

HOPE Connects



Spring 2025

Our Feeding Ministry...

Every Tuesday from 11am-12pm and Thursday from 4:15pm-5:15pm, we serve a hot meal to all that come through our doors. To date, we are serving approx. 50 clients for lunch and 100 for dinner weekly. A shared meal serves as a reminder of God's generous provision and His call for us to gather together in community. We foster a kind and loving atmosphere to create a sense of family. We also offer a Bible Study weekly, too!

Hope Ministries of McKeesport

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Our Food Bank Ministry...

On the 2nd Thursday of every Month, we offer a Food Pantry in partnership with the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank. Our clients have the option of in person or home delivery (for those with limited mobility). We have helped approx. 125 families per month with each pantry distribution. Depending upon food availability, we often have to supplement the distribution to assure a well-rounded amount of food is received each month. We also offer "Emergency Food" bags to help meet our clients' food insecurities between distributions.

Our Utilities/Rent Assistance Ministry...

For many in our community, making ends meet is a daily challenge, forcing people to choose between paying rent and/or paying utilities or putting food on the table. We understand these situations and are here to help. We provide financial assistance, critical knowledge and invaluable resources to assist clients make those financial decisions. We work alongside of the clients to empower them to meet their financial needs.

Our Personal Care Ministry...

The majority of our clients are on government assistance and receive SNAP (supplemental nutrition assistance program) benefits. Unfortunately, these benefits do not cover much needed items like toilet paper, paper towels, dish and clothing detergent, hand and body soap and hygiene items. We assist clients in filling that gap. Each month, we provide our clients with a personal care package including 4-5 of those much-needed personal items for daily life.

Welcome to HOPE Connects!

We are happy to announce that we have found our new home. After 50+ years of serving McKeesport, Intersection closed their doors at the end of 2024. Recognizing the critical needs Intersection had fulfilled for so many years; Hope Ministries of McKeesport is excited to have the opportunity to pick up where they left off. We officially opened our doors on January 9, 2025, to growing our ministry for this new opportunity.

Our Board which is headed up by Marty Kelly along with Board members Cristy Bognar, Darlene Colvin, Judy Confer, Julie Kuhn, Judy Kunes and George Weaver are excited about the future and what God has planned for our ministry. We also welcomed Jerry Kuhn to our ministry in the role of Chief Operating Officer.

And all of this would not be possible without the help of our friends and supporters. If you would like to volunteer, please reach out via phone or email.

Or if you would like to donate (all donations are tax-deductible) via check or just scan the above QR code to visit our website and donate online.

"Almighty God, we come before you praying for the growth and development of our ministry and for your guidance, wisdom and strength. Please bless our leaders and clients that we serve with love and purpose."



Feeding Ministry – Lunch



Bible Study



Food Bank Ministry

Here is what our community is saying about Hope Ministries of McKeesport...

Site's Long Legacy Continues With New Hope

Hope Ministries opens in former church used by longtime mission

By Stacy Alderman
The Tube City Almanac
March 02, 2025

For nearly a half-century, The Intersection in McKeesport provided meals and emergency assistance to residents who needed it most. Founded by the Sisters of Mercy and run by volunteers, the charity quietly closed its doors in recent months.

Another organization, Hope Ministries, has already stepped up to make sure people don't have to go without.

According to board member Jerry Kuhn, Hope Ministries was started in 2022 under a different name. The group was just getting its footing when it was displaced due to a gas explosion in August of that same year that heavily damaged the former YWCA on Ninth Avenue.

The vacancy of the building on Seventh Avenue — the one-time home of the Free Hungarian Reformed Church — gave Hope Ministries the opportunity they'd been waiting for—their own kitchen with room to grow.

Kuhn, who retired from his full-time job in January, spoke passionately about the meals provided, the organization's rent and utility assistance program, as well as how they plan to expand.

Right now, they host a Tuesday lunch and a Thursday dinner as well as a Thursday bible study. There's a food bank available on the second Thursday of every month and they aim to add additional meals and programs as time goes on.

When asked what people can do to support or get involved with Hope Ministries, Kuhn said, "We need friend-raising and fundraising. Financial support will help us continue to grow and help of any kind is welcome."

In addition to the meals, which can be eat-in or take-out, Hope Ministries often distributes personal care items like toiletries and cleaning products.

"We had someone drop off hats, gloves, and scarves the other day. (The donation) came just in time for the winter weather we had on Feb. 16," Kuhn said.

Kuhn is hopeful that they can get a website up and running soon, and they're working to make the building ADA accessible.

He said he and the rest of the staff at Hope Ministries are welcoming anyone in need or anyone who wants to help. The group can be reached by phone at (412) 678-3773. Although office hours aren't yet firm, Kuhn said someone is generally on-site Tuesdays from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., and Thursdays between 9:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.

Father Terry O'Connor of Mary, Mother of God Parish, said his church often donated proceeds from its fish fries to benefit The Intersection, and said the charity leaves a proud legacy.

"The Intersection did amazing work in this area and their services will be missed, but we're hopeful that the new tenants will continue the great work of reaching out to those in need," O'Connor said.

Hope Ministries can be found at 115 Seventh Ave., McKeesport, PA 15132. Any correspondence or financial donations can be mailed to PO Box 83, McKeesport, PA 15134.