



PROCLAIM & EMBODY THE LOVE OF JESUS CHRIST IN THE CITY & IN THE WORLD







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Jesus Sends out the Seventy-Two

After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them two by two ahead of him to every town and place where he was about to go. He told them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field. Go! I am sending you out like lambs among wolves. Do not take a purse or bag or sandals; and do not greet anyone on the road.

"When you enter a house, first say, 'Peace to this house.' If someone who promotes peace is there, your peace will rest on them; if not, it will return to you. Stay there, eating and drinking whatever they give you, for the worker deserves his wages. Do not move around from house to house.

"When you enter a town and are welcomed, eat what is offered to you. Heal the sick who are there and tell them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.'

(Luke 10:1-9 NIV)





THREE STEPS TO EASTBROOK MISSIONS:



Doorway

Providing food to the hungry, medical care to the sick, welcome to the stranger, or truth to the lost, is not an end to itself, but a doorway into something greater: relationship.



Relationship

By walking in mutual relationship with those whom we reach out to, we hear their stories, learn of their hurts and strengths, begin to see the image of God in them, and can observe where God is at work. In the context of relationship, we proclaim and embody the love of Jesus Christ.



Transformation

Over time, we learn how we can pray for others. We seek God's transforming power in their lives to redeem, restore, and reconcile people to Himself so that every person can experience wholeness in relationship to God and others.





Works of Service

So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming. Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ. From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

(Ephesians 4:11-16 NIV)





FINDING YOUR PLACE

You are needed, and you are called!

It can be easy at a church like Eastbrook to see so much going on, with so many staff and leaders, and wonder where your place to serve is and how you can contribute. But don't let that impression fool you into staying on the sidelines.

Eastbrook's Mission Department staff exist to encourage, equip, and engage you in reaching out to our city and world.

The first way we do this is supporting Focus Ministries where you can personally serve. These are areas where God has called Eastbrook to be present in our city throughout our history and where we have gifted members leading and serving in today.

These Focus Ministries are:

- The Food Pantry at Eastbrook
- The Bread of Healing Clinic at Eastbrook
- The International Community Center
- Welcoming International Students

But our church doesn't stop there. God has called and mobilized our members to reach out in so many other incredible ways in our city. While these opportunities are not listed in this guide, if you would like to serve alongside these members in another area of need in our community, connect with missions department staff who can help you get connected to fellow members serving in that area.

For more information, contact Dan Ryan at dryan@eastbrook.org.





You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.

(Acts 1:8)





LOCAL OUTREACH SERVE OPPORTUNITIES





*If you spend yourselves in behalf of the hungry
and satisfy the needs of the oppressed,
then your light will rise in the darkness,
and your night will become like the noonday.
The Lord will guide you always;
he will satisfy your needs in a sun-scorched land
and will strengthen your frame.
You will be like a well-watered garden,
like a spring whose waters never fail.
Your people will rebuild the ancient ruins
and will raise up the age-old foundations;
you will be called Repairer of Broken Walls,
Restorer of Streets with Dwellings.*

(Isaiah 58:10-12 NIV)









When our church family moved to our Green Bay Ave. location, we had more space than we had ministries. This sparked a series of intersections between opportunities for ministry and the giftedness of our members. Our Food Pantry is one of those intersections.

It initially started in the basement of our church office building, and was fueled through the food donations of our members. For decades it has been faithfully led and operated by a dedicated team of volunteers.

When the opportunity came to expand, we partnered with the Hunger Task Force to provide large quantities of food for our neighborhood. This led to an expansion of serving two days per week and eventually moving the pantry to the current space it is in.

When the COVID-19 pandemic hit our community, our food pantry team met the challenge to remain open and even expanded our service to care for our community.

Building on this strong foundation, we now look to grow the food pantry's opportunities to foster transformation in our neighborhood. This will involve a shift towards a model that provides more time to spend with our neighbors throughout their visit, and opportunities to serve them beyond our pantry hours. We will be building more and deeper friendships with these neighbors, and make ourselves available for how God moves!





Tom Benson



I have been serving at Eastbrook's Food Pantry approximately 15 years. My involvement started by visiting the Food

Pantry's table at Eastbrook's ministry fair and talking to Chris Herlinger. I was looking for a serving opportunity in which the whole family, including four children living at home, could serve the Milwaukee community in some way. I felt it would show our children that not everyone has the

opportunity to drive to a grocery store, fill up their cart and use cash or credit to pay for everything in the cart; i.e. there are real people from all walks of life around us with the most basic needs. It would also show our children that everyone can do something to help others.



Fifteen years later, our children have grown up and moved out and I am the only one from the family still regularly involved with the food pantry. But the pantry workers are like a family, even though I am typically there one day per month. Before the pantry opens, we set up, share concerns and prayer, and continue to chat throughout the hours as we serve clients. The clientele we serve is diverse and so is the pantry team.

Typically, I am loading the food bags and boxes into the customers' cars as they drive through. That has been the mode of operation from the COVID pandemic's beginning. Prior to that, clients would park, come into the pantry building and could hand select from variable items, such as bakery, dairy and produce items. However, not all clients arrive in a car. We also help those needing it and answer specific food requests. Other tasks include packaging the food bags and boxes from bulk, shelving the packages, moving skids and general organization, break down and clean-up.





The benefits to me are many. I mentioned earlier that the clients are diverse and they have also arrived at our pantry from so many different paths, figuratively speaking. Some are regular customers and other have temporary needs. We get to know many of these clients, which is a real connection to part of the community that we may not otherwise meet. That connection breaks down assumptions and stereotypes. It also is an opportunity to invite clients to join us at Eastbrook, but at a minimum, to demonstrate God's unconditional love for all.

There are many opportunities for anyone considering joining us that include those above plus registration/check-in of clients as well as ministry and encouragement. We need re-supply of bulk inventory, packing and harvesting Eastbrook's produce garden. We serve customers on Saturday morning and Monday evenings. Everyone can contribute and is welcome to join our pantry family.

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It Comes Full Circle



The beauty of Christian community and outreach is that our measure of impact or effectiveness is unique from the world's. While it is wonderful to meet the needs of our neighbors, that isn't our end goal.

Our goal is to see transformation in their lives take root through the Holy Spirit, and to see them become part of our community of faith, and from there join us in the work of loving and caring for our neighbors. It feels upside down from how we usually view things. It is like a hospital where the patients are healed and then become fellow doctors to care for and heal others.

To do this, we must move beyond a transactional view of how we meet the needs of our neighbors. A view that says we have resources, and they don't. Where we provide, and they receive. Beyond that old paradigm lies one that involves mutual, authentic, caring relationships. Where we allow those whom we serve to not only join us in serving others, but also allow them to serve us.

Underneath the surface of a team busily and faithfully providing food to dozens of families each week, you will see a culture of mutual community at the Eastbrook Food Pantry.

There are so many stories over the years of how we have seen men and women be transformed, and where many of them have since joined our team to help serve others. And when you come and join our team, you won't be able to tell the difference. Because our team isn't built on who gives and who receives, but is built on the truth that we are brothers and sisters in Christ serving one another in love.





ROLE: SATURDAY MORNING TEAM MEMBER

Schedule: Saturdays, 8:30-11:30 am

Commitment: 1-2 times per month, but can be weekly if desired

Purpose: It's simply a way to know and serve our community. It is also an active, fun way to make friends in the Eastbrook community. The goal is to help others that have unmet food needs as well as offer friendship and encouragement, but you can also get some exercise as well!

Responsibilities: Help with all aspects of the Saturday Food Pantry, including set up, preparing food supplies, greeting visitors, helping visitors select and receive food, take groceries to visitor's vehicles, and build relationships.

How you'll be able to build relationships with other members and/or the community: Relationships with other Eastbrook members and the community are built naturally from interactions over time. As more hours worked or longer one serves, the more broadly and quickly this will happen.

Qualifications: A wide range of abilities can assist the pantry. The most important qualification is a desire to help in some way.

Age Requirement: Adults as well as Middle & High schoolers at their parents' discretion.

Training & Support: The pantry leaders will ensure you know what to do and how to do it. Everyone else working can provide guidance, as well. All workers lend a hand to others, as needed, so it's a team-oriented environment. Just watching and asking questions is an option for getting oriented, initially, but Eastbrook provides staff on-site to help you get started and stay engaged.

→ To get started, contact Brian Dressner at bdressner@eastbrook.org





Brandon Barlament



I started serving at the Food Pantry at Eastbrook in 2021. I saw a serving opportunity in the monthly Serve Email for help at the Food Pantry on Monday nights, and I felt this opportunity calling me. I reached out to the Eastbrook team and they got me set up to serve at the Food Pantry.

I am a member of the Monday Night team, and I serve about once a month. My work includes sorting through the donated items that we receive on Sundays from a local grocery store. I then help pack boxes and bags to hand out. When folks arrive, I help deliver food to each customer's vehicle.

During my time serving at the Food Pantry, God has shown me the importance of taking other peoples' thoughts and needs into consideration and placing them above my own.

Overall, this is a great way to get involved in ministry opportunities at Eastbrook. I enjoy knowing that the time I spend here is useful in helping our neighbors get the food they need for their families.





ROLE: MONDAY NIGHT TEAM MEMBER

Schedule: Mondays, 6-8:30 pm

Commitment: 1-2 times per month

Purpose: To ensure the pantry on Monday night runs smoothly and our visitors are provided food with love and respect.

Responsibilities: To help where it is needed which can include organizing food supplies behind the scenes, preparing bags and boxes for distribution, greeting, serving our visitors, and helping take food to vehicles.

How you'll be able to build relationships with other members and/or the community: Working at the pantry gives you opportunity to hang out with and work alongside other Eastbrook members, and will give you the opportunity to connect with our neighbors who are experiencing food emergency.

Qualifications: A desire to serve, we help you with the rest!

Age Requirement: Adults as well as Middle & High schoolers at their parents' discretion.

Training & Support: Due to the smaller number of visitors on Monday Nights, the team is smaller than Saturdays. You work directly alongside the team lead and Eastbrook staff to provide food the community. As a result, training and support happens in real time as we serve shoulder-to-shoulder.

→ To get started, contact Brian Dressner at bdressner@eastbrook.org





Barbara Butler



I've been serving for about 8 years at this point. I first got involved when Pastor Matt

mentioned it at a Sunday Service and shared the need for team members.

My role in the ministry of the food pantry is to build relationships with other people by loving, trusting, believing, and obeying God Almighty in Jesus' name. I greet people with love and a smile as they arrive to the food pantry. I take time to listen to

each person and discern which direction to go with each person. Many times, the people ask for and desire prayer. Other times we just talk of the goodness of God. In those instances, I share God's love for us all, and the truth of the Gospel.

We also have resources available to the visitors such as Bibles, devotionals, and other literature. People are welcome to take what they want.

Through my time serving at the food pantry, God has shown me the joy, laughter, the kindness, and the hurt of some of the people we serve. God has shown me in this serving that He is helping the people with the food they are receiving in His love. And for me, God's continuous blessing and strength allows me to know that I can do this serving in Jesus' name. Oh yes! It is rough at times coming with no car myself, but God always makes a way. He knows how I love doing this.

If you're considering serving in this role, I would encourage you to know that in this serving, it really is a work of the Holy Spirit who is working. He guides us, and will guide you, as you care for people.





ROLE: CARE TEAM MEMBER

Schedule: Saturdays, 9-11:30 am

Commitment: Weekly to Monthly

Purpose: To offer God's love to people in the community through a ministry of presence that involves listening, prayer, and care for everyone who comes to the food pantry.

Responsibilities: Greeting visitors, asking them and listening to them about their needs, building relationships, offering to pray for visitors and fellow team members, offering additional resources such as Bibles and devotionals, and when God opens the door to share the hope of the Gospel.

How you'll be able to build relationships with other members and/or the community: Through directly asking them about their lives and needs, and what they need prayer for.

Qualifications: A follower of Christ who is mature in their faith. One who can discern when to proclaim and when to embody the love of Jesus Christ to those whom we serve and those whom we serve alongside.

Age Requirement: 18+ years old.

Training & Support: You will work alongside Eastbrook staff who responsibility is to provide the pastoral and spiritual care of all who serve and visit the food pantry. Additional training from the Hunger Task Force is required, including Civil Rights training. You will then start by shadowing fellow team members and then serve as a member of the care team.

→ To get started, contact Brian Dressner at bdressner@eastbrook.org





Sheila Lawton



I started working at the Food Pantry shortly after joining Eastbrook Church in about 2007, so it has been about

15 years! When I started attending Eastbrook, I had taken a new member class. The class stressed the importance of getting connected by joining a small group and serving in a ministry. As I am somewhat of a foodie, and have volunteered at the Hunger Task Force farm and food drives, the Food Pantry ministry sounded like a good fit.



My main role at the Food Pantry is to register clients as they come in, according to Hunger Task Force guidelines. This involves greeting people and obtaining information about their family size, ages, and address. The family size determines the amount of food provided. This information is then passed on to other team members that help clients receive food.

Through the years, I have developed many strong friendships with other volunteers. God has definitely shown me how much I have been blessed with these friends. I may not have known them if it weren't for my service. We pray for each other and get to know each other's burdens and joys.

Working at the Food Pantry is a great way to get involved in a ministry without having to have special training or making a large time commitment. Some volunteers come every week (Saturday morning or Monday evening) and some come once a month. This a great way to serve God and people in the community.

We try very hard to make people who come to the Pantry feel cared for. Not only are they given physical food, they are offered spiritual food through prayer and care. Sometimes coming to the Food Pantry is an event. Many people come with neighbors and other family members. A family that came in today had two small girls in the back seat. After registering them, one of the girls was very excited and wanted to talk with another one of the volunteers. We all laughed because she remembered that was the lady that handed out the treats. It was a nice opportunity for the little girl and the volunteer to feel special.





ROLE: FOOD PANTRY INTAKE

Schedule: Saturdays, 9-11:30 am

Mondays, 6-8:30 pm

Commitment: Weekly to monthly

Purpose: To welcome visitors to the pantry, and ensure the food pantry can keep accurate, honest records of who visits and receives food. This information is required by the Hunger Task Force who provides us much of the food we distribute.

Responsibilities: To greet visitors to the pantry, ask to see their ID(s), ask them further questions about their family and needs, and then record that information on the provided intake paperwork or in the online database.

How you'll be able to build relationships with other members and/or the community: Through spending time talking with the visitors to the food pantry, as well as hanging out with other volunteers at the pantry. By warmly greeting people, and asking for the required information in a way that respects their dignity, members of this team set the tone for our visitors and create an environment that makes more relational connections possible throughout the visitors' experience.

Qualifications: Being comfortable talking cheerfully with people, asking for personal information, and accurately record it as needed.

Age Requirement: 18+

Training & Support: Team leads and Eastbrook staff are on-site to help train and support you as you serve. We provide specific intake procedure training to ensure you are comfortable and equipped to gather and record all necessary intake information.

→ **To get started, contact Brian Dressner at bdressner@eastbrook.org**





Eric Peterson



I am Eric (Ric) Peterson and I have been serving with the Food Pantry at Eastbrook Church for about three

years. I got involved shortly before I retired when I saw a posting by the church asking for volunteers.

The main purpose of this ministry is to provide healthy food to those in need in the local community. I serve in three capacities. The first is with the pickup crew that brings food from Feeding America to the pantry each Friday morning and puts it into storage prior to distribution. The second is with distribution to the recipients one Monday a month. (There are opportunities to serve on any Monday or Saturday.) The third is working in the church garden that supplies fresh vegetables to the pantry.

I have learned that serving with the pantry is rewarding because I see first-hand its positive impact on the recipients and how the church is reaching out to our local community. The recipients show so much appreciation for this service as the church provides both food and comfort. And all the volunteers enjoy what they do, serving together.

There are numerous different opportunities for anyone of any age to participate in the Food Pantry on either weekdays, evenings or weekends. There are no super skills needed to help, just some caring hands and heart to be part of this team with whatever time you can offer.

I would like people to know that this ministry is deeply needed and that Eastbrook has a vital impact in the community. And that serving is so rewarding and enjoyable working with the rest of the team.





ROLE: FRIDAY MORNING FEEDING AMERICA PICKUP TEAM

Schedule: Fridays, 8-10:30 am

Commitment: Usually weekly, but can be less frequent

Purpose: To serve as a team to transport purchased food from the Feeding America warehouse (on Fond Du Lac Ave) to the food pantry, where it is sorted and packed away.

Responsibilities: To drive to Feeding America, load the pallets of food into cars, SUVs, pickup trucks, and transport it to the food pantry. We also unload the food, and pack the food as necessary, sorting it between freezers, refrigerators, and non-refrigerated areas.

How you'll be able to build relationships with other members and/or the community: You will get to spend time with the other members of the Friday Morning Crew. Over time, we have created quite the crew and enjoy serving together!

Qualifications: Able to lift and move boxes of food. A car and driver's license is preferred, but you can ride with others if needed.

Age Requirement: 18+ years old

Training & Support: Team leads or Eastbrook staff are present every Friday and provide direction as they serve with you.

→ **To get started, contact Brian Dressner at bdressner@eastbrook.org**





Steve Kiskunas



I've been serving in the Food Pantry garden since April 2021. A friend had reached out and

told me that help was needed in the garden.

My role is now overall management of the vegetable garden at Eastbrook Church, located behind Holy Grounds on the north end of the church campus. My role includes selecting type and varieties of vegetables and flowers to grow in

the garden, starting transplants to support the growing plan, coordinate with volunteers on garden watering, weeding, pruning and harvesting for the food pantry.

During my time in this role, I have learned that there is great joy in seeing the small plants grow to produce wonderful fruit. Likewise, be patient, church members do want to help, and we just need to reach them and personally invite them to join us. I've also seen my role grow from being simply caring for the garden to also coordinating the team of other volunteers.

It is wonderful that we can provide fresh produce to the food pantry visitors through this garden, and I am also thankful for the many Eastbrook members who also provide produce from their own gardens and farms.





ROLE: FOOD PANTRY GARDEN TEAM MEMBER

Schedule: Can be flexible, but generally Saturdays 7-10 am and Mondays 6-8 pm

Commitment: Seasonal during the growing season during which it can be as frequently as every week.

Purpose: To provide healthy fresh produce to members of the community who may not be able to purchase locally grown food. For Eastbrook members, it provides the opportunity to meet church members who enjoy working in the garden and spend time with them as we support an important outreach ministry at the church.

Responsibilities: Plant, cultivate, and harvest fresh, chemical free vegetables for distribution to the local community at the food pantry. This also includes helping water and weed the garden throughout the growing season.

How you'll be able to build relationships with other members and/or the community: Fellowships formed with fellow church members while working together in the garden.

Qualifications: Basic level of garden experience and willingness to learn more, Master Garden qualification a plus for anyone interested in being a team lead, but not required.

Age Requirement: 18+ years old if serving alone, families can serve together.

Training & Support: The garden team lead manages both the garden plan and coordinates fellow volunteers. Eastbrook provides the supplies needed to serve in the garden.

→ To get started, contact Brian Dressner at bdressner@eastbrook.org





"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me."

(Matthew 25:35-36 NIV)









BREAD OF HEALING CLINIC

AT EASTBROOK CHURCH

Before Eastbrook Church moved to our current location, many of our members who work in the medical field joined a medical ministry that was starting at nearby Cross Lutheran Church. When we moved to our current location, a core team was established and a clinic site was opened on our church campus.

The Bread of Healing Clinic's mission is to provide free healthcare to those who have financial barriers which prevents them from seeking medical care, particularly for chronic illnesses requiring ongoing medication.

But the clinic is meant for far more; it is a crossroads where patients, providers and volunteers can share each other's burdens and see transformation take root both physically and spiritually, where they can help one another heal and find wholeness.

In addition, it is an environment where Eastbrook members who work in the medical field can come and deepen their understanding and experience in providing holistic care to their patients, including prayer and spiritual encouragement.

It takes a team of dedicated people to bring hospitality, medical care, and spiritual care to our neighbors who come through our door at the Eastbrook Bread of Healing site.





Scott & Sharon Karstenson



I (Scott) have been serving for about twenty years at the Bread of Healing Clinic, and Sharon has served since 2004 where she started at the Cross Lutheran location of the clinic.

We became aware of the clinic's work through fellow believers and Eastbrookers who were serving there and through the medical missions fellowship at Eastbrook at the time.



We have both been active in many roles. I (Sharon) have been able to use my nursing skills with patients, but also helped greet patients. I now act as an advocate, recruiter, encourager, come alongside to nurture those interested in serving & we co-coordinate the monthly prayer meeting. Scott has served in his capacity as a Certified Respiratory Therapist as well as a board officer, and helped with logistics, fundraising, and pastoral care. Essentially, we show up and do whatever seems to be needed!

Serving in all these ways has shown us that the opportunity to show and share Jesus' love and care with patients and staff as we develop close relationships is a great blessing and an invaluable gift of God.

Regardless of whatever role one is considering; know you are being invited into others' lives during critical and difficult times and will be able to show and speak God's Love, to care and to share Truth while demonstrating medical and clinical excellence is a rare opportunity.

From hands-on-care to praying with people, BOH has been a place where many come and are blessed physically as well as spiritually. Additionally, it was through BOH that we felt encouraged to coordinate a clinic overseas for street children and needy adults.

What is especially wonderful at the Eastbrook site, there is a place for you get to come to be a light and blessing—whether as a medical provider, or helping with registration, prayer and a variety of opportunities.





ROLE: HOSPITALITY TEAM

Schedule: Mondays, 2:45-7 pm

3rd Saturdays, 9 am-12 pm (noon)

Commitment: Monthly

Purpose: To provide a warm, welcoming environment to everyone who comes to the clinic, opening the door to long-term relationships as well as quality care.

Responsibilities: Setup and maintain the church lobby to be a welcoming and restful area for the patients. Provide refreshments for patients and volunteers. Greet patients as they enter and accompany them to and from the exam rooms.

How you'll be able to build relationships with other members and/or the community: Over time as you serve, you will get to know patients and fellow volunteers. Through the small moments of hospitality in the lobby, you will also set the relational tone that can be carried forward by the medical providers as they meet one-on-one with patients.

Qualifications: Comfortable greeting and taking the initiative to break the ice with new people.

Age Requirements: Adults, Children are welcome if they serve with their parents.

Training & Support Provided: On-site orientation, volunteer huddle prior to opening the clinic, and ongoing support of Eastbrook and Bread of Healing staff who are on-site.

→ To get started, contact Okumu at ytokumu@eastbrook.org.





Jacqueline Keffen

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Volunteering at the Bread of Healing Clinic has been a special place in my heart! I am trying to walk in our Lord's footsteps. He attended to the health needs of those who were less fortunate. It is a discipline for me to be loyal to.

The people I work with are tremendous role models to follow. So, loving, caring and devoted they are. I have never worked in a medical clinic in my 51 years of nursing. A total delight and refreshing change. It is a challenge, but a healthy challenge.

This opportunity to work at the Bread of Healing is a great spiritual and stimulating experience.

”





ROLE: MEDICAL PROVIDER

Schedule: Mondays, 2:45-7 pm

3rd Saturdays, 9 am-12 pm (noon)

Commitment: Monthly

Purpose: To provide quality medical care to the patients we serve at the clinic, many of whom have chronic illnesses.

Responsibilities: Serve on a multi-disciplinary team that is focused on meeting the medical needs of the clinic patients. If a licensed medical provider, it includes one-on-one exams and/or follow-up with patients.

How you'll be able to build relationships with other members and/or the community: Medical providers have an opportunity to meet people who are struggling both medically, financially, and in other ways. In this place of hurt and brokenness, you can come alongside each patient and care for them holistically. Medical providers are encouraged to incorporate spiritual care, encouragement, and prayer to their medical ministry at Bread of Healing.

Qualifications: Be a licensed medical provider in professions such as Physician, Physician Assistant, Nurse Practitioner, Physical and Occupational Therapist, Dentist, Dental Hygienist, Nurse, Pharmacist, Medical Assistant, as well as Social Work.

Age Requirements: Adult

Training & Support Provided: On-site orientation, volunteer huddle prior to opening the clinic, and ongoing support of Eastbrook and Bread of Healing staff who are on-site. Clinical support provided by the Nurse Clinical Coordinator to ensure a high quality of medical care.

→ To get started, contact Okumu at ytokumu@eastbrook.org.





Part of a Bigger Story



The Bread of Healing Clinic at Eastbrook Church provides medical care to our neighbors who are not able to otherwise afford it. Many times this includes caring for international students, refugees, field workers, and other visitors from overseas.

So many people have been blessed by the clinic's ministry throughout the years.

A recent story shows how the work of the clinic can play a key part in the bigger story of how God is moving in people's lives.

One of our church members has been faithfully building relationships with their neighbors since they moved into their community. Some relationships came naturally, and others took more time or didn't happen at all—as was the case with one of their next-door neighbors. But that all changed one day.

This particular neighbor had family visiting from overseas. During the visit, a family member began having pretty significant health issues. Not knowing how to get affordable care, the neighbor mentioned it to our member. The member in turn let them know about the Bread of Healing Clinic and helped them get connected to schedule an appointment. The clinic was able to provide the care necessary and see the family member's health stabilize.

Later that week, the neighbor reached out to our member. They shared that not only was the medical need met, but that the clinic team provided them care they have never experienced. They said that the team took time to listen, took interest in their personal story, prayed with them, and provided a level of holistic care that left them feeling blessed and loved.

This one visit has opened the door to a larger story, a deeper relationship, and have seen people drawn closer to God through His work in their lives.

What may feel like one visit to our team, can be transformational in the lives of those who enter our doors.





ROLE: SPIRITUAL CARE TEAM

Schedule: Mondays, 2:45-7 pm

3rd Saturdays, 9 am-12 pm (noon)

Commitment: Monthly

Purpose: To provide holistic care to every patient, volunteer, and staff member at the Bread of Healing clinic.

Responsibilities: Build and foster relationships with people during clinic hours and during possible off-site visits with a focus on ministry of presence and prayer that begins by listening and caring for each person where they are at.

How you'll be able to build relationships with other members and/or the community: Members of this team are present during clinic hours where they can interact with patients as they wait for their appointments. Medical providers will also offer this team's care to patients as appropriate during exams. Members of this team will also be available after medical appointments on an on-call basis as needed.

Qualifications: A mature Christian who is comfortable talking and praying with people, with a particular gift of discernment and encouragement to meet people where they are at and speak grace and hope into their lives.

Age Requirements: Adults only.

Training & Support Provided: On-site orientation, volunteer huddle prior to opening the clinic, chaplaincy-based trainings offered at Eastbrook or other local churches, and ongoing support of Eastbrook and Bread of Healing staff who are on-site.

→ To get started, contact Okumu at ytokumu@eastbrook.org.



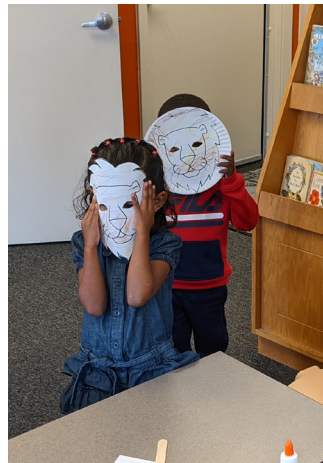


*Keep on loving one another as brothers and sisters.
Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for
by so doing some people have shown hospitality to
angels without knowing it.*

(Hebrews 13:1-2 NIV)









When refugees began arriving on the South Side of Milwaukee, Eastbrook staff and leaders gathered to brainstorm how best to welcome these newly arrived foreigners. What emerged was the need for every refugee to take English classes, and so a language center was born. Over the years, as these refugees settled into our community, their needs broadened, and in 2020 we expanded the center to be a place to find community in addition to language training.

Located on the South Side of Milwaukee, our International Community Center (ICC) provides a safe learning space for refugees coming into Milwaukee. We love and welcome refugees and internationals in a variety of ways, from teaching English, child care, visiting homes, and helping kids with homework. The center is open Monday-Friday, with lessons for those with all levels of English functional language skills and conversation.

The center is designed to be a first step for anyone who is looking to build relationships with and care for refugees. It is a gateway into the lives of these foreigners, and we provide support for Eastbrook members as they take each further step into deeper and more lasting relationships.

Our vision at Eastbrook is to see refugee families flourish in America in part by having a caring, supportive relationship with at least one Christian family who has opened their lives to them.





Joe Kobriger



My name is Joe Kobriger and I attend Grace Church in Racine and I've been serving at the International Com-

munity Center for just over 2 years. I first got involved when the Dressners spoke at a Perspectives class that my wife and I attended at Meadowbrook Church in 2020.

I decided to volunteer teaching English or citizenship for one class slot per week, but now pick up more time slots when there is a shortage and my time allows. Last year I was introduced to a few Rohingya families who asked for in home help. I am blessed to go to their homes a few times per week to teach them English and citizenship or help them navigate life with car insurance, doctors appointments and even legal issues. It is a blessing to know that they trust me with such important life decisions. Most whom I've met are very hospitable and joyful and my wife and I have shared many meals in their homes. I now consider some of them great friends.

We've had many conversations about the Quran and the teachings of Jesus and I've learned that when I genuinely want to understand, most are eager to tell me about their faith as well as hear about mine as a follower of Jesus. I've also heard many stories of tremendous difficulties and persecution that Muslims face in other countries because of their religion which I didn't realize before.

This experience has been an incredible blessing to me and God has shown me that when I simply seek to love and serve people with the joy of the Lord, He opens doors for conversation and gives me all I need to do the work He's set before me. I've also learned that a Muslim will welcome prayer and even ask for it knowing that I am a follower of Jesus. A few weeks ago I prayed in the name of Jesus over my Rohingya friend in a hospital parking lot before his appointment. He thanked me and when entering the elevator he said that he knows he doesn't take his prayer serious enough and needs to pray more. I continue to pray for healing on him and it is my ultimate prayer that my Rohingya friend seeks the Lord's will for his life and that they would become all that God intended them to be.





ROLE: ICC ENGLISH AND/OR CITIZENSHIP TEACHER

Schedule: Weekdays, 9-11 am or 11:30 am-1:30 pm

Commitment: One (or more) 2-hour class per week

Purpose: To bless refugees with friends who help them learn English as they make Milwaukee their new home. For our members to experience God's joy through befriending and helping refugees.

Responsibilities: Teach English (or citizenship) from materials provided to a class of ten or fewer adults. Engage students in English conversation during class and during breaks. Record attendance and course material completed to help track student progress.

How you'll be able to build relationships with other members and/or the community: You will work together with other fun and interesting volunteers. You will meet refugees, have opportunity to form friendships that continue outside the center, and gain valuable cross-cultural experience.

Qualifications: Speak & read English well (but not necessary to have English as mother tongue), patient, and enjoy seeing students make progress. ESL certificate is NOT required.

Age Requirement: 18+ years old preferred, but mature high school juniors and seniors are also welcome.

Training & Support: Eastbrook staff and team leads are on-site while you serve together. We provide Initial orientation and opportunity to observe other classes prior to starting. Curriculum materials are provided for you. Once teaching, we provide ongoing input & discussion as well as a weekly prayer time for volunteers.

→ To get started, contact Jim Dressner at jim@iccmke.org





Sue Gilliland



I've served in the ICC Kids Room for about 1 year. Previously I taught adults English at the ICC.

When the Kids Room was proposed, I got excited about how this could help more parents learn English and help young kids get prepared for preschool or kindergarten.

I volunteer in the Kids Room 1-2 mornings each week (along with a partner), playing with the kids and guiding them through various fun activities. As a coordinator, I also train volunteers, make up the schedule, and keep track of supplies.

I marvel at God's handiwork in children. These refugee kids have incredible curiosity and ability to learn new skills plus some English.

If you are considering joining our team, you should know that you are never alone in the Kids Room; you always work with a partner. Some volunteers bring their own preschool children along. And it's lots of fun! One volunteer says, "I love coming to help. There is always something that warms my heart."

One mom tells me that her little daughter is very excited about coming to her "school" and learning so many English words. Another mom and dad were struggling to write their son's name and birthdate on our form. I realized, "That's exactly why the Kids Room is here — to help parents like these!"





ROLE: ICC KIDS ROOM TEAM

Schedule: Weekdays, 9-11 am or 11:30 am-1:30 pm

Commitment: One 2-hour session per week (or more!)

Purpose: To bless refugee families with a safe, caring place for young children to play and learn while parents study English. For Eastbrook members to experience God's joy through loving service to young children and their parents.

Responsibilities: Prepare the room by getting out toys, materials, and snacks for the day. Greet parents. Interact with children through play and guided activities. After children leave, put away materials and tidy up room.

How you'll be able to build relationships with other members and/or the community: You'll get to know other members by volunteering together. You will meet refugee parents and are encouraged to form friendships that continue outside the center.

Qualifications: Previous experience with young children is helpful. Parenting experience counts!

Age & Other Requirements: Two volunteers are needed for each class session; at least one should be 18 years old or older. (If a parent wants to bring a capable middle schooler or high schooler along, they could qualify as the second volunteer.)

Training & Support: We provide an overview of the routines and materials, then partner you with an experienced volunteer. Questions and feedback are valued, and help is always available. We regularly check-in with our team to make sure you feel comfortable and equipped to serve!

→ **To get started, contact Jim Dressner at jim@iccmke.org**





Tanya Schachner

“

My name is Tanya Schachner and I started teaching English to adult refugees at the ICC four years ago during the day.

My husband and I then started to tutor student refugees at the ICC one night a week.

Over this time, we have developed a friendship with three students and their families. As we have spent time with them, helping with their homework, driving them to tutoring and home again, we have gotten to know them and their families. We have had them to our home for dinners, holiday celebrations and pizza and game nights. They love a good game of “Spoons” or “Uno”. We have taken them out for ice cream, July 4th fireworks at the lakefront and have gone shopping with them.

We have had the opportunity to answer their questions about the Bible, as well as ask them questions about Islam. Their families have invited us over for special family baby showers, celebration of Eid or just welcomed us for a visit.

They have grown to trust us and depend on us as we have spent time helping their children learn. It's given us a connection to these people and helped us to live out the love of Jesus in a very practical way.



”





ROLE: ICC EVENING TUTORS

Schedule: Tuesdays or Wednesdays from 6:30-8 pm during the school year

Commitment: One evening per week for the school year

Purpose: Bless refugee families by providing a safe and caring environment for their children to get help with their homework. For Eastbrook member to experience God's joy through helping refugee kids with homework.

Responsibilities: Help a few high school and junior high students with the homework that they bring. Help students keep on track and focused. For some volunteers, pick up students from home beforehand and drop off afterwards.

How you'll be able to build relationships with other members and/or the community: You will work together with other interesting volunteers from a variety of churches. You will meet refugee kids, have opportunity to form relationships with them and their families, and gain valuable cross-cultural experience.

Qualifications: Proficiency in English and other subjects as needed. Joy and patience for working with school aged kids. For those who drive kids, a driver's license, and insurance on your vehicle.

Age Requirement: Adult, and mature high school juniors and seniors are also welcome. A parent could volunteer to serve along with their mature middle or high school student.

Training & Support: Initial orientation and tutoring observation, then ongoing on-site support as you serve alongside other members and with the team leads.

→ To get started, contact Jim Dressner at jim@iccmke.org





Denise Graves



I became involved in the ICC after taking a Perspectives course and learning of unreached

people groups, and hearing there were actually such groups in the Milwaukee area. I started by teaching English classes on a weekly basis.

During a picnic for the families we serve through the ICC, I was invited by one of the students to come to their home to help with her children. She asked her children to call me

"Granny" and the title stuck. I started visiting their family weekly, and after a few weeks her husband relayed that one of the most difficult things about coming to this country was knowing that their children would be raised without their grandparents. He happily said that God had heard their prayer and had provided a "Granny" for their children!

I think one of the greatest things about this ministry is that most of us instinctively know how to be friends, and in my case: a "Granny." It requires little training as you interact with your "adopted" family as you would your own family.

My involvement has taught me to be more dependent on God, as I must depend on him for wisdom and love as I interact cross culturally. It has caused me to walk by faith and not by sight as "results" are not always apparent. It also has widened my prayer perspective and increased my time in prayer for these family's home countries and cultures.

I have found over time, being involved with an international family opens the door to building relationships and trust with not only my family, but their extended family, neighbors, and friends. Being a "Granny" has built a beautiful and natural bond into their community.

It all started with a desire to show God's love through befriending and loving other in the name of Jesus Christ, as God commanded, "But the stranger that dwells among you shall be as one born among you; you shall love them as yourself." (Leviticus 19:34)





ROLE: FRIENDSHIP WITH REFUGEES

Schedule: As your schedule allows

Commitment: Physical visit at least once a month; other communication as possible

Purpose: To bless refugees with friends who walk alongside through life, embodying God's love, leading them to thank God for bringing them such good friends. For our members to experience God's joy that a friendship with a refugee can bring.

Responsibilities: Be a good friend, "aunt," "uncle," or "grandparent" to a refugee family. This means making space in your life and schedule to include regular time with the refugee family, opening yourself to a mutual friendship.

How you'll be able to build relationships with other members and/or the community: We also provide fellowship opportunities with others involved in close relationships with refugees. Refugee families are great hosts and will be thrilled to open their home to you. But be mindful that real friendship takes real time.

Qualifications: Prayer for God's leading into a significant relationship with a refugee; desire to live out God's love for refugees in the context of friendship.

Age Requirement: 18+ years old or families who serve together.

Training & Support: First gain a connection with a refugee through an ICC activity, like teaching ESL or evening tutoring. Ongoing support through connecting with experienced members and ICC staff. Opportunities to discuss and pray with others with similar involvement.

→ To get started, contact Jim Dressner at jim@iccmke.org





*Praise the Lord.
Praise the Lord, my soul.*

*I will praise the Lord all my life;
I will sing praise to my God as long as I live.
Do not put your trust in princes,
in human beings, who cannot save.
When their spirit departs, they return to the ground;
on that very day their plans come to nothing.
Blessed are those whose help is the God of Jacob,
whose hope is in the Lord their God.*

*He is the Maker of heaven and earth,
the sea, and everything in them—
he remains faithful forever.
He upholds the cause of the oppressed
and gives food to the hungry.
The Lord sets prisoners free,
the Lord gives sight to the blind,
the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down,
the Lord loves the righteous.
The Lord watches over the foreigner
and sustains the fatherless and the widow,
but he frustrates the ways of the wicked.*

*The Lord reigns forever,
your God, O Zion, for all generations.*

Praise the Lord.

(Psalm 146 NIV)







Rob & Amy Stensberg



We are Rob and Amy and we have been involved with welcoming international students

in some way or another for over ten years.

There is a long history of Eastbrook families caring for international students, and I, Amy, first got involved in a monthly fellowship for wives of international students. This then led to Rob and me taking turns attending the weekly gatherings with international students that were happening on the Eastside. Sharing a meal and talking about life led to inviting these students into our family life. From there, it has opened the opportunity for wonderful friendships and conversations.

Currently, Rob and I host a weekly dinner for international students that has continued to be quite the large-group gathering. We clean and prepare the house and yard, make or help organize the meals, and invite students into our crazy life, alongside a wonderful group of faithful saints.

Through serving in this most recent capacity, God has shown me AGAIN that He is the Provider: for our daily physical needs and for our perennial spiritual needs. He has also shown me that, although an introvert and happy lone ranger, I need the Body of Christ. And God has shown me that although we are just a drop in the bucket when it comes to His will for our precious students, those drops can add up to the “well of water springing up into everlasting life” (John 4:14b).





INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

When you think of the journey of an international student, it is truly remarkable. They leave home, family and friends to pursue higher education in an institution with a different language and culture from their own. They arrive in our community usually not knowing anyone, and many times not knowing the language fully. They are foreigners among us, brought to us not out of their need but rather their pursuit for furthering their education and their future.

Throughout our history, Eastbrook members have opened their homes, sometimes on a weekly basis, to host dinners and gatherings for international students. We share meals, play games, help meet basic needs like furniture, and build lasting relationships to demonstrate the love of God to them in their lives. Many of these students find a spiritual home at Eastbrook Church during their stay here in Milwaukee. It is a beautiful image of loving and welcoming the stranger.

Through these relationships, we do see transformation in the students we meet, but many times we are the ones that are transformed. As global crises or events unfold we many times find ourselves at a dinner table with people directly impacted by the events. We share our perspectives with one another, hear each other's stories, and find our heart and understanding deepen for these complex issues. These moments have inspired many of our members to take the step towards serving overseas. Many of our field workers can trace their path that led them to their work through these shared meals with international students.

There are two ways you can support our members caring for international students:

Tour of Milwaukee: Every September we provide a personalized tour and shared meal with international students to welcome them to Milwaukee.

Holiday Meals: For Thanksgiving, Christmas, and other holidays, we connect Eastbrook members with international students who would like to celebrate the holiday with an American family.

→ For more information contact Dan Ryan at dryan@eastbrook.org





Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

(Matthew 28:16-20)





INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH SERVE OPPORTUNITIES





Martha Haile



I have been involved in Eastbrook missions since the early 80s. I was part of our team that served in the Horn of Africa to help rebuild a hospital at that time. I also served overseas in Kenya after that. During that time, I learned the importance of the prayer and care a sending church can provide while living and serving overseas in a hard place. Overseas, you have to learn a different way to live, and the support can feel distant.



After I returned to Milwaukee, we stayed involved in missions. We were a part of mobilizing and sending a team to go back to the Horn of Africa. Taking what I learned as a worker myself, we committed to praying and caring for this team. A small group of us started meeting weekly to connect and pray with our field workers on this team.

Without prayer, I don't know how you make it. It's foundational. It provides support in so many ways. It opens doors for God to work, people to grow, and shows dependence on God in the work we were doing. The battle is a spiritual battle in so many ways, and our answer is to pray and seek God.

After Ahmed passed, we found it was easier to go to the Mattkes to pray so their kids could participate as well. Being part of a prayer team has been so much more rich than if I was doing it myself. It binds us together. It helps you be more consistent, sometimes you can be tired or busy. Different people have different styles of prayer and how to care, and the more people involved brings more creativity and more gifts to support the workers.

If you are considering joining a care team, know that we are a body. The more people we bring in to the care team, it can really enrich the ministry, the team, the worker, the support, and the care.

And finally, know that it takes humility. This isn't about us. It is about our workers, and each other. Take time to listen to each other, and most importantly, to listen to the Holy Spirit.





ROLE: PRAYER & CARE TEAM MEMBER

Schedule: Regular participation in a text/email group with the worker and a minimum of monthly meetings as a team.

Commitment: A minimum of a year, but we prefer to not put end dates on relationships with our workers.

Purpose: To provide a consistent, member-led, prayer and care support network for each of our field workers sent out from Eastbrook Church.

Responsibilities: Stay active in the online communication channels, responding to messages from the worker so they know we are with them. Meeting regularly with the other care team members to pray together and discern ways we as a church can best care for the worker. Help with supporting the worker when they visit the U.S. Over time, also participate or lead care trips to visit the worker in their context.

How you'll be able to build relationships with other members and/or the community: The primary relationships are with fellow Eastbrook members. A friendship with the worker will develop over time, and sometimes can take years to strengthen, as their focus is on their work in country.

Qualifications: A commitment to prayer, demonstrated humility, and willingness to serve alongside other members. Prior involvement in Missions Prayer Class or Thursday Women's Prayer preferred.

Age Requirement: 18+ years old, families who serve together, or mature teens who can maintain a regular commitment to the team.

Training & Support: Eastbrook staff are included in each care team communication channel and are available to process and equip you to care directly for our workers.

→ **For more information contact Dan Ryan at dryan@eastbrook.org**





John & Leslie Osborne



Our first step was simple – We prayed! We became mindful of what God was doing globally and we were ready to

say yes to participating. We joined prayer times, gatherings with global workers and MissionsFests. God stirred our hearts, opening our minds to His love for the nations, globally and in Milwaukee. It was inspiring to hear stories of resilient believers in war-torn, poverty-stricken or govern-

mentally-oppressed regions, risking lives and sacrificing daily comforts. We also were studying the Word and serving in ministry at Eastbrook. This formed us.



We were also learning about giving sacrificially of our time, talents and resources for others in order to build relationships. We were stepping out of our comfort zone and giving up personal time to engage with people who were different from us.

A global trip may mean sacrificing from your vacation, work and family time, and your financial resources. But all of our time and resources are already God's. There will be risks, especially in places less reached or where Christians aren't always welcomed and sometimes imprisoned, but the greatest risk is being outside of God's will.

This learning was key to being ready when the invitations came.

One of our first trips was through an international friend who introduced us to Pastor Josue Chan. Pastor Josue invited us to partner with him in an orphanage project that was dear to his heart. We felt God inviting us to step out in faith. This taught us how to serve in cross-cultural setting where we built long-standing relationships in love and humble service to each other. Pastor Josue's words remain true: "We become brothers when our sweat runs together."

That "yes" lead to another invitation with an Eastbrook's connection in the Maya churches in rural Guatemala. The authentic joy in people's hearts and stories of hardship and God's glorious intervention were captivating.



Another invitation followed from a church, in a closed ex-Soviet country, asking for help in developing their youth and children's ministry. Taking a step of faith we went to do leader training and came in the forest at kids. We went back 15 more times. The church leaders have commented that we helped raised these kids. Those kids are now leaders. Trips aren't short-term for us, they are about long term relationships.

Each of our global trips started with an invitation to partner with local believers. God moved our professional commitments and other distractions, giving opportunity to deepen our trust in Him and see Him do great things. Getting connected to friends around the globe, we have learned much about God's ways. This prepared us so that when God sent refugees and internationals to our city, we said yes to befriending them. Wherever God takes us tomorrow we are prepared to say yes.

READY, SET, GO!

For anyone interested in joining a short-term trip with Eastbrook Church, we require them to participate in our annual Ready, Set, Go class that happens every winter. This class is facilitated and taught by a wide range of Eastbrook leaders who have led short-term trips through the years.

At the end of each class, members will complete trip applications that will be reviewed as a larger process of discerning where God is leading each member for future trips.

→ Find the next Ready, Set, Go! class online at eastbrook.org/missions, in the Winter/Spring Connect, Grow, Serve brochure, or reach out to Dan Ryan at dryan@eastbrook.org





"You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

(Matthew 5:14-16)





YOUR NEXT STEPS TO SERVE

Interested in serving in one of these opportunities?

If you are interested in serving in one of the opportunities listed, your first step is simple. Please reach out to the staff member listed at the end of the serve opportunity description. That staff member will work with you to find a time to visit the ministry and shadow the team. This first step will give you the clearest picture of what the work entails, and if it is a good fit for you.

After you visit to shadow another member, each ministry has its own requirements for paperwork, a background check, other screening, orientation and training, as well as scheduling. These steps may be different for each ministry, but are meant to best prepare you for the ministry as well as protect the dignity and safety of those whom we serve.

If you ever have any questions about a ministry or how to get connected, feel free to reach out to Dan at dryan@eastbrook.org.

Already serving in ministry?

Wonderful! While you may feel that this booklet may not apply to you, we encourage you to keep this on hand for two reasons.

First, is that this Serve booklet can also be used as a prayer guide. You now know how many of our members are reaching out to our local community, and we ask that you make praying for them on a regular basis a part of your personal prayer time. Be sure to also pray for our many members serving in so many ways not mentioned in this booklet!

Second, while you may not be looking to add a serve opportunity to your schedule, you may know someone who would be a good fit for a role. Keep this booklet on hand, and help us shoulder-tap those who may have the availability and interest to join us!



