

May Monthly Newsletter

1 message

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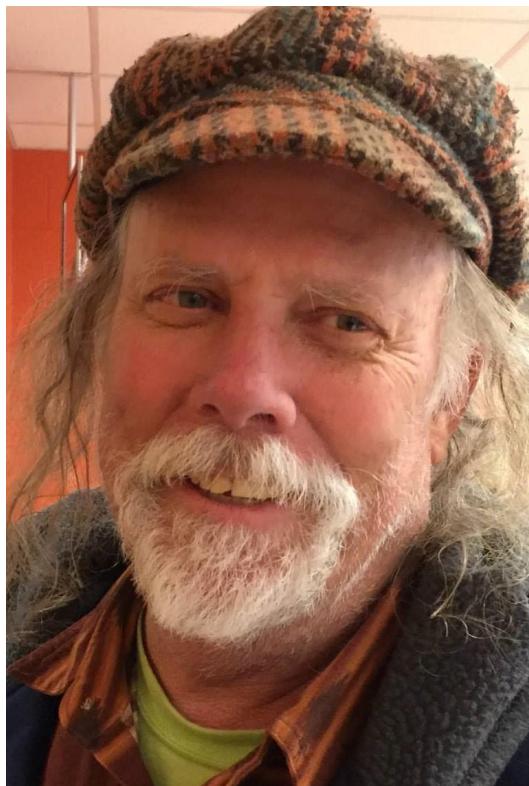
May Monthly Newsletter**Bread of Life***Food for the body...Nurture for the soul***Reflections from our Director**

I write this with a heavy heart because on May 5th, Tom Feagley, beloved director of Bread of Life for over 30 years, left us and entered the eternal realm. Tom began his work with BOL, then the St. Paul's Supper Program, as the doorman in 1984. I had the privilege of journeying with Tom in this work since 1988. Tom was like the brother I never had, a role model to emulate, and a friend I felt I could trust with my life. He was humble, pure-hearted, self-sacrificing and scrupulously honest. A friend recounted how when Tom was a teenager, he was disciplined for refusing to say the "Pledge of Allegiance" in school. It wasn't that he was against America, rather that he truly believed in the ideals of America: "with liberty and justice for all." How could he say those words when he could see that some people weren't free, weren't being treated justly? Tom had no use for lip service. He believed in action. Throughout his life, Tom chose to act on his principles. It didn't matter to him if people thought he was shoveling against the tide to protest against torture, war, nuclear weapons, racism. It's wrong to torture and kill people, to oppress and persecute people, to let people go hungry, to let people be homeless. He stood like a prophet, a witness, a voice in the wilderness, to say "this is not God's way." Tom told me that he had a life-changing encounter with God decades ago, during a very low and despairing time in his life, when he dedicated himself to following Jesus, to living Jesus' way. As I mourn his death and await seeing him in God's kingdom, where peace and liberty and justice will truly be for all, I take up this lesson: let me, let us, commit ourselves, like Tom, to action, and work for peace and liberty and justice for all.



God bless you,
Gabriella

Note: One of Tom's wishes was that instead of a public funeral, a Celebration of Life be held in the form of a community dinner in Malden for anyone to attend. We will be working with Tom's family on that event with the hope of holding it toward the end of May. We will publicize it and invite the public when details are finalized.



**Thomas J. Feagley
June 8, 1946 - May 5, 2023**

Under One Roof Update

As of the first week of May, the foundation has been backfilled, under slab utilities emplaced, concrete footings poured, and steel erection completed. In the next week the concrete slab will be poured. Framing will begin after that. The estimated completion date for construction is Dec 2023/Jan 2024. This joint project with Metro North Housing Corp will bring all BOL programs under one roof and provide 14 affordable studio apartments, permanent housing for formerly homeless individuals.



Making a Difference

"Martina" is a working woman who found herself suddenly in the position of needing to take over the care of her grandchild. Her daughter has been struggling with substance abuse disorder and needed to seek inpatient treatment. "Martina" has been self-supporting and never needed to access a food pantry, so she was reluctant to ask for help. But not being able to see how she was going to make it, she reached out to Bread of Life. Our food pantries were not open for distribution the day she walked in, but thanks to the generosity of donors we were able to give her supermarket gift cards to do a week's worth of shopping. She couldn't believe it. She had tears in her eyes as she hugged the staff, saying "Thank you so much!...I thank God for you!"

Sponsorship Opportunity

We launched a Bread of Life e-news sponsorship opportunity in 2023!

For \$200 sponsorship per month, we will feature your business with a short paragraph about your partnership and support of Bread of Life, along with your logo and a link to your website. We will feature a new business each month. Please contact Patty Kelly at Patty.Kelly@breadoflifemalden.org and become a Bread of Life e-news sponsor!

Community News

Body Mind Systems

Thank you Bob Lee and Body Mind Systems friends for generous donation of \$1,500 plus \$600 in Market Basket and Stop & Shop gift cards and food drive items! We truly appreciate your support!

#community



Cambridge Savings Bank Charitable Foundation

Thank you Cambridge Savings Bank Charitable Foundation for generous donation of a \$30,000 food assistance grant to Bread of Life for program support! We are so thankful for your continued support, and we appreciate your commitment to our community.

#communitypartnerships



Liberty Mutual Insurance

Bread of Life welcomed the first of 6 groups of Liberty Mutual Insurance “Serve With Liberty” volunteers. Grocery Delivery Program Coordinator Tyrone Evans put the group to work immediately sorting rolls for the grocery boxes. We’re delivering to over 400 homes over the next 2 weeks! We’re grateful to have the Liberty Mutual teams’ help – a total of 24 hours! Learn more about how you and your colleagues can volunteer at Bread of Life here: <https://www.breadoflifemalden.org/volunteer>



Volunteer Opportunities

Arabic, Cantonese, Creole, Mandarin, Portuguese, Spanish speakers welcome!

Malden Food Pantry, 109 Madison St., Malden

Mondays/Tuesdays/Fridays 12-5pm; Wednesdays 10am-6:30pm; Thursdays 10am-5pm

Come for whole time or just a few hours. No need to contact us beforehand. Just drop in when you can.

Ways you can help: load/unload vehicles, sort food, stock shelves/refrigerators/freezers, organize/clean, pick up/deliver, pack groceries, distribute food, work with the public, translate, help with data/admin tasks.



Grocery Delivery Program Drivers, 109 Madison St., Malden

Wednesdays/Thursdays - any time from 10am-5pm

Help deliver boxed groceries to homebound individuals in your vehicle. Serving Chelsea, Everett, Malden, Medford, Melrose, Lynn, North Reading, Revere, Stoneham, Wakefield, Winchester, Winthrop, Woburn

Everett Mobile Market

Come for whole time or just a few hours. No need to contact us beforehand. Just drop in when you can.

Preparation: Thursdays 10am-12pm, 109 Madison St., Malden Help move food, pack groceries and load food onto truck for food distribution.

Distribution: Thursdays 3:30-5pm, Lafayette School Parking Lot, 117 Edith St., Everett Help unload and distribute groceries from truck; check people in; break down and clean up.

Everett Backpack Nutrition Program, 109 Madison St., Malden

Preparation: Fridays - any time from 12-4 pm

Help pack backpacks with breakfast, lunch, supper and snack items for students in need.

Distribution: Mondays - 11am-1pm Help make deliveries to schools.
Food Access Project, 109 Madison St., Malden

Help implement activities and translate information to improve food access for non-English speaking communities.

And Also... There are many ways to make a difference – be creative! Organize a food drive, Bake cookies, Make goody bags, Write/Draw greeting cards, and more...

**Contact: Eileen Mullen, Volunteer Coordinator: Eileen.Mullen@
BreadofLifeMalden.org, 781-397-0404 (main office)**

Food for the Body...Nurture for the Soul

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