



The Lion's Share

St. Mark's Lutheran Church

1008 Franklin Road, SW
Roanoke, VA 24016
lions@stmarksroanoke.org
Tax ID 54-0604101

When St. Mark's opened its food pantry 40 years ago, the goal was simple: feed the hungry. Several members of the church worked with the area's fledgling food bank (which has since become Feeding Southwest Virginia) and began collecting donations in the church entryway. By November 2021, we had launched *The Lion's Share* as a client-choice food pantry, allowing clients to choose the foods they want based on dietary restrictions and preferences. In doing so, we sought to decrease food waste and increase the dignity of our clients by allowing them to make choices rather than handing them a pre-packed bag. We also hope to encourage good eating habits by providing fresh produce, dairy, and other healthier options on a consistent basis.

Our goal today remains the same as it was 40 years ago: feed the hungry. We do this without regard to any other status—all those who need food are welcome at *The Lion's Share*. And we are committed to operating a *community* food pantry—while the pantry is physically located at St. Mark's, we partner with other community organizations for food donations and volunteers, and we welcome clients from all over the Roanoke Valley.

We know that food insecurity is still an issue for many in our community. Feeding Southwest Virginia's "Map the Meal Gap" published in May 2024, shows that 1 in 7 people in Southwest Virginia—and 1 in 6 children—face some level of food insecurity. At *The Lion's Share*, we have fed an average of 400 households representing over 1000 individuals *each month* since the summer of 2023, and we have new neighbors seeking assistance almost every time we open our doors.

In 2023, we held our inaugural *OktoberFeast* event, and thanks to the generosity of our neighbors, we raised over \$20,000 to help feed those in need! Will you help us reach this year's goal of \$25,000 by sponsoring our *OktoberFeast* event on October 25? More details are available in the enclosed brochure.

The Lion's Share is entirely volunteer-run, and all funds are used to provide food for those in need. If you are interested in helping to sponsor *OktoberFeast* or have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Jacob Gordon at lions@stmarksroanoke.org.

Sincerely,



Jacob Gordon
Coordinator, *The Lion's Share*

WHAT LION'S SHARE NEIGHBORS SAY

"Everyone at *The Lion's Share* has made me feel appreciated and loved."

- Janet

"I'm on disability and we don't get that much to begin with. *The Lion's Share* helps out with the grocery bill—and cooking!"

- Frank

"As a blind woman, it's hard for me to be able to be sociable, so I look forward to coming to *The Lion's Share* and meeting all the different people."

- Mary

"*The Lion's Share* is a different kind of food pantry because you get to pick and choose what you like."

- Cathy

Names have been changed to respect client privacy.



Use the QR code to the left to view *Welcome to The Lion's Share*, a short video with more information about us—and hear from our neighbors in their own words.

See the video at www.stmarksroanoke.org/lions

Raise a glass and help feed the hungry in our community!

Guests will enjoy:

heavy hors d'oeuvres

live music

cash bar

silent auction

The Lion's Share traces its roots back over 40 years, when a food pantry was first opened at St. Mark's Lutheran Church. Since that time, the pantry has grown and evolved into a client-choice pantry, where clients can choose the foods that best meet their needs and preferences. *The Lion's Share* also includes a clothes closet, open at the same time as the food pantry. *The Lion's Share* serves all those in need, regardless of any other status.

The Lion's Share is entirely volunteer-led, and we always welcome new volunteers. You can make a difference by committing just two hours a month. If you are interested or have more questions, email us at lions@stmarksroanoke.org.



1008 Franklin Rd SW

Roanoke, VA 24016

540-344-9051

lions@stmarksroanoke.org

facebook.com/thelionsshareroanoke/



**A Fundraising Event to Benefit
The Lion's Share Food Pantry**

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2024

6 PM TO 9 PM

at

The Maridor

1857 Grandin Rd. SW, Roanoke, VA



	Diamond Sponsor	Platinum Sponsor	Gold Sponsor	Silver Sponsor	Bronze Sponsor
	\$3,000	\$2,000	\$1,000	\$500	\$250
Corporate logo in online advertisement	X	X	X	X	X
Corporate logo/ad in event program*	1/2 Page	1/2 Page	1/4 Page	listing	listing
Complimentary tickets to event, including drink ticket	6	4	2	2	
Introduction at event	X	X	X		
Corporate logo in print advertisement	X	X			
Display at event	X				

* - full page ad is 6.5" x 8.5"

Sponsorship Agreement

I/we would like to sponsor The Lion's Share *OktoberFeast* at the following level:

☐ Diamond (\$3000) ☐ Platinum (\$2000) ☐ Gold (\$1000) ☐ Silver (\$500) ☐ Bronze (\$250)

Company Name	
Contact & Title	
Phone	
Email	
Address	
City, State ZIP	
☐ Yes, I/we will use our event tickets ☐ No, I/we will <u>not</u> use our event tickets	

Please return with payment to:

St. Mark's Lutheran Church
1008 Franklin Rd. SW
Roanoke, VA 24016

Questions?
Contact Jacob Gordon
lions@stmarksroanoke.org