

Guide to Cooking For Jan Peek House

By 2017 Deacons



First Presbyterian Church
411 Route 6N and Secor Road
Mahopac, NY 10541

Overview

On the third Saturday of each month, we encourage member volunteers to provide a meal for approximately 20 residents at the Jan Peek House in Peekskill. This document was created to provide ideas and logistics for accomplishing this goal.

There is no limit to the number of people who can participate in providing the meal. Some participants may only be interested in cooking, while others may wish to deliver and serve.

We hope you will provide your successful recipes, comments and photos to be added to this document. Your stories will benefit and inspire future volunteers.

Meal Planning

It is very important that those providing the meal communicate to decide on a well-balanced menu.

Food preparation should include a meat, a starch, and a vegetable for approximately 20 people. Dessert is not required. Some consideration may be given to the needs of residents who may be vegetarians. For example, by adding beans, peas, or cheese to the starch, a vegetarian meal can be accomplished with the starch and vegetable sides.

Jan Peek provides plates, utensils, serving spoons, napkins, drinks, etc.

Paying For The Meal: Options

- You can save your shopping receipts and be reimbursed by the Church for up to \$30 per event. This requires saving the shopping receipts and filling out an expense report.
- In addition, if available, the deacons may also provide a gift card donated from a local grocery store to assist with purchases.
- You may wish to donate the meal.

Cooking

The chefs may cook at home in their own kitchens, or they may decide to cook together in the CE kitchen. On most Saturdays, the CE building is not available until after the Three Dogs Training session, usually by 2 pm.

Use disposable aluminum serving trays that can be left at the shelter.

The meal should be hot and ready for transport to the shelter by 5:30 pm.

Driving

Leave from the Church parking lot at 5:30 pm with intent to arrive at Jan Peek by 6 pm. If you anticipate delays, ***call the shelter at 914-736-2636.***

Directions:

Jan Peek House

200 N Water St # 2, Peekskill, NY 10566

The building is on the river side of the street.

- **Via Taconic/Bear Mountain (15 miles, approximately 20 minutes)**

Head north on Secor Rd toward Austin Road (1.9 mi)

Turn right onto the ramp to Turn Pike S (0.3 mi)

Merge onto Taconic State Parkway (5.4 mi).

Take the Bear Mtn Pkwy exit toward US-202/NY-35/Peekskill (1.0 mi).

Turn right onto US-202 W/Crompond Rd (1.9 mi).

Turn right onto Bear Mountain State Pkwy (3.8 mi).

Continue onto US-202 E/US-6 E/U.S. 9 S (0.5 mi).

Take the US-202/US-6/NY-35/Main St exit (500 ft)

Turn right onto Main St (450 ft)

- **Via US-6 W and Bear Mountain Parkway (11.9 miles, approximately 22 minutes)**

Head south on Secor Rd toward NY-6N N (184 ft).

Turn right onto NY-6N S (2.3 mi).

Continue (straight) onto Mahopac St (256 ft).

Continue (straight) onto 1309/E Main St (1.2 mi).

Turn right onto US-6 W (4.6 mi).

Use the left lane to take the Bear Mountain State Parkway W exit (289 ft).

Turn right onto Bear Mountain State Pkwy (3 mi).

Continue onto US-202 E/US-6 E/U.S. 9 S (0.5 mi).

Bear right to take the US-202/US-6/NY-35/Main St exit (479 ft).

Turn right onto Main St (449 ft).

Serving (2-3 people)

Servers must carry the hot food trays up a long flight of stairs. A receptionist will direct you to the kitchen and tell the residents that the meal is ready to be served. In the kitchen you will find disposable gloves that must be worn before serving the food. The kitchen is stocked with all supplies needed for serving and eating the food.

The residents who are currently in the shelter will approach the serving window where they can see the meal being offered. They will tell you which portions of the meal they would like on their plates.

After everyone who is present has been served, the servers may choose to make their own plates and eat in the dining room.

There is usually a lot of uneaten food left over. This food is held in the warmer for other residents who come later in the evening. We have been assured that all left over donated meals are overseen by staff, and eaten by the residents. Nothing goes to waste.

Successful Menus, Comments and Photos

[Thank you for your support and generosity to our local homeless community!](#)