

Woman makes bread to fulfill mission of feeding African orphans (+ Video)

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CORPUS CHRISTI - Hollie Schaub's heart climbed into her throat in July, she said, as she arrived in eastern Rwanda and saw dozens of young boys running alongside the vehicle to welcome her.

It was her first glimpse of refugee orphans she helps feed by baking bread each Thursday in Corpus Christi.

"I wanted to do something to contribute cross-culturally," said the 36-year-old mother of two who has a master's degree in intercultural studies. "You think 'How can I contribute to such a huge need?'"

She looked to her roots, she said, and faith stepped in.

"Thinking of Jesus feeding the thousands," Schaub said, "I wondered what I had in my hands to give."

Her answer was clear: bread.

Schaub grew up in Fairview, Oklahoma on a wheat farm baking bread with her family.

Now she and her husband, and a few friends, have sold more than 2,500 loaves of specialty bread, hundreds of sacks of granola and pans of cinnamon rolls, and dozens of T-shirts and handmade African aprons tallying about \$50,000 in sales. The Schaub's Fed by Bread nonprofit has given more than \$25,000 of its profits to support projects serving orphans and other vulnerable children in Africa. It operates exclusively online at www.fedbybread.org, accepting weekly orders for Thursday baking to ensure African schoolchildren get healthy meals. Loaves are priced around \$10 and about half the price is part of the 100 percent profit feeding the children.

"This is a multifaceted young woman who has a mission in life beyond herself and her own family,"

said Debbie Pearce, 60, a former dental hygienist, mother and friend who has helped bake the past two years. “The passion for her work shines in her eyes and her smile.”

Pearce first received a Christmas gift box with Schaub’s cinnamon rolls and a Fed by Bread flier.

“I decided to order online,” Pearce said. “Then when I went to her home to pick up the bread, and saw her little kids — with pans of rolls, sacks of granola and all these loaves of bread in her dining room — it touched my heart so much I just wanted to get involved.

“She struck me to the core,” Pearce said, “the exuberance in her heart is her mission field.”

Schaub and her husband began in their kitchen, but quickly grew into a shared commercial kitchen, and now she can be found before daybreak on Thursdays kneading bread in Annapolis Christian Academy’s kitchen. Seasonally her provision changes, and the aromas of orange rolls in spring, cranberry orange walnut loaf summer-long, and now fall pumpkin with swirled cinnamon chips wafts into the school corridors.

“Annapolis believes strongly in the mission of Hollie Schaub and Fed By Bread,” said Headmaster Peter Hansen. “We first began supporting her ministry by donating the use of the school’s kitchen for baking bread. Our students and families quickly embraced her work and consistently purchase delicious bread and cinnamon rolls each week. Hollie is a great person and it is an honor to partner with her in the work she is doing for children in Africa.”

The couple’s mission began small with a simple plan.

She does the baking. Her husband does the books.

They’re a team sharing one heart, her husband Aaron Schaub, a Navy pilot instructor, said.

“The growing pains have been hard,” the 33-year-old said. “Even though it’s not always easy, it has been great to see the Lord grow it.”

Modicum profits from loaves baked in the couple’s kitchen were first shared with Samaritan’s Purse and sponsored three children in Ethiopia.

But as the mounds of dough continued growing, and baking places changed, sales kept pace.

Last year, \$10,700 was given to relief organizations.

Fed by Bread has contributed to six organizations: Africa New Life Ministries, Amazima Ministries

International, Compassion International, Living Water International, Samaritan's Purse and World Vision.

The baking enterprise still sponsors three children through Compassion International and in the 2012 holiday season provided more than 17,000 meals for children in Uganda through Amazima — founded by Katie Davis in Franklin, Tennessee.

Hollie Schaub's trip to Africa this year was to Africa New Life's Kageyo B primary school.

The children get a nutritional porridge of rice and beans for lunch with any meat protein available.

"They get lunch every other day," Schaub said. "We just want to give hope to kids, and food is part of the process of raising them out of poverty," she said. "This is something small we can do ... It is changing lives."

Twitter: [@Caller_BizMike](http://www.twitter.com/caller_bizmike) (http://www.twitter.com/caller_bizmike)

How to help

Who: Fed By Bread

What: Nonprofit that sells fresh baked specialty bread online to feed refugee orphans in Africa

When: Fresh baked on Thursdays for pickup

Where: www.fedbybread.org

How: Order online, 100 percent of profits donated to relief programs.

Breads and more:

Honey Whole Wheat Loaf — \$9

Cranberry Orange Walnut Load — \$10

Whole Wheat Cinnamon Chip Loaf — \$10

Birdseed Loaf — \$10

Cinnamon Rolls (ready to bake 9 by 9 pan) — \$12

Cinnamon Rolls (ready to bake 9 by 13 pan) — \$20

Granola (1 lb bag) — \$10

Set of three mini

loaves — \$12

T-shirts — \$20

Contact: fedbybread@gmail.com (mailto: fedbybread@gmail.com)

Source: Fed by Bread

By The Numbers

48,000

Approximate sales in dollars since 2009

25,000

Approximate dollars distributed to charities

10,700

Dollars distributed in 2013

2,500

Approximate number of loaves baked

1,200

Pans of cinnamon rolls made

100

Percentage of profits given to relief organizations

30

Percentage of annual sales growth

10

Approximate dollars of profit from each pan of rolls

6

Relief organizations supported

5

Approximate dollars of profit from each loaf

3

Baking locations/individual child sponsorships

Source: Fed by Bread

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