

Senior Lunches Serve Up Delicious Food, Smiles, and Fun



Every now and then, Jill Ryan sits down to look at the pictures she's taken of members who have attended Senior Lunches at Our Saviour's over the years.

"I keep them in a special folder, and when I look at them, I see the people I love and the ones I miss. My life has been much fuller because of them," she said.

Jill and other volunteers, whom she describes as "the best team," organize the lunches, which take place on the first Monday of the month, except for July and August, in the Nelson Fellowship Hall or at local restaurants. On average, 25-40 seniors attend and enjoy a home-cooked meal made from scratch, fellowship, and

activity, such as a sing-along, Bingo, balance prevention educational program, or holiday cookie exchange.

"Each meal is started with grace, thanking God for His many blessings, including the meal before us, the love from above us, and the love between us," said Dawn DeBoer, Our Saviour's Parish Nurse who also helps make the senior lunches a reality. "The participating seniors often greet each other with smiles and laughter, and the noise level reflects the fellowship and friendship expressed."

Lou McClelland says the lunches are important and meaningful to her because they connect her with seniors who attend different worship services. "I enjoy the conversations with others, the fellowship, and, of course, the food," she said. "I appreciate the work of the volunteers who give their time to make the lunches special. It truly is a labor of love."

Dawn describes the volunteers as the "heart of the ministry."

"Each month, they plan the menu, shop, prepare, and serve the meal, and the church is often the beneficiary of the wonderful smells coming from the kitchen as lunch cooks," Dawn said. "Without our volunteers, there IS no Senior Lunch!"

"I just love doing it!" Jill said. "Having grown up at Our Saviour's, I have known most of our seniors for as long as they've been members, and I feel it's their turn to be catered to and waited on. Seeing them smiling and having fun is a thrill!"





It's their turn to be catered to and waited on. Seeing them smiling and having fun is a thrill!