

St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church Annual Ministry Report

Casa
M San Miguel Food
Pantry



Open Tuesdays Abierto los martes 8:00—10:00 AM

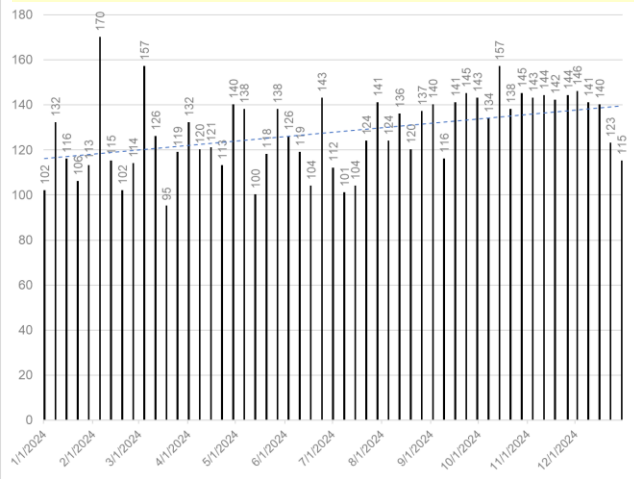
Ministry Leaders
Jake Van Der Geest
Robert Duffield

January 26, 2025

Feed the hungry: Matthew 25:31-46

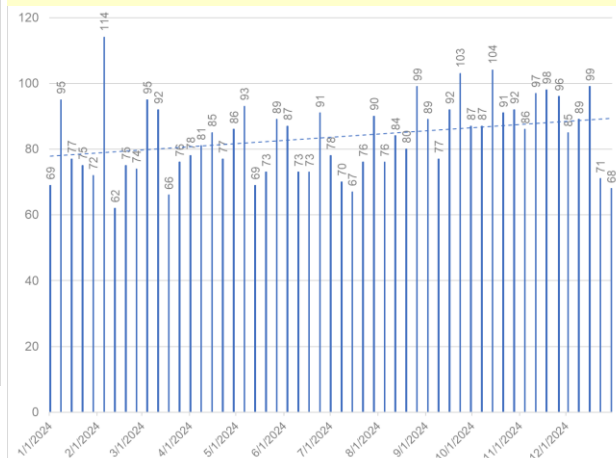
- Food insecurity continues to grow
- We have reached our maximum capacity to serve (as defined by our current configuration); lately, we reluctantly turn people away on a regular basis

128* Wagons Distributed per Week



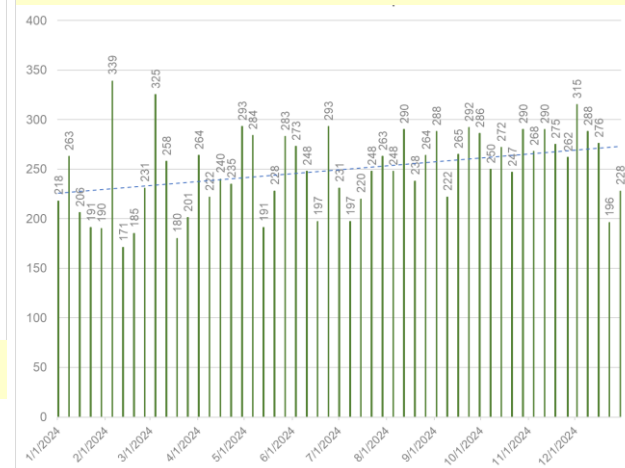
Other than Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve, the food pantry has been running near maximum capacity (144 wagons) since mid-September

84* Households Fed per Week



Total in 2024: more than 4,400

249* Individuals Fed per Week



Total in 2024: more than 13,200



- Casa San Miguel (CSM) provided food for *The Landing*
 - The level of activity at *The Landing* is currently limited to occasional guests (e.g., Navajo Nation visitors obtaining medical treatment)



- CSM coordinates with Las Familias Solidarity to deliver rice and beans to asylum seeker shelters in El Paso



- CSM shared our buildings and refrigerators/freezers with FaithWorks for their monthly distribution effort
 - Two days a month (discontinued in Fall 2024)
 - FaithWorks supports asylees in Albuquerque (some are CSM Clients)

In the community ministry . . .

- CSM clients need nourishment for their bodies and their spirits during very difficult times. Some have shown their gratitude and appreciation for CSM in different ways.
- A man and his wife made many little Ojos de Dios from colorful yarn and popsicle sticks that were given to volunteers who treasure these special symbols
- A woman made delicious tamales for CSM volunteers several times as a way to say thanks
- A woman who was grief stricken after losing her son to Covid gave a volunteer a lovely ceramic cross, which had belonged to her great aunt, to express her gratitude for compassion at a most difficult time
- A young woman, who had been fired from her DEI position the day after the presidential election, registered soon after at CSM and continues to receive food while she is actively seeking employment. She appreciates the caring and spiritual support from CSM volunteers.

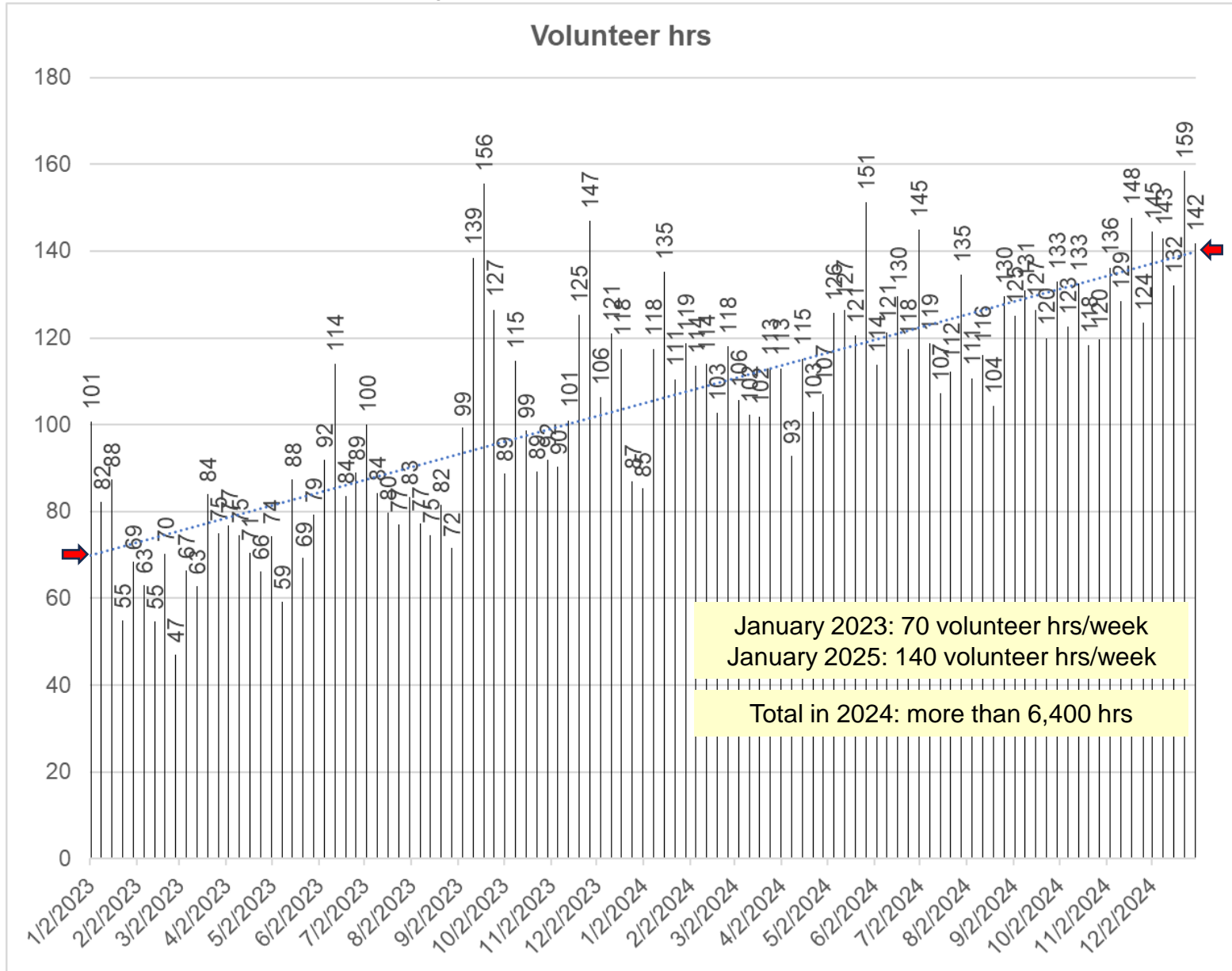
In the community ministry . . .

- A woman, who had lost everything when her home was destroyed by fire, deeply appreciated the food, emotional and spiritual support from volunteers
- A man, who has been a longtime client of CSM, has had many hardships: cancer, multiple surgeries, eviction and a car totaled after an accident. Thankfully, he feels that he can speak with volunteers about all of this and receive food and emotional support.
- “I love working with our clientele. It’s an adrenaline high from the heart to work distributing food on Tuesday.”
- Some Clients are also volunteers

Volunteers

- As the number served has increased, the ministry leaders have made requests for more volunteers.
The parish response has been awesome!
- Chart and trendline on next page
 - January 2023: averaged 70 volunteer hrs/week
 - January 2025: trending to 140 volunteer hrs/week
 - Average Monday crew is about 15
 - Average Tuesday crew is about 25
 - Weekly transportation crew is 7
 - About 50 people are on the CSM volunteer contact list (including a handful of non-SMAA folks)
 - 75 individuals volunteered in 2024

Weekly Volunteer Hours





Typical Monday volunteer crew

10/21/2025

Monday Transitions

A pallet of apple boxes becomes



The walk-in cooler starts like this ...



... and ends like this – even the space Victoria is standing in is filled (7' L x 12' W x 7' H)

Monday Activities

- Receive Roadrunner Food Bank (RRFB) delivery
- Receive rescue food from Sprouts and Smith's picked up by our transportation teams
- Load 144 bags and 144 boxes with non-perishable food for Tuesday distribution
- Organize to ensure smooth Tuesday distribution
- Purchase toiletries from Dollar Tree





This is about half the 144 bags set-up by the Monday crew, consisting of non-perishable items like rice, beans, pasta, peanut butter, soup, vegetables, fruit, cereal (one bag per wagon)



Typical Tuesday volunteer crew

Tuesday Activities

- We start each distribution with prayer and have fun together all morning even though it's lots of work
- Check-in clients in Roadrunner database
- Register new clients (in the past 3 years, CSM registered 700+ new TEFAP participants)
- Distribute food in drive-thru manner
 - Small family (1 to 3 people) receives 1 wagon (about 70 lbs)
 - Larger families:
 - 4 to 6 people receive 2 wagons (about 140 lbs)
 - 7 to 9 people receive 3 wagons (about 210 lbs), etc.





It was a balmy 5 °F this morning, only the frozen meat was warming up



Traffic team

- Even before the recent sewer line work, a new approach to control traffic was needed:
 - The main parking lot was full before we opened and traffic was backed up past the AAEDS entrance on Montañó
 - Not safe for our Clients
 - Lots of frustration
 - (You know you're doing something right when you need 5 people just to manage traffic!!)
 - Main lot overflow is in the east gravel parking lot
 - Walkie talkie communication allows the team to direct cars, in the order they arrived, over to the main parking lot
 - Since we started exceeding our 144 wagon capacity, we count in the parking lot and refer folks to other food pantries – nothing would be worse that waiting 2 hours and receiving no food
 - If we must turn people away due to food supply limitations, we send them with several items of which we have extras and tell them they can return next week



01/21/2025



15



Sunday offering: Your donations of shopping bags (paper and plastic), egg cartons, and food (almost 5,000 lbs) are greatly appreciated. On average since September, CSM sends out 144 dozen eggs and 144 bags of food per week.

Growing Partnerships Make it Happen

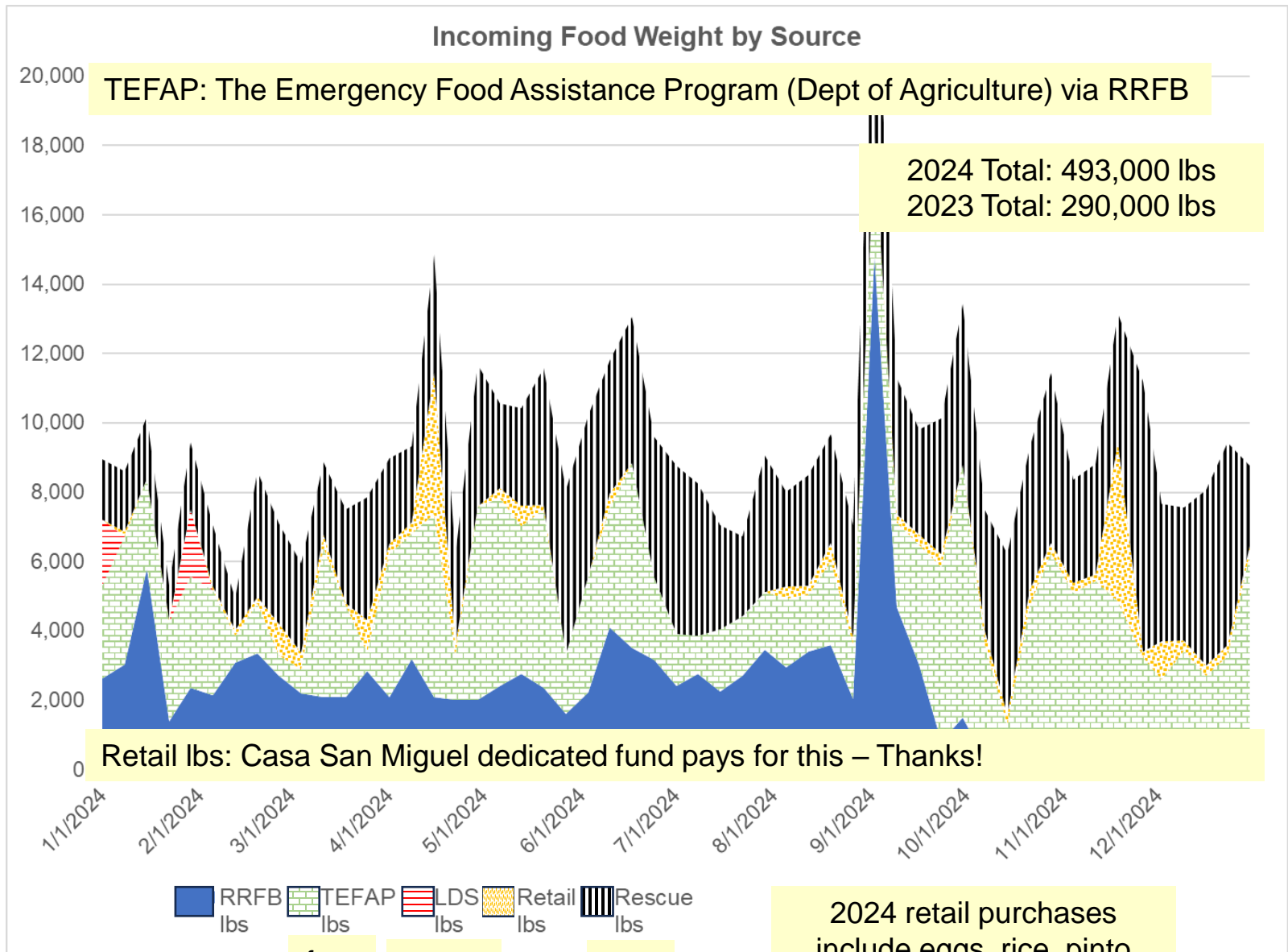


- RRFB – Grants for refrigerators and the walk-in cooler, and Food Rescue from Smith’s
- Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (LDS) –They were a lifesaver providing things like the cooking oil, peanut butter, etc., our clients love, but the grant was not renewed (ended in January)
- Adelante/Desert Harvest Food Rescue from Sprouts and extra holiday pick ups
- The Rock at NoonDay kitchen, Dismas House (90-day living program for motivated men on probation or parole), and Jefferson Middle School
- Foundation for Sustainable Living (a new grantor)

01/21/2025



Incoming Food by Source



free

Grant ended

free

Transportation

Roadrunner delivery



Record for wagon loads in a carpooling vehicle – the number of stickers is the number of households (6) and the sum of the count is 13 wagons (900+ lbs)



“Hill of beans” from Hatch – 80 bags @ 50 lbs per bag @ 40¢/lb

Special Thanksgiving rescue pick up from Whole Foods – the rack to the left of the vehicle has almost 50 Chantilly cakes – they went fast!



Struggles, but nothing stops us from serving our Clients

- Ceiling in the walk-in cooler kept falling down (3 times)
 - Advised to use an adhesive that didn't work
 - Cheri (Business Administrator) called her contractor friends and they suggested a fix that worked
 - Volunteer team finished the ceiling and final clean-up the day before the electrician installed the 220-volt circuit for the air conditioner
- Copper thieves pulled conduit off the exterior walls
 - Noticed on Sunday morning
 - Restored power to all refrigeration equipment via extension cords and creative adjustments Sunday afternoon – thankfully, no food was lost
 - Volunteers re-installed conduit and re-wired by the end of the week (lots more clamps to deter thieves)
 - An inspection was coming the following Monday and we passed with flying colors

Good Stewards

- General Operating only pays utility bills and provides accounting support
 - Casa San Miguel dedicated account financials are included in the Treasurer's report
- Transportation teams donate gas and time for:
 - Food (over 200,000 lbs – retail purchases, store rescue, and Sunday offerings)
 - Farm food [Electric Motor Company, Joe Artery loaned a truck for two “hill of beans” pick ups (4,000 lbs each) from Hatch]
 - Personal hygiene supplies
- Other than custodial work, it's an all-volunteer effort to manage the ministry, order and pick up food, receive shipments, and distribute food (no paid staff, which helps attract foundation grants)

Thank you partners,
volunteers, and
St. Michaels!



Opportunities and Contact

- We greatly appreciate your continued support and always welcome new volunteers
- Contact Jake at 505-830-7700 with questions