

CAFÉ SCHEDULE

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
CG Café Breakfast 7:00 to 9:00 am. Coffee With a Message 9:00—to 10:30 am TO GO MEAL 2:00—3:00 pm at rear of First Baptist Church - Provided by Open Hearts Ministries (OHM)	Thrift Store Closed CG Café Noon—3:30 pm (lunch) OHM at CG Café Meal Emergency Food 9:00 am—3:00 pm Mobile Health Unit 1:00—4:00 pm ESL 6:30—8:30 pm (TBA)	Thrift Store 9:00 am—3:00 pm CG Café Noon—3:30 pm (lunch) OHM at CG Café Meal Emergency Food 9:00 am—3:00 pm	Thrift Store 9:00 am—3:00 pm CG Café Noon—3:30 pm (lunch). Emergency Food 9:00 am—3:00 pm Mobile Health Unit 1:00—4:00 pm ESL 6:30—8:30 pm (TBA)	Thrift Store 9:00 am—3:00 pm CG Café Noon—3:30 pm (lunch) OHM at CG Café Meal Emergency Food 9:00 am—3:00 pm	Thrift Store 9:00 am—3:00 pm CG Café Noon—3:30 pm (lunch) Emergency Food 9:00 am—3:00 pm Mobile Health Unit 1:00—4:00 pm	Thrift Store 9:00 am—3:00 pm CG Café Breakfast 7:00 am to 9:00 Bagged Lunches 9:00—11:00 am Food Pantry 10:00 am—2:00 pm on the second Saturday of each month. (varies)



Buy A Brick Donors

We would like to present businesses, organizations, and individuals the opportunity to: “Buy a Brick.” For \$250 it will be located on the front wall; \$500 bricks are in the entry way; \$1,000 bricks will be displayed on the pillar, and a virtual brick will be displayed on our website in recognition of your generosity, sharing with everyone that you are part of the mission to support those in need in the Greater Haverhill area.

Please visit www.commongroundne.org for more information on CGM’s Buy A Brick Partnership Campaign.



Common Ground Café
194 Winter Street
Haverhill, MA 01830

COMMON GROUND NEWS

FEBRUARY 2023



VOLUNTEER PROFILE

Millie Cobbett began her work volunteering for the poor and homeless many years ago when she and her husband bought a home in Bradford, using it to collect and distribute clothing for “Operation Blessing,” a ministry they ran from their home. Her husband died in 2008. She then volunteered at the



Common Ground Ministries (CGM) newly opened Thrift Store at 8 White Street, Haverhill, beginning in the fall of 2012. Her volunteer service steadily expanded thru the spring of 2013

as she proved herself very dependable, never missed work, arrived on time, and stayed late if something needed to be done that couldn’t wait until the next day. In the spring of 2013 she took over the full time responsibilities as the thrift store manager. During her tenure, Millie proved herself as our single most valuable CGM volunteer. In January of 2016 she stepped down at her request to segue into managing the thrift store’s back-room activities, processing inventories donated to CGM. In this capacity she determined the condition of these goods and assigned dollar values for the sales floor. At this time she also passed the manager’s baton into the very capable hands of Kay Henderson. Millie placed quality of work as her highest priority. She was creative and meticulous in any task she took on. She worked well with others, had an easygoing personality and did not hesitate to help anyone in need. She displayed dedicated service in the performance of all duties assigned to her, often going above and beyond what was required. Millie now continues to work at CGM collecting backpacks and pocketbooks, full of toiletries, for the disadvantaged and homeless, as well as a card ministry to encourage families dealing with sickness and death. She also provides snacks and sandwiches, packaged at her kitchen table and brought to the café, for those who drop in for coffee and a warm place to escape the cold.

In This Issue

- Volunteer Profile
- Advisory Board Created
- CGM Board Welcomes New Member
- Wadleigh Grant To Prepare Third Floor
- Mural “The Peasant Dance” Displayed In The Café
- Second Floor Transformation

To Contribute:

ON LINE: www.commongroundne.org

MAIL TO:
 Common Ground Ministries
 PO Box 324
 Haverhill, MA 01831

Please specify "**Common Ground Café**" with your gift.

CGM ADVISORY BOARD CREATED

Common Ground Ministries has created a five member advisory board comprised of experts in their fields. They will lend their skills and expertise to help Common Ground grow and achieve its goals by meeting quarterly with a CGM leader to provide wise counsel on special projects, as well as yearly, as a group, to help grow and achieve its goals. The main focus of the group will be fundraising, but will also cover items concerning the Food Pantry, Café, grant writing, legal issues and various work projects.

CGM BOARD OF DIRECTORS WELCOMES NEW MEMBER

The CGM Board of Directors welcomed Teddy Hamel as our new board member to replace the vacancy left by Doug Little, who completed his term in October 2022. Doug was a member of the board for five years and his talents, foresight and abilities will be missed as he relocated his family to the Cape Cod area of Massachusetts. As our newest member, Teddy Hamel brings valuable computer skills and experience in administration, working with the Food Pantry and overseeing the DonorView software.

WADLEIGH GRANT TO PREPARE THIRD FLOOR FOR FUTURE USE

Funds from a recent Wadleigh Grant of \$60,000 will cover the cost of creating a second means of egress from the third floor as required by existing safety standards of the Haverhill Building Codes. By adding this second means of access, Common Ground will be allowed full use of the third floor's 1900 square feet for future multi-use development. Also, another \$60,000 of this grant—for a total of \$120,000—will allow us to reconfigure the existing elevator shaft to service all four levels of the building. *(The existing freight elevator cannot be used for personnel use.)* This dedicated \$120,000 will also give us the ability to begin to raise another estimated \$150,000 needed to complete these projects.

MURAL DISPLAYED ON CAFÉ WALL



The mural above, “The Peasant Dance” by Brueghel the Elder, was painted by Nicole Murray and her students many years ago. It now graces a high wall in the Common Ground’s Café for all to enjoy. The scene is from the Netherlands, Nicole’s homeland.

SECOND FLOOR TRANSFORMATION TO MULTI-USE ADMINISTRATION AREA PLANNED

The second floor’s transformation to a multi-use area is planned for 2023. Updates will include replacing the carpeting, painting the walls soft, calming colors and accessorizing them to create a relaxed, warm atmosphere of acceptance and peace. The existing offices will continue the administration of CGM, including Tuesday’s devotional, discussions and prayers. Prayer services and programs such as the Weekly Night of Prayers, the Monthly United Night of Prayers, which includes area churches, and the ESL advanced group for the multi-cultural community will also continue. Renovations include an area for small group meetings, and the development of programs for the youth and elderly. Going forward we hope to offer counseling sessions for those in need. Most of all, our focus will continue to serve the low-income and homeless.