

Soup Scoop

Volume 12
March, 2012

The mission of the Daily Bread Soup Kitchen is to feed the hungry of our community regardless of race, religion, or ethnicity. We welcome all volunteers to this service who share an unconditional positive regard for every human being. We provide a safe, respectful, and inviting environment in an atmosphere of hope and dignity.

Daily Bread is an entirely volunteer run organization. Founded in 2009, Daily Bread serves a hot lunch out of the facilities of New Covenant Fellowship at 124 W White St., Champaign. Lunches are served M-F from 11:00-12:30. Sack lunches and coffee are served from a mobile van on weekends.

“For it is in giving that we receive...” ~St. Francis of Assisi

We at Daily Bread have been overwhelmed by the generosity of the Champaign-Urbana community this past Christmas season. We especially want to thank everyone who made this year’s Christmas Backpack Project such an amazing success. As we watched the number of guests we were feeding each day increase, as those guests began asking us if we were going to be giving out backpacks again this year, we started to worry that we might not have enough backpacks to give to everyone who showed up wanting a pack. We are a bit embarrassed now to admit that we GROSSLY underestimated the incredible generosity of the Champaign-Urbana community!

As soon as the newsletter went out, as soon as our letter to the editor seeking backpacks appeared in the News-Gazette, donations and backpacks poured in. By the time we were ready to give away backpacks, we were shocked to realize that we had collected over 800 generously stuffed backpacks!

To give you all an idea of just how many backpacks that is, picture the living room or dining room of your house--and then picture that room stuffed full of backpacks. Picture backpacks piled as high as your head in that room! Picture backpacks on every chair, couch, and coffee table! Picture backpacks blocking doorways! That’s what 800 backpacks look like! Our tireless volunteers who spent countless hours sorting backpacks are still seeing backpacks in their dreams!

Our volunteers are also seeing those backpacks every day at the soup kitchen as our guests come in for lunch. We’re seeing our guests outfitted in the new shirts, socks, hats, gloves, that filled those backpacks. And we’re still remembering the smiling faces as guests got their backpacks.

According to Frank A Clark, *“Real generosity is doing something nice for someone who will never find out.”* The recipients of the backpacks will never know who filled their packs and gave them a special Christmas gift. But we at Daily Bread know. We know that all sorts of people and groups filled backpacks. Champaign Rotary filled 60. Families filled backpacks. Book clubs, school groups, Bible studies, tennis friends, bridge

clubs, offices, classrooms, scout groups, youngsters, oldsters, all sorts of community groups filled backpacks. Some people brought us empty backpacks, others brought items to fill those packs. Knitters made scarves and hats. School children made blankets. We received donations of Avon products, socks, toiletries, sweat shirts, gloves, toys, cash.



Some stories:

A man called and said that he was unable to fill a backpack because he was going to be out of town over the holidays but asked if he could make a donation. How much, he asked, would a typical backpack cost? Probably around \$50, we told him. Fine, he said, I would like to do 20. Every \$20 helps, we thought. No, he said, 20 backpacks! And then he sent a check for \$1,500!

The 5 year old granddaughter of a Daily Bread supporter was visiting for a week, so she gave her the full 'grandma' treatment, a trip to the mall, a ride on the merry go 'round, the Nutcracker at Krannert. Along the way, they bought a backpack and filled it for a 5 year old girl. When her parents came to pick the little girl up after the week at Grandma's, the very first thing she described and gloried in was the backpack. Everything else was incidental.

A regular soup kitchen guest arrived for the backpack give-away with all of his grandchildren, all 23 of them. The kids were delighted with their backpacks and Grandpa was delighted that he was able to do something for each of them for Christmas.

Amazingly, we gave away over 550 backpacks in less than two hours on December 21st. Guests stood patiently in a line that stretched for blocks, and even enjoyed some cookies delivered by a smiling Santa. Just about everything conspired to make the Project a success. Even the weather was balmy for December, which made the wait outside tolerable. Although we were once again close to running out of women's packs, we were able to find a pack for every woman who showed up. We gave away another 200 or so backpacks on Thursday and Friday at Daily Bread to guests who missed the give-away or who asked for an additional pack to share with a family member. We reserved a few packs to have on hand for guests who arrive at Daily Bread this winter in need of warm clothing and toiletries, and we handed out extra socks, gloves, and hats to guests who showed up for coffee and a sack lunch at our weekend mobile van.

We wish that we could share with all of you the smiles on all the faces as our guests walked out with their backpacks. We can share with you the letter we got from one of our guests:

"To Everyone at Daily Bread

Thank-you so much! I was one of the lucky people who was able to get your wonderful backpacks. We made some new friends in the line waiting. Everything we got was needed and so grateful for every item. Lisa, my best buddie, tole me about it, she wants to send her Thank-you's also. Again, many Thanks and my best thoughts are with everyone plus prayers."

But...

As gratifying as the community's backpack response was, our Treasurer Stevie Bennett (who, by the way, was the amazing person who conjured up the idea of the Backpack Project in the first place!) reminds us that we spend \$100 EVERY day to feed our guests, that every month we pay garbage bills, utility bills, rent, insurance, etc, etc., etc. We are an entirely volunteer run organization with NO paid staff, but we still need a steady income stream. We were all shocked this year when Stevie did the year end calculations and announced that we had served 98,149 meals in 2011. We anticipate we will surpass that number in 2012.

Stevie and all of us at Daily Bread were beyond thrilled at the cash donations that arrived over the last few months and gave us a giant jump start on funding for 2012. We are so grateful that so many of you support what we do. But our expenses are never ending, and we are ever in need of financial support. We would encourage those of you who can to send in a check, to join our Bread of the Month Club, or to shop at our Daily Bread Boutique and buy the gift of a day or a week of food at Daily Bread for yourself or in honor of a loved one. (You can find more information at our website dailybreadsoupkitchen.com or call 356-SOUP. Checks are always happily accepted at Daily Bread Soup Kitchen PO Box 648 Champaign, IL 61824-0648)



Our thanks to the following who donated backpacks (and to many others who chose to remain anonymous or whose names we missed in the hubbub--you know who you are!)

Champaign Rotary, Holy Cross Students, Stocks Office Furniture, Engineering Career Services, Deanna and John Wright, Pat Stangl and Carle Inpatient Pharmacy, Kate Keller and Carle SICU, Marie Slattery, Teri Wilke, Tom Crist, Linda Ross, Kim Diehl, Judi Baylor, CVS Pharmacy, Maggie Roberts, Tim O'Connor, Amy Dubrinick, Page Parkhill, Bill and Bonny Denny, Bob and Cindy Hardig, Dallas Ferris, Roxann and Bill Craig, Cindy Best, Joan Zernich, Vicki Johnson, Pat Hardy, Martha Moore, Mary Smith, Glenn and



Laura Berry, Joyce Conley, Bill Brownfield, Barbara Flynn, Gretha Wolfe, Phyllis Bruno, Carol Belber, Teryl Pigott, Linda Lebie, Jim Pankau, Amy Matthews, Carrie Busey Student Council, Jonques Bissell, Lou Ann Koebel, Rich Porter, Mary Lou Widloski, Tom and Chris Scott, Lynn and Diana Hiser, Sister Mary Robert Morten, Jeannette Hulick, Zarina Hock, Peter and Sandra Beak, Rural King, John McManus, Robert Davis, David and Carol Bunick, Unit 4 Curriculum Center, Carle Development Foundation, Alice Berlison and Alex Scheeline, St. Thomas School, Glenna Rogers, Roberts Design Company, Countryside United Methodist Church, Tom and Phyllis Hand, Dorothy Weber, Tom and Diane Newkirk, Granny Dolores, Jim W's small group at Windsor Road Christian Church, Ed and Sharon Hettinger, Janice Hutchinson, Ken and Tammy Travis, Linda Kovell, Joan Reeves, Betsy Place, Toni Eyer, Sharon Conry, Fitness Center, Judy Nowak, Glenda Henderson, Mary Kay Pleck, Donna O'Brian, Rosemary Sabbia, Barbara Callaghan, Ellen Harms, Johanna Harms, Judy Griffith, Linda Sloat, Betsy Boyle, Mimi Newman, Denise Novak, Susan Marshall, Nancy Hatch, Helen Grandone, Janet Pope, Bonnie Boswell, Gloria Asiaga, Sue Laesch, Mary Bissey, Karen Pickard, Chris Main, Jan Reynolds, Kathy Hansen, Jean Somers, Tinsley Williams, Arlene Blank, Sheila Lavender, Joe Wentzel, Susan Leskis, Marshall Greenarch, Sharon Kristovich, Glenn and Laura Berry, Alane Phelps, Margaret Ford, Ted Silvey and Carle Decision Support, Sister Mary Robert Morton and the Sisters of the Holy Heart of Mary, Nancy Rotzoll and the Women of Westminster Presbyterian Church, Rev. Laura Aull Johnson and C-U Illini after 5, Dawn Longfellow, Melissa Edwards, Beth Matthews, Connie Macedo, Mother's Morning Out, Mary Shelden, Dean and Susan Cavey, Vevi Brannon, Girl Scout Troup #2539, Dave Tomlinson Church of Christ, Stacy, Chris, and Ben Cribbs, Linda K Holtz, Vickie Krouse, Irene Roelfs, Bethel AME Church, Wayne Davis, Don and Carolyn Mullally, John Cole, Jane Cain's Bookclub, Kathleen Williams' Bible Group, Jan Slater, Vicki Bond, Diane Klock, Linda and Kyle Gerlach, Jeff Starwalt, Julie Mills, Jim and Pam Hagle, Shirley Marshall, Peg Goyette, Denice Hood, Jeanette Williams, Doug and Susie Parrett, Nadine Schmitz, Tom Anderson, Bobbi McCall, CC Lim, Linda Ter Hark, Maggie Hanrah, Cindi Babcock, Donald Dodds, William and Emily Brown, Mary and John Tucker, Melinda and John Dabrowski, Gale Stafford, Rural King, Laura Keller, Liz Jackson, Sherry's Shear Hair Design, Linda Mickey, Heather Engelman, Beth Woodside, Bob and Lucia Scully, Marsha Clinard, Beverly Schmidt, Katherine Gorski, Cindy and Dave Wilson, Jennifer Massey, Dean and Nancy Olson, Michelle Dalmier, Martha Morris, Supervalu Retail Accounting, Neil Street Post Office, Jack and Gina Stocking, Sarah Zehr, Bernadette Zehr, Wenda Spears and Terry DesJardines, Albert Mitchell, Charles Gibson, Ann Parkinson and St Matthews Bunco Group, Areawide Court Reporters in honor of Audrey, Debbie Bernard, Lori Frey, Irene, Dave York, Dorothy Weber, Darlene Uken, Diane Orberon and Patterson Office, Gilbert Schleef, Nancy Creason, L Robertson, Celene Bailey, Karen Carpener, Susan McLane, Karen Stone, Linda Robertson, Dixie Phillips, Tom and Cathy Lockman, Jan Kane, Jean Halsy, Our Lady of the Lake Church, Mary Lou Walters, Rose Goodman, Mary White, Robin Leonard, Diane Todd, Kathy Barton, Frances Schook, Nancy Gardiner, Don and Marilyn Cohen, Paul and Cathy Thurston, Moe Van Hoorn, Holly Winn, Molly Nueman, Kim Johnston and Cub Scout Pack 119-Black Lightning Den, Barb Davis, Jayne Burkhardt, F.E. Moran, Inc., Karen Atkins, Lisa Young, Val Deichman, Lois Rath, Audrey Chapman, Laura Frerichs, Michelle Schweighart, Dick and Stevie Bennett, Janet Stafford of Avon, Daily Bread Soup Kitchen Bridge Group, Jim and Betty Albers, Joan Cabutti and the Provena Covenant Medical Center Knitters, Pam Dorsey, Nancy and Rick Kidd, Ann McDowell, Rick Schmidt, Meg Miller, Carol and Gib Williamson, Ruth Branaman, Angie Poulsen, Judy Sehy's Bridge group



Stone, Linda Robertson, Dixie Phillips, Tom and Cathy Lockman, Jan Kane, Jean Halsy, Our Lady of the Lake Church, Mary Lou Walters, Rose Goodman, Mary White, Robin Leonard, Diane Todd, Kathy Barton, Frances Schook, Nancy Gardiner, Don and Marilyn Cohen, Paul and Cathy Thurston, Moe Van Hoorn, Holly Winn, Molly Nueman, Kim Johnston and Cub Scout Pack 119-Black Lightning Den, Barb Davis, Jayne Burkhardt, F.E. Moran, Inc., Karen Atkins, Lisa Young, Val Deichman, Lois Rath, Audrey Chapman, Laura Frerichs, Michelle Schweighart, Dick and Stevie Bennett, Janet Stafford of Avon, Daily Bread Soup Kitchen Bridge Group, Jim and Betty Albers, Joan Cabutti and the Provena Covenant Medical Center Knitters, Pam Dorsey, Nancy and Rick Kidd, Ann McDowell, Rick Schmidt, Meg Miller, Carol and Gib Williamson, Ruth Branaman, Angie Poulsen, Judy Sehy's Bridge group

Backpacks weren't the only ways that C-U showed their support for Daily Bread:

U of I Students Support Daily Bread

Last fall the U of I Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) chose Daily Bread as the local non-profit organization it would support for the 2011-12 academic year. The student athletes have supported Daily Bread in many ways. Teams have bagged chips and cookies for sack lunches. Athletes have helped the weekend crews make sandwiches and pass out sack lunches from the Daily Bread van. Several teams have served hot lunches during the week and have also donated toiletries and other items for our guests. And, in February athletes put on their annual talent show called Jock Jams with a third of the proceeds going to Daily Bread. Katelin Dilger, SAAC board member, presented checks for \$6,135 to Daily Bread Vice President Kate Metz, who was delighted to serve as a Jock Jams Judge! What can we say but a BIG THANKS and GO, ILLINI!



Grants

Dolores and Andrew Sofranko and the Grants Committee have had a very busy and successful year finding and writing grants. We received \$1,300 from the City of Urbana, Department of Development for the Assistance Program. Eastern Illinois Foodbank gave Daily Bread \$5,000 for Installation and partial purchase of our walk-in refrigerator. St. John's Catholic Chapel, Service and Justice Outreach, awarded us \$800 for Assistance. We received \$3,000 from Walmart from their Hunger Outreach Grant Program. University of Illinois Orange Krush Foundation awarded us \$1,000 for bus passes for our guests. We received \$3,100 from Champaign Rotary for a handwashing system and generator for the weekend van. The Peoria Diocese Catholic Champaign for Human Development gave us \$5000 to purchase and equip the van we now use to feed our guests on the weekend. And we received \$2,000 from the Community Foundation of East Central Illinois for a new food warmer. What can we say but a BIG THANKS and GO C-U!!



Kids Support Daily Bread

In honor of Holy Cross Church's 100th anniversary, students were asked to bring in 100 things. Third Grader Emily Goad brought in 100 tubes of toothpaste, with a bit of help from her dentist, Dr. Yu at Creative Smiles. Holy Cross students show up weekly with fresh fruit and milk for our guests. And Monticello Middle School students made fleece blankets that they handed out to guests.



Just a Few of the Other Ways People Help:

~Bentley's Pub sponsored a Chili Cook-Off in November as a fundraiser for Daily Bread.



~Illinois's own Mikel LeShore's NFL career took a brief hit with his knee injury, but his heart is still beating strong. He once again donated Thanksgiving turkeys and hams. As did Schnuck's Grocery.



~ The Seventh Graders at Judah Christian School decided to forgo their Christmas Party and spent the time at Daily Bread scrubbing tables and sorting backpacks instead.

~The Art Club at The High School of St. Thomas More sponsored a Soup Dinner with all proceeds going to Daily Bread.

~Joe's Brewery donated food (not brew!!).

~The ECP Program (afterschool program) at St. Matthews made table decorations for Valentine's

Day and for Fat Tuesday. (The Tuesday crew all wore red, cooked red food, and gave guests Hersey Kisses on Valentines Day and wore purple and Mardi Gras beads and gave everyone two desserts on Fat Tuesday!)

~Volunteers arrive daily with food leftover from Unit 4 and from Holy Cross hot lunch programs.



~U of I student volunteers, after many weeks of dishwashing and other helpful chores, asked to be cooks for a day. Their meal was a big hit with our guests.



~Tiffany Tsou, a CPA at the UIUC College of Business, brings her violin to Daily Bread and plays a variety of music for our guests on Fridays.

~Jim Hagle is always available when we need legal advice.

~Zarina Hock, Friday crew chief and past president of the C-U Indian Cultural Society, is editing an Indian cookbook, "Home Cooking of India" with all proceeds going to Daily Bread. As far as we know, Zarina has not yet served an Indian meal on Friday, although we're sure our guests would enjoy it. Anyone interested in obtaining a copy should email Zarina at zhock@sbcglobal.net

~We at Daily Bread want to thank the many individuals who donated in honor of the late Mary Ann Malak. Mary Ann was a Daily Bread Board member, a Wednesday volunteer, and a tireless member of the Assistance Committee. Mary Ann's enthusiasm and dedication are sorely missed.



**Daily Bread Soup Kitchen, Inc.
P.O.Box 648
Champaign, IL 61824-0648**

**Save the Date!
3rd Annual
Candy Foster and
Shades of Blue
Daily Bread Benefit
June 15, 2012
At Alto Vineyard
Tickets: \$25
(We're looking for
event sponsors to
donate 1 or more
days worth of food at
\$100 a day. To be a
sponsor, contact
Stevie at 352-5065)**

