

Volunteer Spotlight



Richard Landolt
Hospitality- Meal Team Leader

As part of the Canton First UMC Family, Richard Landolt volunteers as Meal Team Leader for Wednesday night dinners. Richard serves with a group of loyal and dedicated volunteers to plan, coordinate, and serve the food for the Midweek Connect dinners.

Richard served the Cherokee County School System ten years as a classroom teacher at Teasley Middle School, one year as an assistant principal at Booth Middle School, and 19 years as principal at Polaris Evening School, Woodstock Middle School, and ACE Academy. Richard was married to Lecia Lanford Landolt for ten years before she passed away in January 2019 after battling pancreatic cancer for over five years, stating, *“every day was a gift from God.”* Richard has a son (Trey Landolt) and Lecia has a daughter (Katie Proctor) and a son (Jim Strack) from previous marriages. He also has three fantastic grandkids. Richard likes to spend time with family and friends, fish, canoe, kayak, read, watch movies, cook, travel, and motorcycle ride. He also enjoys serving on the Walk to Emmaus teams when possible.

Volunteering is important to Richard because he is blessed to be able to foster relationships with so many different people in the church, sharing, *“I have been able to meet and interact with the very young and the old, those who have been active in the church since before the walk from Canton up Holy Hill, and those who just showed up for the first time that day. I never know who God is sending my way, but I just have to be ready for whoever it is. And that is an exciting place to be. Volunteering gives me the opportunity to be of service in that way.”*

While Richard believes that volunteering is an important way to serve others, he also thinks what is even more impactful is that volunteering encourages others to do likewise... *“If he can, then maybe I can!”* Reflecting on a memory, Richard shared, *“One day, Pastor Kenny came to Lecia asking her to coordinate a Sunday morning Christmas breakfast for the whole church. While that was one of the last things Lecia did before she passed away, it has been an act of love and grace to see others step up and volunteer*

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their time and effort to continue providing this meal and service to our church. It has touched my heart and lifted my spirit to see others want to carry on in this way."

When asked what he enjoys most about volunteering, Richard responded, *"I most enjoy the people who come Wednesday evenings to share a meal and spend some time in fellowship...It is all about the relationships we are able to establish and grow along the way."*

In closing, Richard stated, *"We all come with different talents, abilities, and gifts. Sometimes volunteering is easy because you see something that you've done before, and you can do again. But sometimes volunteering is an opportunity to try something totally out of your comfort zone. In doing so, you find yourself reinvigorated and looking at your spiritual walk with a renewed sense of purpose and mission."*

Dream Vacation: North Reddington Beach, Florida

Favorite Sports Team(s): UGA Bulldogs Football and Atlanta Braves

Favorite Bible Verse: Psalms 55:22- *Cast your cares on the Lord and he will sustain you; he will never let the righteous be shaken.*