

INTERFAITH NEWS

The Newsletter of Interfaith Volunteers of Dunn County

June 2010

Soon to be . . .

Stepping Stones of Dunn County Food ~ Shelter ~ Support

Program Names:

Stepping Stones Food Pantry (formerly Interfaith Food Pantry)

Stepping Stones Shelter (formerly House of Hope)

Community Connections Program (formerly Caregivers)

The Interfaith Board of Directors made the decision to change Interfaith's name and tag line in order to better reflect the organization's mission and services. The current name provides little information about the agency and can even be misleading. Although Interfaith receives support from many churches and is open to people of all faiths, it is not a religious institution. Nor is it solely a volunteer organization, although volunteers are key to accomplishing the mission.

The Interfaith name originally came from a national organization called Interfaith Caregivers with which IVDC was affiliated. Over time, the House of Hope Shelter and the Food Pantry were also added to the agency's services. The national organization no longer exists.

The name Stepping Stones was suggested by Food Pantry Coordinator, Lana Anderson. Among the reasons it was chosen are: it's welcoming, hopeful and easy to remember; it implies that people are transitioning and not stuck; it can encompass all three of the organization's programs and won't be confused with any other local agencies.

The name of the House of Hope homeless shelter will be changed to Stepping Stones Shelter because currently it is often confused with the Bridge to Hope which provides shelter and services specifically to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. The Caregivers' program name is being changed because it often gets confused with health related care giving services. The program has also grown over the years to include providing resources and referrals, direct assistance, and the work of the Home Repair Collaborative, as well as the original aspect of connecting volunteers to seniors and others who need support services such as transportation, yard work, and companionship. Community Connections are what happen!

Interfaith won't begin officially using the name Stepping Stones until July. A new logo is being designed and the process is underway to make a legal name change as a non-profit agency. In describing what led her to think of the name Stepping Stones, Lana offered the following reflections:

Over the course of my four years with Interfaith, I have used the term "stepping stones" in presentations about the organization to illustrate that we are a place for people to seek temporary help. I have worked hard at trying to end the stigma that is attached to using the food pantry as well as the shelter and support services program. Some people believe that those who come to the pantry are 'users' of the system. The name Stepping Stones will help form the picture of what we truly are—a place which provides temporary, not long-term, support to those in need.

I have tried to make the pantry more welcoming and comfortable because most people do not want to be there. Most of our clients want to be self sufficient and to have hope that the future is brighter. Our organization helps them do this and that's why we really are a "stepping stone." We are that step between the difficulty our clients are currently experiencing to a better situation that awaits them.

**Interfaith
Board of Directors**

Marion Lang, President
Brad Peterson, Vice-President
Julie Bendel, Secretary
Kathy Gram, Treasurer
Jim Boecker
Bob Cleary
Sandy Ericksen
Frannta Lor
Rob MacDougall
Justin Olive
Phillip Steans
Christine Ruth
Rich Yonko

Staff

Katherine Dutton
Executive Director
235-2920
ivdc@wwt.net

Lana Anderson
Food Pantry Coordinator
235-2920
ivdcfoodpantry@wwt.net

Angélakay Athena
Caregiver & Volunteer
Program Coordinator
235-2920
caregivers@wwt.net

Heidi Hooten
House of Hope Coordinator
235-2975
houseofhope@wwt.net

Pang Kou Yang
Shelter & Admin. Assistant
235-2975
houseofhopedc@wwt.net

*“Gardens are the first sign of
commitment to a community.
When people plant gardens
they are saying, let’s stay here.
And by their connection to the
land, they are connected to
one another.”*

— Anne Raver



You’re invited to the
2010 Interfaith Garden Tour!

Saturday, July 10th, 9:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

This year’s gardens include:

Beyond the Grave—Holly & Dave Wagner, 315 Shorewood Dr., Menomonie
Pinecrest Acres Garden—Yaja Mallory, 2706 Panorama Dr., Menomonie
Organized Chaos—Jeanne & Harlyn Larson, N6975—160th St., Knapp
The Farmer’s Cottage Garden—Kathleen E. & Chuck Weber, E3002-770th Ave., Menomonie
Feature Garden: Hmong Community Gardens, 4 miles North Hwy. 25, Menomonie
Bonus Garden: The Hidden Gardens—Lynn & Richard Nehring, Colfax
Due to limited parking, this garden is available for viewing July 11-17 but not the day of the tour. Details are included with Garden Tour tickets.

Advanced Tickets—\$13, available at:
*Interfaith Volunteers, 1620 Stout Rd.
*Lakeview Floral & Gifts, 1802A Stout Rd.
*Bookends on Main, 214 E. Main St.
*Season’s Harvest Greenhouse, Hwy. 25

Day of Tour Tickets—\$15, available at:
* Interfaith Volunteers, 1620 Stout Rd.
*Garden Sites
Children are free w/ donation of a non-perishable food item.

Tour at your convenience, rain or shine! Volunteers and gardeners will be on-site to answer questions. Maps are provided w/ tickets and routes are marked. Start at any garden, see as many as you choose. For full descriptions of each garden visit www.interfaithvolunteers.org and click on the events button.

2010 Garden Tour Sponsors

Wood Violet Level

In Memory of Shirley K. Stewart
Bill, Jennie & Tori Stewart

Iris Level

In Memory of Donald Thomley
Anonymous
Skinner Law Firm, LLC
Hybben Photography
Peter Hybben

Trillium Level

Gentle Dental Care, LLC
Lisa C. Joyce DDS
In Memory of Dane Morey
Tom & Leslie Cervenka
In Memory of Dane Morey
Ruth Morey
Lakeview Floral and Gifts

We extend a special thank you to the sponsors and gardeners for your contribution of funds, merchandise and/or services which make this fundraiser possible.

Thank you to the many volunteers, civic groups, and individuals who faithfully support Interfaith Volunteers of Dunn County.

The proceeds raised will benefit the programs of Interfaith Volunteers—the Food Pantry, the House of Hope Shelter, and the Caregivers Program.

ConAgra Foods
Season’s Harvest Greenhouse



Sweet Pea Level

Dunn County Pottery
Lamb’s Creek Gardens
Edstrom’s Eden
Bookends on Main



The Knights of Columbus Fish Dinner, held at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in late March, resulted in \$2,200 in proceeds to benefit Interfaith's programs. Pictured above presenting the check to Katherine Dutton, Interfaith Executive Director, are Margaret & Jim Ritzer, John Strey, and Jim Boecker.

Menomonie Community Garden

Speaking of gardens, a community garden has arrived in Menomonie! The Menomonie Community Garden (MCG) is located in Phelan Park, off Cty. Rd. Y. The mission of the garden is to create a place of beauty and sustainable agriculture, as well as enhance community bonds by providing space for gardens, gardening education, and a gathering spot for community members. The garden members hope to establish a legacy of stewardship for the land for future generations.

Plots in the garden are still available. Community members can rent a 20'x25' plot for \$25; a double plot is \$35; or 4 plots for \$70. Forms for the rental plots can be found at: www.menomoniccommunitygardens.com.

The Menomonie Community Garden is also offering scholarship plots for nonprofit organizations, children's groups, and individuals or families in need. If you would like to contribute to the scholarship fund, or would like to donate to the garden for tools, plants, benches, raised beds, etc., please send a check made out to GMACF (Greater Menomonie Area Community Foundation) to Menomonie Community Garden, PO Box 483, Menomonie. (GMACF, is the fiscal sponsor for the Menomonie Community Garden.)

Volunteers have planted and will tend two plots with the harvest going to the Food Pantry. Plants were donated by Rush Creek Growers and cared for by the UW Stout Greenhouse. All community gardeners are also encouraged to donate excess produce to the food pantry.



Good Luck, Gardeners!!

Gifts

Since the last newsletter contributions were received in honor of:

O.K. Hedlund from Betty & Simon Olson
Interfaith Volunteers from Dennis & Marie Bolstad
Merlyn & Shirley Jones from Jacq & Lyn Collins
Nels & Jen from Jane & Thomas Larson
Rob MacDougall from Wendy Dittman & Bill Porter
Ida Miller from Winnie & Wendelin Wolf
Gretchen & Rich Yonko from Karen & David Williams

Memorials

Since the last newsletter contributions were received in memory of:

Andrey Anshus from Al & Lorayne Baldus, Luanne & Ron Prochnow
Chuck Barnard from Janet Modahl
Laura Beguhn from Ted Beguhn, Deloris & Roy Cropp, Jean Davis, Marion & Warren Lang, Shirley Melrose, Kathie Metzger, National Mutual Benefit Branch 927, Kenneth & Margi Stauss, Joann Steinmeyer, Audrey Thibado
Bill Black & David Eggen from Louise & Dewayne Varnes
Walter Bjornson from Nancy Bjornson, Vivian Danielson, Kathleen & Patrick Foley, Susan Knaack, Leona & Richard Metzger, Jean O'Neil, Luanne & Ron Prochnow, Brenda & William Swannack
Theodore Chronis from Steven & Mary Jo Chronis
Ila Donley from Ideal 4-H Club
Jeanette Drake from Joan Bisson- & Tom Harris
Eugene Flug from Marian & Toby Ellison, Jeff & Alice Heinzen, Bob & Mary Peterson, Lloyd & Eva Rogers
Donald Hall from Rose Hall
Alan Helgeson from David & Kathleen Barnard, Peggy & Randall Casper, Ethel Frank, Dan Helgeson, Douglas & Deborah Hyde, R.J. Jasper, Dorothy Kruschke, Sharon & Wayne Nero, Jean O'Neil, Sherry & Allen Otto, Tony & Katie Peterangelo, Wendy & James Severson, Donna & Laverne Weber, Arlene & Roger Wieman
Gene Lehman from Susan & Edward Roethke
George Pesek from Ada & Michael Adams, Becky Berg, Cathleen Gartner, Jacqueline Hughes, Marion & Warren Lang, Cathy Coppinger Lewis, Florence & Richard Marback, Kris Pawlowski, Kathy Ruggles & John Thomas, Nancy & J.F. Sexton, Diane & David Skrupy, Lillian Tokich
Catherine A. Reid from Thomas & Lenore Heiman
Bernice Richards Dute & John Rompala
Dorothy F. Schutz from Rosemary Jacobson
Shirley K. Stewart from William, Jennie, & Tori Stewart
Susan Sundheim from Vivian Danielson
Eugene Tilseth from Mr. & Mrs. Randy Valaske
Randy Trask from Luanne & Ron Prochnow
John Waller from Gladys Waller

☯ Wish List ☯

For the Stout Rd. Bldg.

- Dust Buster
- Garden tools (shovel, hoe, spade, trowel, gloves)
- Yard rakes & snow shovels
- Flat screen computer monitors

And a special request for on-going help:

Volunteers to assist with Food Pantry cleaning

Volunteers for Thurs. & Fri. Pantry shifts, 11 am—2 pm

For the Homeless Shelter

- Fans (any size)
- Small refrigerator (dorm size)
- New or gently used rugs, bath towels, bed linens, dish cloths & kitchen towels
- Hand mixers, pots & pans
- Posters, pictures, wall hangings
- Small book shelves, tables, lamps
- Mops, buckets & cleaning supplies

For residents at the Shelter and customers at the Food Pantry

- Personal care items

Interfaith Volunteers of Dunn County
(soon to be Stepping Stones) presents the



**9th Annual
Garden
Tour**

Saturday, July 10th, 9 am to 2 pm

Rain or Shine! Details inside on p. 2

Bushels of thanks to the Garden Tour Committee:

**Chairperson Jane Redig, Angélakay Athena, Sherry Cole,
Jen Engel, Tim Lutz, Jane Harvey, Denise Skinner**



Volunteers Jessi Padelford and Camille Thorson plant vegetables for the Food Pantry at the Menomonie Community Garden. See story on p. 3.

Thank you for your support of Interfaith Volunteers.



"People Helping People"

715.235.2920
ivdc@wvt.net
www.interfaithvolunteers.org

Return Service Requested

Interfaith Volunteers of Dunn County
Soon to be Stepping Stones
1620 Stout Road
Menomonie, WI 54751



Nonprofit
Postage Paid
Permit #327
Menomonie, WI
54751