

Soup Scoop

Volume 18

August, 2013

Daily Bread Soup Kitchen Mission Statement

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**, at the corner of Randolph and White Street in Champaign. Lunches are served **Monday through Friday from 11:00 to 12:30**. Sack lunches and coffee are served from our mobile van on weekends.

Daily Bread and the Magic of Stone Soup

It's been a very busy summer at Daily Bread. We served over 200 guests a day during the months of June and July. As amazing as those numbers are, the fact that we are able to feed 200 people a day, every day, for only \$100 a day is even more amazing. How do you do that, people are always asking. And the answer is twofold. First of all, we have very creative and inventive cooks. But second of all, it's all about the food.

When my daughter Jill was a pre-schooler, she loved the story of Stone Soup. A poor peddler came to a village, built a small fire, pulled out a pot, filled it with water, and then held up a stone and told the curious villagers that he was going to make them some delicious Stone Soup. He put his stone in the boiling water, stirred it a bit, then stuck in a spoon and took a taste. "Mmm, delicious," he said, "but maybe it needs a bit of salt." And one of the villagers ran home and got some salt. "Mmm, delicious," said the peddler, "but maybe it needs a bit of celery." And one of the villagers ran home and brought back a stalk of celery. On and on the peddler stirred and tasted as the villagers added carrots and onions and beef and pepper until he finally pronounced the Stone Soup done. The entire village thought that the peddler's Stone Soup was by far the best soup they had ever tasted.

At Daily Bread we serve our guests our own version of Stone Soup every day for lunch. Although we don't have an actual stone to stick in our pots, every day we put on our aprons, pull out our cookpots, and a generous C-U community shows up with food. 'Salad would be great for lunch,' we think, and Gordon Food Service supplies us with big bags of prewashed and chopped lettuce, and local gardeners show up regularly with tomatoes and zucchini and other goodies from their gardens. 'Our guest love soup,' we think, and Urbana Garden Restaurant and LaPeep donate pots of delicious home made soup.

'We need an entree,' we think, and every day volunteers go to Eastern Illinois FoodBank and return with vans full of hamburger or pork or chicken as well as rice, pasta, and all sorts of other goodies for our creative cooks. 'We need desserts to finish off our meal,' we think, and the Food Bank provides cakes, pies, and cookies donated by local grocery stores. 'What about drinks,' we think, and the students and teachers at Holy Cross School arrive with cartons of milk.

For the longest time my daughter Jill thought that the peddler's stone really was magical. (So much so that she committed her first and hopefully last act of larceny when her pre-school class made their own pot of Stone Soup and she came home with the magic stone hidden in her pocket!) At Daily Bread we know that what is really magical about the meal we serve every day is the love and generosity of everyone who provides the food and stirs the pot.

No wonder than our guests frequently leave saying that the meal at Daily Bread was one of the best they've ever tasted!





A Magical Summer Night

There weren't any magic stones in the soup on June 14th but it was a magical night all the same. For the fourth year in a row Candy Foster and his band Shades of Blue performed under the stars at Alto Vineyard in a benefit for Daily Bread that raised \$20,000 to help feed the hungry of Champaign-Urbana. In past years we've anxiously watched weather reports although the rain always managed to come early or late. But on June 14th the forecast was for clear skies, and we all enjoyed a balmy, breezy evening listening to Candy sing the blues. Daily

Bread supporters, volunteers, and other music lovers enjoyed a Daily Bread meal of soup, salad, sandwich, and cake along with the music.

There are always so many people to thank for a successful event. Obviously, there would have been no event if Candy and his Band hadn't so generously supported our work, so a special thanks to them. And a special thanks to Alto Vineyard for their wonderful facility and for all the many ways they made this event a success. We are grateful to Urbana Garden Restaurant for the donation of soup, which was a huge hit even on a warm summer night. We are grateful to Tony Peressini who, even in absentia, made sure that we served guests the finest of salads. We are grateful to Jeanne Handley and Vanessa Horsman for the extra tables and especially for the many bags of ice. We are grateful to Dr. Vicki Johnson and an anonymous bride who donated items for our silent auction, and we want to thank Dan Mills, who won the 50-50 raffle and very generously donated his winnings back to Daily Bread. We are grateful to all the volunteers who tied on their aprons and showed all our guests what Daily Bread hospitality is like. And we are very, very grateful for everyone who came out on a beautiful June evening to support Daily Bread, enjoy a soup kitchen meal, listen to some fine music, and dance the night away!

We've started some traditions at this annual event. Once again we all, guests and volunteers, came together to wish Ellen McDowell, Daily Bread's president emeritus and spiritual leader, a happy birthday. And once again, as the evening was winding down, Candy handed over the microphone and let the Daily Bread Volunteer Singers take the stage to sing our own version of 'I've Been Working on the Railroad!' A magical night indeed!



A special thanks to the following sponsors:

Ron and Kathy Alexis, Vevi and Richard Brannon, Roy and Ann Campbell, Roseann Clifford, Common Ground Food Co-op, Ranjit and Pradeep Dhillon, Charlie and Ruth Ann Evans, Louis Finchman, First Federal Savings Bank, Frederick & Hagle, Attorneys at Law, Kurt P. Froehlich, Girl Scouts of Central Illinois Daisy Troop 2149, Jeanne Handley, Jim and Ellen Harms, Al and Sue Hartter, Bill and Nancy Hatch, Greg and Cathy Hatch, Alan and Clare Haussermann, Dr. and Mrs. Alfred Heckman, Zarina and Hans Hock, Brian and Judy Holding, Holy Cross Women, Vanessa Horsman, Patricia Januszki, Scott Kline, Nori Komorita, Alan and Linda Kurtz, Gary and Leslie Mason, Austin and Ellen McDowell, Connie McNary, Mettler Center, Dolores Metz, Linda and Lee Mickey, Dean and Nancy Olson, Janet Piccioli, Scott and Karen Pickard, Presence Covenant Medical Center, Janet Propst, Tom and Chris Scott, Simply Plumbing, Teal Snapp, Jack and Gina Stocking, U of I Golf Course, Lawrence and Joanne Walther, John and Deanna Wright.

Magic Moments at Daily Bread

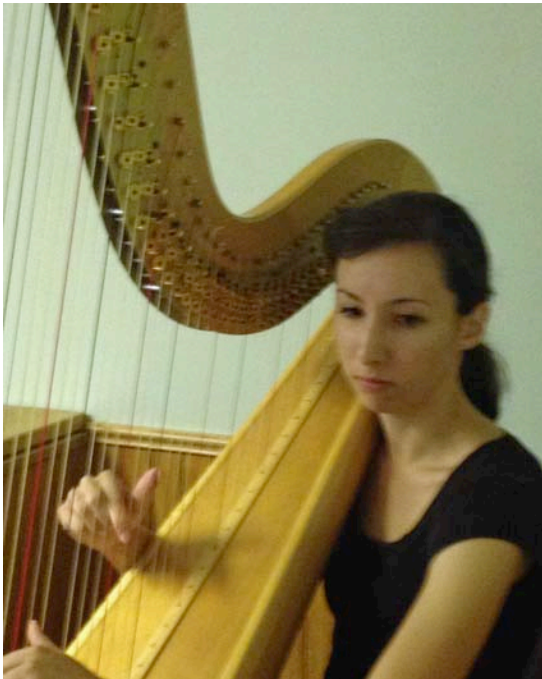
Guests who attended our annual Benefit weren't the only ones lucky enough to get to enjoy Candy Foster this summer. Candy and a few friends made a surprise visit to the Soup Kitchen in July and entertained our guests with his special version of "Candy, Unplugged." They set up their instruments in the back corner of the dining room, started playing the blues, and quickly had the crowd singing and dancing along.



Our guests were

entertained by another type of music when volunteer Molly Madden arrived one day only to find that we had a surplus of volunteers to cook and serve food. But Molly had other talents to offer our guests. She returned on an oppressively hot day with her harp. Her music was beautiful and calming on a day in which the heat could have led to agitation among our guests.

There was other happy music at Daily Bread this summer. On the third Tuesday of every month, El Toro donates an entire Mexican meal for our guests, and the Tuesday volunteers start off the celebration with a rousing version of "We Want to Wish you a Taco Tuesday..."



Little Tylea Johnson celebrated her second birthday at Daily Bread this summer, and all the guests and volunteers joined together to sing Happy Birthday to her and to wish her a very special day. Tylea's huge smile made a magical moment for everyone.

Candy belting out the blues, the soothing sounds of a harp, mariachi music, and a group sing-along to a little girl! Music to all our ears!



Our guests received other gifts this summer besides the gift of music. Altrusca, a women's philanthropic organization whose focus is literacy, surprised our guests with a book give-away. The Altrusca women filled a table in the foyer with a wide assortment of different genres of books and let our guests pick out a favorite.

Luann Olsen, a retiring teacher, donated 382 children's books that were very happily received by the many children who have been eating at Daily Bread this summer.



The Magic of Giving

As most of you know, Daily Bread is an entirely volunteer operation that is supported entirely by donations and a few local grants. Over and over again we are touched and thankful for the many ways that so many individuals and groups support our mission to feed the hungry of our community. As you can imagine, the \$100 a day we spent on food is only one of our many expenses. Every month we pay rent, insurance, garbage bills, utilities. We have a regular assistance program that helps our guests get the state ID's and birth certificates that they need for employment and assistance programs, and we also provide bus passes to guests who demonstrate a need. All of these items add up to a sizeable amount of money every month. It's only because of our supporters that we've been able to stay in the black for so many years. Many of you give on a regular basis each month to our Bread of the Month Club, donations that sustain us and help us pay the bills. Many of you donate at Christmas with sizeable contributions that allow us to build up cash reserves for leaner months.

Isabella and Nico Arizaga held their second annual lemonade stand in July to raise money for Daily Bread. Their goal, they told us, was to raise enough money to provide two days worth of food for the soup kitchen. They were delighted to present us with \$212--and two watermelons! We were very grateful for the cash, and our guests were very delighted to enjoy the delicious watermelon!

Daisy Troop 2149 at Holy Cross School had a great cookie sale and decided to donate half of their profits to charity. Six of the girls identified a charity and gave a short presentation about their charity. The Troop then voted to donate to all six charities. Daily Bread feels very honored to be chosen by the Girl Scouts.

The Champaign-Urbana Junior Woman's Club donated \$384.29 to Daily Bread for the purchase of 5 bus passes at \$60 each and \$84.29 for food. (We are betting that our creative cooks could make a day's meal out of that eighty four dollars!)



We were delighted to be chosen by Common Ground Food Co-operative as their June Round Up for Good charity. Common Ground owners and customers raised \$704.87 in donations. We are very grateful!

We were also delighted to receive a check for five thousand dollars to be used for the Assistance Program from a local, private foundation. Maci and Jake Walters, students at Holy Cross School, along with their principal Rose Costello, presented the check to Ellen McDowell.

These are just a few of the gifts we've received recently. All gifts are much appreciated, and all gifts directly benefit the guests that we serve every day.

Five Things You May Not Know about Daily Bread

1. **Volunteers at Daily Bread have a good time!** These intrepid volunteers walked the route of the annual 4th of July parade, passing out candy and waving their ladles and spoons at a receptive crowd.



2. **Volunteers can help in a wide variety of ways.** Volunteers do a lot more than just cook hot meals and walk in parades. We are always in need of people willing to pick up food donated by various groups. We are always in need of people to work on our fund raising committee. Our Faith2 Office provides a space for local agencies to provide services to our guests at Daily Bread. The office is in need of volunteer monitors. Although we can't allow volunteers under the age of 15, younger volunteers have decorated lunch bags for our guests or made table decorations.



3. **Here's how to get information about volunteering.** This spring, a volunteer link was added to the DBSK website. Potential volunteers should go to our website at www.dailybreadsoupkitchen.com. At the website you can watch a nine minute video that will give you an inside look at a day at the soup kitchen. On the website you can find out about our volunteer needs for weekdays, weekends, food pickup and the assistance office. You will find our volunteer policies, learn about public health requirements, and even watch a short video on handwashing. For volunteer related questions, contact Volunteer Coordinator Karen Kane at dbsoupkitchen@gmail.com or leave a message at 356-7687

4. **Volunteers from our Speakers Bureau would be happy to speak to your organization, group, class, etc about Daily Bread.** For more information about a speaker, go to the website or contact Karen Pickard at kkpickard@gmail.com

5. **Daily Bread has its own Boutique!** Check it out on the website. Items include Daily Bread aprons and Daily Bread coffee mugs. But our most popular item is our \$100 One Day of Food Gift Certificates that make wonderful gifts for those hard to buy for individuals that we all have on our gift lists. (We also have \$85 One Week of Garbage Pickup Gift Certificates, but those seem to be less popular!)

And One Thing that You Probably Do Know...

Funding--We Always need Donations. Once again, thanks to those of you who keep Daily Bread functioning and growing with your financial support. For those of you who would like more information about how you can contribute, once again check out our website at www.dailybreadsoupkitchen.com Stevie Bennett, our hardworking treasurer likes nothing better than to go to our mail box and find it full of checks. (Those days make up for the days when she find it full of bills.) Any and all donations gratefully received at:

**Daily Bread Soup Kitchen
PO Box 648, Champaign, IL 61824-0648**

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Wait, One More Thing!!

Christmas seems a long way off as we are basking in the August sunshine! But Christmas is only four months away. Once again, come December, Daily Bread will be asking for donations of backpacks filled with items that help our guests better endure the cold winter months. Last year Daily Bread supporters made Christmas magic by donating over one thousand generously filled backpacks that we gave to our appreciative guests. Right now many stores have great bargains on back to school backpacks. We would encourage everyone to shop early (and shop often). Look for more information in the November newsletter.

(The address below is for monetary donations only-NO BACKPACKS!)

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