunch, are offered in collaboration with community-based organizations.

**THE GATHERING AT CHRISTIAN FAITH:** Monday/Wednesday dinners and Saturday lunch are offered on Milwaukee's near South side at Christian Faith Fellowship East, 724 S. Layton Blvd. Legal assistance and "dinner-to-go" bags are offered on site.

**THE GATHERING AT OUR NEXT GENERATION:** Saturday lunch is offered at ONG Neighborhood Center, 35<sup>th</sup> & Lisbon, on Milwaukee's near north side. Food support is also provided to ONG's tutoring/mentoring program.

**THE GATHERING AT MT. CARMEL:** The Gathering's fourth lunch site is a collaborative effort with Mt. Carmel Lutheran on 84<sup>th</sup> & Center. Lunch is offered on the second and fourth Saturdays of the month.

**THE GATHERING'S FRESH PRODUCE PRESERVATION PROJECT:** During the growing season Gathering volunteers freeze and can excess donated produce for use in our winter meals. This project reduces waste and provides a punch of nutrition and taste in winter meals.

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