

## MARCH 10, 2018 LOVE FEAST

In our 10 years of holding Love Feast dinners at Simpson Temple, the one this past weekend was exceptional. We served 100 people with 20 additional take-out meals. We also had our largest (31) contingent of enthusiastic cooks and servers: Rhonda Adams, Barb Aubrey, , Jim & Wendy Campbell, Dee & Kaelab Capriotti, Joyce Cunningham, Paula DeBiase ,Carolyn English, Ed & Deb Ergler, Ray & Mary King, Mary Grace Horton, Dan & Linda McGrath, Barb McLarren, Ethan, Emily & Danielle Miller, Barb Nagle, Bob & Loretta Olson, Joan Price, Pat Podoletz, Marge Rudolph, Tom & Fran Semelsberger, Chris & Natalie Smith, and Iris Tater.

The spirit of welcoming, friendliness, kindness, and gratitude of the workers spread to the guests. An older gentleman apologized in advance for seeming picky about not eating everything, explaining that he had to accommodate his diabetes and dialysis. He also explained the multiple rings on his fingers and bracelets on both wrists, some of which were for a woman. He said that his lady friend of many years had died 10 months ago, and wearing all the jewelry they had bought together helped him feel less lonely.

I talked to a woman who was humming to herself and said that the meal needed the addition of singing to lift her spirits. I said that I was the last person she would want leading a song. She replied that even if I sang in a monotone, I was bound to hit the correct note some of the time.

A woman approached the greeters who were also thanking everyone for coming and explained the big hugs she was about to give. She said that she lives alone but still needs “skin-on-skin” contact with others to lift her spirits. We welcomed her hugs.

We overheard many of the guests discussing prayer requests they were about to write down, and most of the time their requests were for others, not themselves.

It is a joy to look forward to our next Love Feast on JUNE 9, 2018. Join us.

