

· CHARITABLE GIVING ·

A 1975 Thanksgiving Eve church offering helped launch CF Meals-on-Wheels

Fifty years ago, a simple Thanksgiving church offering helped launch a program that still serves our community today. At the 1975 Interfaith Service at Federated Church, parishioners gave \$252, joined by \$52 from the Women's Fellowship Organization, to support the creation of Chagrin Falls Meals-on-Wheels (CFMOW).

Formally incorporated in January 1976, CFMOW delivered its first meals that March. Though similar in name to the national program, CFMOW is an independent nonprofit that receives no government funding. Today, clients pay \$6 per day for two meals, but donations remain essential

to cover the true cost of meals.

The mission remains the same: delivering nutritious, affordable meals to neighbors who are elderly, disabled, chronically ill, or otherwise unable to cook. Rising food prices make this service more critical than ever. In 2025, CFMOW volunteers will prepare and deliver more than 26,000 meals across the Chagrin Valley.

This Thanksgiving, we give thanks to the community whose generosity and service have sustained CFMOW for half a century. Please consider supporting our fall fundraiser at chagrinfallsmails.org/donations to help continue this legacy of care.



Kitchen Volunteer, Paula Aveni, helps prepare meals at the Family Life Center kitchen in Bainbridge.



Driver Volunteer and Board Member, Tom Kress, loads his car to make deliveries.