

The Soup Scoop

Volume 2

November 2009

Daily Bread Soup Kitchen Mission Statement

The mission of 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.

(Recap for First time Newsletter Recipients: Daily Bread Soup Kitchen was formed in August when St. Jude's Catholic Worker House Steering Committee made the controversial decision to close the long time soup kitchen. Many Catholic Worker House volunteers remained strongly committed to the mission of feeding the hungry of the Champaign community and banded together to create Daily Bread.

Currently Daily Bread is providing sack lunches out of the facilities of **New Covenant Fellowship at 124 W. White**, at the corner of Randolph and White Street in Champaign. Lunches are served **Monday through Friday from 11:00 to 12:30**. We are in the process of working with New Covenant on plans to use their facilities to provide a hot lunch during the cold winter months. Meanwhile, we dream of having our own permanent facility.)

As the weather gets cooler and as many more people in Champaign are feeling the effects of our nation's current economic problems, the numbers of individuals and families we are feeding at Daily Bread continues to climb. On most days we have over 90 individuals coming in for our sack lunches and many of our guests ask for lunches to take home to family members. Some days our numbers are over 100. Each lunch consists of two sandwiches, a small bag of chips, and some sort of sweet. We frequently have fruit that has been donated, and we provide coffee and juice as well. Lately we have been able to hand out donated bread goods from Panera.

But the men and women who come to Daily Bread have other needs besides an empty stomach. We have guests who need a state ID before they can get a job. We have guests who have no money to fill a prescription. We have guests who are on the verge of getting evicted and becoming truly homeless. We have guests who have faraway family willing to take them in but no transportation to get them home. We have guests who have no winter coats, no winter shoes, no gloves, no socks. Ellen McDowell, Daily Bread's Board President, is in charge of our 'assistance' program. Our guests, with incredible respect and affection, refer to her as 'Miss Ellen' although she has been happily married for over sixty years. We volunteers call her 'Saint Ellen,' but not to her face since she's too modest to accept the title. But every Wednesday 'Miss Ellen' stretches and stretches the money we've budgeted for assistance and helps as many of our guests as possible. Each Wednesday volunteers hand out toiletries that people have donated as well as hats, socks, and underwear. We often feel like what we do is a very small drop in a very large bucket, but we are determined to do what we can.

Last week, Wednesday volunteer Deepa Madhubalan donated a new sign for Daily Bread. According to 'Miss Ellen,' "Now we've got the sign, all we need is the doorway to hang it over." We continue to dream...

Ellen Harms, Newsletter



THANKSGIVING DINNER

We are happy to let you know that Daily Bread is going to serve its first HOT MEAL! Holy Cross Church has agreed to let us use their school cafeteria and their certified kitchen to prepare and serve Thanksgiving dinner to our guests. We are currently soliciting donations for turkeys, the women of First Presbyterian Church of Champaign have agreed to provide pies, and Ruth Branaman, who is coordinating the dinner, is already planning the rest of the meal. We're pretty sure that she's going to be cooking mashed potatoes and gravy, stuffing, green beans, and cranberry relish. But we think she may be planning to skip the brussel sprouts!

We are delighted to be back in the hot meal business once again, if only for a day, and we are hopeful that this will be the first of many hot meals in Daily Bread's future. If you are available to help prepare or serve this Thanksgiving meal, please give Ellen McDowell a call at **356-7101**.

CHRISTMAS BACKPACK PROJECT

Christmas is not a very merry time for most of our Soup Kitchen guests. Many agencies and many generous individuals reach out to needy families, especially needy children, during the Christmas season. But the individuals who we serve at Daily Bread are rarely remembered. This year we are asking for donations of filled backpacks that we can give as gifts to our guests on Christmas. The backpacks can be filled with warm gloves, socks, scarves, hats, underwear, toiletries (especially deodorant and hand lotion for hands that get chapped in the cold), candy, playing cards, bus tokens, etc. Filled backpacks can be dropped off at Ellen McDowell's at 710 S. Elm Blvd., phone **356-7101**, or at Stevie Bennett's at 1302 S. Elm, Champaign, phone **352-5065**. If you don't have a backpack, but would like to help with this project, just fill a brown grocery bag with Christmas items and drop it off and we will find a backpack to put it in. We also like to provide stamped Christmas cards for our guests to mail to their families. Donated stamps and cards would be appreciated.

APRONS

If you've had a chance to stop by Daily Bread while lunch is being served, you may have noticed that many of our volunteers are looking crisp and cool in their new Daily Bread Soup Kitchen aprons. (The Tuesday crew of Gina Stocking, Tony Peressini, Jim Hiller, and Rosemary Decker, who are modeling the aprons, like to think that they look crisp and cool all the time; the rest of the Tuesday crew know better!) Designed by Gina Stocking, the aprons are for sale to any volunteer, any Daily Bread contributor, or just anyone who wants to help Daily Bread with its mission of feeding the hungry in



Champaign. The aprons can be purchased for \$15 by calling Gina Stocking at **352-3611** and would make a great hostess gift for whoever is stuffing your Thanksgiving turkey or a fine Christmas present for whoever is cooking your Christmas dinner.

THANKSGIVING BAKE SALE

What would be the most appropriate thing for Daily Bread to sell? That's right, BREAD! Daily Bread is planning a Bread Sale after all masses at Holy Cross on Sunday, November 22nd. We will be selling a wide assortment of miniature loaves of bread for \$3 a loaf. If you are a Holy Cross parishioner, look for us on the 22nd! If you attend another church, keep your eyes open. We hope to sell our bread at other churches later in the year.

“LET US ENTERTAIN YOU”

Daily Bread held its first fundraiser on October 24th at Lincolnshire Fields Country Club. Produced by Dan Perrino, guests enjoyed an afternoon of enchanting music including songs made popular by famous singers. Featured performers included Rick Murphy, a popular entertainer and accompanist, Caitlin Caruso Dobbs, a remarkable young vocalist, Carl Johnson, a talented clarinetist, and Annie Rong, a gifted young violinist. Lincolnshire Fields provided luscious deserts (and, to the delight of our Daily Bread guests, generously donated the leftovers to Daily Bread).



It was a lovely event, and we would like to profusely thank Lincolnshire Fields Country Club, Dan Perrino, and Rick, Caitlin, Carl, and Annie for a wonderful afternoon of music. We would also like to thank everyone who joined us and enjoyed the concert with us. All proceeds will go to Daily Bread Soup Kitchen's search for a permanent home to feed the hungry of our community.

A Special Thanks to our Newest Donors: Mark and Lisa Allen, Joanne Apgar, Jacqueline Ard, Katharine Aston, Bettie and John Ayers, Linda Badalucco, Mary Bailey, Robert and Karen Bachellor, David and Susan Bane, Craig and Donna Bazzani, Paul and Doris Bermingham, Robert and Sue Boecek, Catherine Bridgeford, Charles and Pat Bruns, Ellyn and David Bullock, Joan Burke, James and Tommie Calhoun, Dennie and Rita Campion, Marvin and Beth Carbonneau, Ron and Christy Cekander, Patricia Chapel, Roseann Clifford, Collins Family Trust, Wayne and Dorothy Cope, Dorothy Damewood, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Dominguez, B Jody Dotson, Barbara Farner, Lyle and Patricia Fettig, Marlene Fiedler, Vicki Fitzgerald, Rudolf and Lucille Frasca, Gladys Freed, Kurt Froelich, John and Sandra Geis, Steven and Rosa Gilbertz, Diane Goodwine, Floyd and Phyllis Gordon, Rajni Govindjee, Charlotte Green, Steve and Jeannine Grumish, Jay and Rita Harms, Daniel and Marianne Harrington, Dr. and Mrs. Alan Haussermann, Wayne and Allison Heller, Rose Marie and William Hire, Zarina and Hans Henrich Hock, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hoffman, Bette Holmes, H. Patricia Hosier, Richard and Norma Howard, Francis and Helen Jahn, Dr. Norman James, Rosemary Karich, Melissa and Scott Keeble, Earl and Janice Kellogg, Patricia Kemme, Doug and Josephine Kibbee, Todd and Margaret Kinney, Fannie Kirby, Nori Komorita, Fred and Joan Kouka, P.R. and P.Jayashree Kumar, Charles Lamkin Jr., K.R. and Patricia Larson, Loren and LuAnn Leskis, Billie Little, Tom and Cathy Lockman, Charlotte and Franklin Longfellow, Viswanathan and Deepa Madhubalan, David and Chris Main, Thomas and Joan Malee, Mary Ann Malek, William and Janet Manning, Rachel Daisy Manwell, Austin and Ellen McDowell, Michael and Mary McMillen, Glenn and Luella McWilliams, Richard and Joyce Meents, Barbara Miller, Carol and Yoram Mizrahi, Patricia Montgomery, William and Elizabeth Morley, Rihard Murphy, Bill and Adele Myers, Anthony and Michele Nickrent, Dean and Nancy Olson, Daniel and Marjorie Perrino, Greg and Sarah Peters, John and Joanne Petry, Philo Presbyterian Church, Jan Siders, Penny Porter, Mary Ellen Racioppi, Michael and Carolyn Ragsdale, Ruth Rains, Edward Reardon, Carol Rebbe, Jim and Marcia Reed, Rocca and Phillip Robinson, Sherrill and Donald Robinson, Ann Rund, N. Susan Ryan, Pat and Bill Sargent, Sandra Schaudt, Richard and Sheryl Scherschligt, Yvette Scheven, Rachel Schroeder, Barbara Shenk and Danny Otto, William and Joan Sheridan, Tom and Marie Slattery, Pamela Smiricky, Jean Smith, Mary and John Stallmeyer, Sally Stillwell, Stocks, Inc., John and Stephanie Stoll, Terry and Teresa Swift, Emile and Elizabeth Talbot, Susan Taylor, Marshall and Lelah Thompson, Catherine Thurston, Tom and Cynthia Twardy, Sophia and Stephen Van Arsdell, Joseph and Kathryn Verdeyen, Sandra Volk, Christine Walsh, Waterflow Consultants, Catherine Watson, Joanne Wheeler, Mark and Susan Widloski, Teri and Andrei Wilke, Curtis and Janice Wilson, Womens Association Westminster Presbyterian Church, Caroline Woodis, Deanna and John Wright, Ruth Youngerman, Dr. Joseph Zolar.

Special Thanks for recent contributions: New Covenant Fellowship, Friends Meeting, Ed Mueller, Mark Cousert, Rodney Reid, Barry Dickenson, Alex Ruggieri, Darcy Bean Jr., Dan Harrington, Geraldine at Rick Orr's, Catholic Charities of the Peoria Diocese, Panera, Jerry's IGA-Kirby, Jerry's IGA-Roundbarn, Chris Reis and Lincolnshire Fields Country Club,

Daily Bread Soup Kitchen, Inc.
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Daily Bread Wish List

A LOT to build a permanent home on or a **BUILDING** that could be converted to a Soup Kitchen (It never hurts to dream...)

Clothing (Clean and in good condition): Men's coats and Jackets, rain parkas, men's underwear, tee shirts, gloves, caps, scarves, and socks

Bus Tokens

Food: Packaged lunch meat and cheese, packaged chips, cookies, crackers, fresh fruit such as apples, oranges, and bananas

Toiletries: Razors, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, shampoo, conditioner, feminine products

Bags: Plastic grocery bags, plastic storage bags, all sizes

Backpacks and Sleeping bags

Volunteers (We always need more volunteers!)

\$\$\$ Donations Always Needed

Daily Bread is run entirely by volunteers. All donations go directly to help feed the hungry of Champaign.

Items may be brought to Ellen McDowell's home, 710 S. Elm Blvd. Champaign, Il. 61820

Any Questions?? Call or e-mail Ellen **356-7101** (early am or evening) or ajmcdowel@illinois.edu

Be part of the yeast that brings a new Soup Kitchen site into being!!



We need dough!
Write checks to:
Daily Bread Soup Kitchen, Inc.
Tax receipts will be available.

Mail to: Daily Bread Soup Kitchen, Inc.
P.O. Box 648
Champaign, Il. 61824-0648