

ST. ALBAN BIRMINGHAM LODGE #233

Michael Hodge
Worshipful Master

Glen Clary
Secretary



St. Alban Birmingham Lodge #233 A.F. & A.M. Grand Lodge of Maryland

Office of the Worshipful Master

10800 Edmonston Road, Beltsville, MD 20705

For Immediate Press Release

Contact: Brother Glen Clary, Secretary
(410) 721-1375 or gbcac129@comcast.net

St. Alban Birmingham Lodge #233 Thanksgiving Turkey Basket Giveaway Supports 67 families at Thanksgiving Community Event!

Beltsville, Maryland (November 21, 2020) – Brothers of St. Alban Birmingham Lodge #233, in partnership with the SHARE Food Network supported 67 families throughout the Beltsville and Silver Spring communities for the Thanksgiving holiday. Brothers of the lodge came together to raise approximately \$2600.00 to purchase and distribute holiday food baskets from the SHARE Food Network for local families in need. Convening at the Good Shephard United Methodist Church, brothers of the lodge transported and provided for identified families a holiday food basket containing a 12lb frozen turkey and side items to include: green beans; sweet potatoes; mixed vegetables; and, a holiday pie. To accomplish this charitable work, St. Alban Birmingham Lodge worked in with Mrs. Ajara Johns of Transforming Lives, Inc., of Beltsville, MD, to identify 50 families in dire need of assistance. Transforming Lives (TL), Inc., is a nonprofit charity known for their efforts at providing services to the underserved and impoverished in the serving areas. In addition, to those families identified by TL Inc., brothers from the lodge also worked to identify even more families who needed support and assistance during this challenging economic time. As a result, an additional 17 families referred by brothers of the lodge received holiday food baskets as well. This was truly a heartwarming event, hearing testimonials from turkey basket recipients such as:

"I am on a fixed disability income and it's hard at times. We don't have a lot to work with. This will give us an opportunity to have a family dinner together. Leftovers can be stretched too. Bless you all for doing this."-Juliet

"It will make it possible for our family to really give thanks and this reminds us how lucky we are, even in these crazy times. Thank you so much!"-Pauline

"My family and I will be able to have our first thanksgiving together as a family in one place in years. Oh my God, this is such a blessing."-Jean

A special thank you to our brethren of the lodge for your charitable efforts; our community partners at the SHARE Food Network and Ms. Johns of Transforming Lives, Inc., and the staff for your partnership and resources; and, for the lodge leadership which sponsored this event.

Congratulations for an outstanding job by the St. Alban Birmingham Lodge #233 Thanksgiving basket planning committee, consisting of Chairman Bro. Will Bronson, Jr., and committee members: Bros. Thomas Wims; Edison Duncan; Alexander Arias; Bulsby Duncan; Isaiah Hazward; Jose Hiciano; Ronnie Seneque. The event was well attended and well received by the community participants. We plan on this being an annual event.

Happy Holidays from St. Alban Birmingham Lodge #233 A.F. & A.M., located in Beltsville, MD.

Pictures below:



Brothers with the truck of food products for the families.



Brothers gathered at the distribution site.



Handing out food via drive up. Drive up service provided for contactless pickup. Families without transportation were delivered food baskets by lodge brothers.