

December 2, 2011

Dear Church Families, Friends, and Businesses,

This letter is to let you know that we do not have adequate words to express our appreciation for what you did for Goose Creek Island on Thanksgiving Day, November 24, 2011! It had been almost three months since Hurricane Irene hit us with a vengeance and so often as time ticks away, disaster areas are soon forgotten. But our neighbors here in eastern North Carolina continue not only to remember the hardest stricken areas, but you keep pouring out your love to us through your continued support in so many different ways. How can we say "Thank You" enough? Vocabulary escapes us!

We received a phone call from Hugh Barnes III asking if it would be okay for him and others to organize an island Thanksgiving dinner for us. We were told that as you were contacted that you responded so lovingly and willingly and everything fell into place. How can we say how much that meant to us to know that you sacrificed your time, money, and effort to prepare for us? You did this -all in addition to your own family plans for this time of year!

Excitement filled the Goose Creek Island Community Center on Thanksgiving morning when several trucks and vehicles drove up with enough food to feed the island for many days! A sign-in roster was placed at the door with the list of churches and businesses that provided for the day. Seventy-two signatures were actually recorded, so we have estimated that there were probably 80-something in attendance. Some who planned to attend had gotten sick and others did not make it for various reasons. However, take-out plates were prepared for shut-ins and volunteers took food to those unable to make the event. A funeral took place the following day and food was saved and prepared for that as well. Some things were frozen and we have used that food to feed volunteer workers this past week. Your many hands have fed more people than you know - God is still multiplying the fish and the loaves! To God be all the glory!

Again, thank you so much and may God richly bless you for your kindness, love, and generous support. Our prayer is that God will abundantly bless every hand, every person, and every effort that have been made to make our lives more comfortable and our Thanksgiving Day a great celebration day for us!

Sharon L. Rice

For

Goose Creek Island
Hobucken & Lowland

