

Significant Grant Awarded to NOAH Community Meal Program

The Rev. Laurie Garramone, Rector of St. John's Episcopal Church, is pleased to announce that St. John's has received an \$80,000 New York State Empire State Development, and is also partnering with the City of Johnstown which has received a \$400,000 grant from the Office of Community Renewal's Community Facilities Program, in order to move the Twin Cities Council of Churches Food Pantry and NOAH Sunday meal program into the One Church Street facility located at 21 N. Market Street in Johnstown.

Last year, the NOAH Free Community Meal program served 7,740 hot meals to our guests, and the Twin Cities Council of Churches Food Pantry distributed 20,160 meals. In addition, this grant money will help us convert one of Johnstown's landmark buildings, the former YMCA and Post Office, back into a community center.

We are grateful to the Mayor of Johnstown, Michael Julius, and the Common Council for supporting our grant application and for having the compassion and the vision to understand the needs of those who suffer from hunger, from food insecurity or who simply want to have a meal with others. We are thankful for the talents of David D'Amore, of AND Architecture, and for the time and talent of the GEMS grant writing team.

Primarily, however, we are thankful to God who now expects us to do much good work with the abundance with which He has provided us, through the discernment of our New York State agencies and our Governor, Andrew Cuomo. On behalf of those who have so much less, we are grateful for this opportunity to serve the least, the lost and the hungry.