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Community Thanksgiving Breakfast, now in its 40th year

By Pippa Fisher

It is a sure sign that fall is in the air and the holidays are almost here in Lafayette when it comes time for the annual Community Thanksgiving Breakfast. The event, now in its 40th year, will be held on Friday, Nov. 16 at Our Savior's Lutheran Church.

This year the featured speaker is Donna Wright Sommerville, co-founder of Grateful Gatherings. She will be presenting "Furnishing Homes with Hope," describing the work the organization does to assist families including single mothers, foster children and military veterans transitioning from homelessness or crisis into a new home with the help of volunteers, donors and partners.

Grateful Gatherings began in 2013 when Wright Sommerville, having seen a 10-year-old on the news talking about being homeless during the holidays, provided a Christmas dinner and presents for the girl and her family. When the family was placed in a new apartment a few months later, Sommerville realized the family had no furnishings. She rallied 20 of her friends and within four days had collected enough furniture and household items to help the family set up their new home and new life.

The community breakfast, hosted by the Lafayette Chamber of Commerce, welcomes all to come together and share the morning meal. Pastor Dan Senter from Our Savior's Lutheran Church will provide the invocation and Rev. Robin Wells from the Lafayette United Methodist Church will offer the benediction at the end of breakfast. The event starts at 7 a.m. and should end by 8:30 a.m., making it a great way to start the day before heading into work.

The cost is \$25 per ticket. Tickets may be purchased online at <https://lafayettechamber.org/breakfast/> or through the chamber. No tickets will be sold at the door.

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