

Loaves & Fishes Issue 37 Mailing

On December 20, we processed the bulk mailing of the third issue of *Loaves & Fishes* for 2018. Around 20 volunteers from local churches helped with the mailing project. 117,000 copies were mailed out to bulk distributors, and about 2,500 to single subscribers. The cost of printing and mailing was about 24¢ per copy. We also ordered 10,000 extra copies for inventory, which we keep on hand to send out immediately to new subscribers.

The theme of our next issue is *goodness*, a fruit of the Spirit listed in Galatians 5. According to *Vine's Expository Dictionary of NT Words*, goodness is not simply a quality, but indicates goodness in action.

It is expressed in righteous deeds, showing itself in grace, tenderness, and compassion. Please pray that we can inspire our readers to embrace and practice the goodness of Jesus.

In this newsletter we've included a financial statement for 2018, and we are again grateful that God has provided the resources for this ministry through your generosity. The cost of printing the next issue is projected to be around \$21,000, and postage about \$9,500. At this time we have \$8,000 on hand toward the next issue. We hope to be able to order the printing of issue 39 by mid-April.

—Mike Fisher, *board member*



Volunteers from local churches helped mail issue 37



2018 Financial Report

Bank Balance Dec. 31, 2017.....\$11,329

Income

Contributions..... \$110,675

Interest and Other Income..... \$524

Total Income\$111,199

Expenses

Loaves and Fishes Printing\$38,885

Loaves and Fishes Postage\$33,685

Wages.....\$21,499

Utilities and Rent\$9,035

Office and Other Expenses.....\$6,899

Newsletters and Promotions.....\$6,102

Total Expenses\$116,105

December 31, 2018 Balances

Credit Card..... \$1,128

Bank Balance\$7,551

Building Fund\$50,000

(Interest on loaning the building fund reduced our rent by \$208 per month)

Prepared by Seth Stoltzfus, Treasurer for
Burning Bush Mennonite and Lighthouse
Publishing



“Loaves and Oreos” in 2,900 Gift Bags for Texas Prisoners!

For the last two years, Beltway Park Church in Abilene, Texas has used *Loaves & Fishes* in a special Christmas giving project for local prison inmates:

“Each year we provide Christmas bags to about 2,900 of our local brothers in white. In the bags, we put items such as toothpaste, soap, shampoo, Oreo cookies, ramen noodles, and some encouraging literature. Last year, we discovered your magazine, specifically written for those who are in prison. The magazine was a huge hit last year, so we decided to see if we could make it happen again this year. In past years, we have given away books or small devotionals, but *Loaves & Fishes* provides a variety of articles written with the folks inside in mind.

“The Christmas bags are hand-delivered to the prisoners by a group of volunteers. We do this every year, and it has been a huge blessing to our brothers in white as well as those who are involved. A variety of local churches and businesses help support this event.”

Melissa,
Beltway Park Church



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