Community Connections

We do a lot of “community connecting” here at Stepping Stones—in fact, one of our programs is called “Community Connections.” Through this program we connect volunteers to neighbors to provide needed supportive services such as transportation, shoveling, companionship, and small home repairs.

But we also connect to the community in other ways, especially by supporting and networking with other human service agencies and programs.

In this newsletter we want to feature two new connections that we’ve been getting lots of questions about.—

United Way C3 Center

The first connection is the United Way C3 Center located in Stepping Stones old building. Newly painted by groups from the Chippewa Valley Correctional Facility, the building now has a new life. And giving old things a new life is exactly the purpose of the C3 Center.

*Did you know . . . If you have clean, functional furniture, appliances or household goods that you no longer need, they don’t have to gather dust in your basement or rot in a landfill? They can have a second life in the home of someone who could really use it, right here in Dunn County!*  

Volunteers will pick up your unwanted household items or you can deliver them to 1620 Stout Rd. (the old building, **not** the new one!) Mon. - Thurs.: 9 am - 3 pm, Fri.: 9 am - 12 noon. Items will be given to those who need them **FREE of CHARGE.**

**Examples of what United Way is looking for:**

- Couches, beds, lamps, dressers
- Bassinets, changing tables, youth beds
- Microwaves, stoves, refrigerators/freezers
- Pots and pans, dishes, utensils, flatware
- Tables, chairs, highchairs
- Bedding, towels, wash cloths
- Clothing

To arrange a pick-up or for more information about the C3 Center, contact the United Way at 715-235-3800.

Winter Haven

The other new connection we’d like to feature is Winter Haven, the new warming shelter.

At the beginning of 2011, a group of concerned community members met to discuss the rising incidence of homelessness in Dunn County. After several meetings and research into what was most feasible in Dunn County, they went to work on what’s called a ‘warming shelter’ – a safe space where homeless individuals can go to get warm in the evenings during the cold winter months. On Dec. 1st, Winter Haven opened at St. Joseph’s Catholic Church, 921 Wilson Ave., Menomonie.

Winter Haven is available for adults age 18 and over. Walk-ins are accepted from 10 to 10:30 p.m. Guests who have been referred from a community service or are accompanied by the police or sheriff’s department are allowed in later. The shelter is run entirely by volunteers, with two volunteers always being present at a time. Shifts run from 9:30 p.m. to 2 a.m., and 2 – 6:30 a.m.

Winter Haven is sponsored by St. Joseph’s Church and a community group called Dunn County Advocates for the Homeless, which includes individuals and agency representatives. Stepping Stones Shelter Coordinator Heidi Hooten is a member of the group. If you’d like more information or wish to volunteer, contact Heidi at 715-235-5975 or Julie Bendel at 715-232-8549.

The mission of Stepping Stones is “People helping people strengthen the Dunn County community by providing food, shelter, and support.” We seek to be a step on the path to a better life for people who could use a helping hand. Our mission is made possible by the generosity of our donors and volunteers.

All gifts are greatly appreciated.
Stepping Stones
Board of Directors for 2012:
Julie Bendel, President
Rob MacDougall, Vice-President
Howard Lee, Treasurer
Christian Peterson, Secretary
Dale Kohms
Kathy Gram
Michelle Hamilton
Siphewe Mainjeni
Luanne Prochnow
Linda Thompson
Marty Walsh
Jim Welch
Rich Yonko
Staff:
Katherine Dutton
Executive Director
Lana Anderson
Food Pantry Coordinator
Angélakay Athena
Community Connections
Program Coordinator
Heidi Hooten
Stepping Stones Shelter
Coordinator
Pang Kou Yang
Shelter & Admin. Assistant
Travis Seehaver
Maintenance & Warehouse
Coordinator

Tribute donations listed here are those received through Dec. 15th, the
date the newsletter went to print. Additional holiday gifts &
memorials will be listed in the next newsletter!

Thank you so much
to all who chose to
honor and remember
friends, family,
colleagues, and loved
ones by gifts to
Stepping Stones.
(Gifts given as tributes
to Stepping Stones
Capital Campaign will
be listed upon
campaign completion.)

Contributions were received as Christmas gifts for:
Julie Bendel from Johanna Warłoski
Marlene Edlin from Lois Oakland
O.K. & Roberta Hedlund from Bill & Julie Fisher
Charlotte & Howard Lee from Denise Sedlak
Rob & Wendy MacDougall from Lloyd & Eva Rogers
Edith Miller from Patty Manor
New Hope & Sand Creek Lutheran Church Staff:
Robbie Jo Ellefson, Pastor Barb Koch, Becky Loftus,
Ron & Patti Morning from New Hope WELCA
Kim & Richard Stacionis and David Rathke from Susan & Dennis Minter

Holiday Gifts & Memorials
to Stepping Stones
Contributions were received in memory of:
Louise Ackerman from Nancy & Ken Schofield
Dorothy Rose Amick from Roger & Candy Amick
Chris Baty from Charles & Dianne Stratton
Walter Bjornson from Gene & Mary Kunes
Guy Scot Catto from Angie Catto
John Damro from Richard Damro
Dorothy Deming from Debra Cady
Earl & Ruth Draeger from Susan Hoyt
Kara & Michael Gilbertson from Ruth & Carlyle Gilbertson
Don Hall from Rose Hall
Mary Ann Hegna from Dave & Irma Jean Maves
Marlys & Larry Hinzman from Ann Rhead
Bob Jeatran from Esther, Jack & Leslie Jeatran
Carroll Josh from Deborah Allen Schumacher
Marissa Joyce from Lisa Joyce
Jim & Lois Kothlow from Shirley & Jerome Prochnow
Ida S. Lausted from Gerald Lausted
Marty Miller from Robert & Mary Peterson
Adam Phillips from Robin & Mike Phillips
Josephine Quilling from Dale & Cindy Quilling
Betty Schofield from Nancy & Ken Schofield
Paul Schumacher from Barbara Schumacher
Jared Schutz from Randy & Peggy Schutz
Julie Siler from Galen & Pat Fox, Jean Vasey
Jerry Sipple from Lois Sipple
Ruth Stewart from Neil & Marie Koch
James Strand from Warren & Lana Benson
John W. Wood from Meredith Ingram

Contributions were received in honor of:
Blake & Parker Behrens from Kyle & Becky Behrens
The Alvin Berge Family from Susan Buroker
Dick Best from Workforce Resource Admin Team
Monsignor Charles Blecha from Al & Lorayne Baldus
Their Children & Grandchildren from Elmer & Diana Bentz
Her Children & Grandchildren from Mary Ann Langford
Nelson Deming from Debra Cady
Their Grandkids from Allen & Sherry Otto
Pastor Roy & Mary Harrisville from Harry & Barb Stai
Karen Hawkkinson from Lyle Finder
Jan Jordan’s birthday from Diane Mercil
Marion Lang from Susan & Pinckney Hall, Caryn Trieber
Debbie Lindemann from Mayo Clinic-Behavioral Health
Menonomie Realtors from Dairy State Bank
Carrie Nelson from Linda Ely
Carolyn Ohnsted from Lois A. Anderson
Their Parents from Kathryn Baumgordner & Robert Kistner
Luanne Prochnow from Garlen Lemler
Jan Steiner from Dunn Co. Child Support Agc 4
Those Less Fortunate from WSEU Local 383 AFSCME
Violet Waller from Mary Krueger
Gifts & Memorials to Stepping Stones

Since the last newsletter, contributions were received in memory of:

Arnold P. Anderson from Phillip M. Steans Law Office
Stan Anderson from Tom & Judy Humpl, Laverne & Donna Weber
Carole Avery from David & Pat Reisinger
Jillian Baus from Jack & Cyndi Baus
Laura Beguhn from Mickey Beguhn
Eileen Berg from Ozzie Howe
Raymond Bird from Kimberly Dicks, Mark & Kathie Metzger
Walter Bjornson from Nancy Bjornson, Gene & Mary Ann Kunes
Ruth Bratsch from Carol Bombardier
Mary Jo (Cirk) Brehn from Joe Cirk
Beth Candell from Art & Barbara Brandt
Marvin Cartwright from Audrey Bracher
Mary Ann Cirk from Joe Cirk
David Corthell from Bill & Jennie Stewart
Richard Debe from Lois Debee
Wayne Devery from Ruth & Carlyle Gilbertson, Dave & Irma Jean Maves
Sue Dowling from Marian & Toby Ellison
Marguerite W. Erickson from Kitz & Bob Cleary
Gene Flug from Katherine Flug
Kyle Gasteyer from Lynne Quilling
John Harmon from Marcia, Friends & Family
Brian Hartz from Hazel & Jerry Hughes
Debra Hayes from Ruth Gilbertson
Vera Helgeson from Ethel Frank
Leonard Hintzman from Audrey Schneider
Jim Hofer from Deirdre Hofer
Richard Hoffman from Darlene Frank
Joe Hotter from Jim & Mary Ann Bilse, Audrey Schneider
Wilbur “Ozzie Howe” from David & Irma Jean Maves
Margaret Jacobson from Ethel Frank
Jerry McManus from Margaret Sykora
Erling Moldenhauer from Luanne Prochnow
Vernon & Myrene Moritz from Linda Roth
Dr. Lynn Murel from Carrie Nelson
Elwood Peterson from Lois Oakland
Ruth Peterson from Leslie Peterson
Jean Polasky from Joan Polasky
Margaret Redig from Jane Redig & John Williams
Lois Satter from Bill & Janice Kohnke
Dorothy Schueler from David & Pat Reisinger
Bing Skogen from Ruth Gilbertson
Jerry Sipple from Lois Sipple
Wayne Spiegelberg from Tiiu Feim
Stanley Staude from Grace Mertes
Ed Stevens from John & Flo Perri
Allen & Eric Tilseth from Vivian Tilseth
Dennis “Denver” Timm from Jan Timm

Contributions ‘in memory of’ continued:

Annette Rockwell Harbour Wedeward from Lavonne Solem
Everett Wilbur from Sallie & Sarah Ward
Martha Williams from Jane Redig & John Williams
Harry Witz from Clear Connection Chiropractic
Ruth Wold from Gladys Block
Russell Ziebell from Gerald & Louise Wolf

Contributions were received in honor of:

Monsignor Charles Blecha’s 100th birthday from Diane Bowman
Her Children from Barbara Laatsch
Barb Deutscher’s birthday from Pollie Evans
Family & Children’s Services Unit from Sara Olinger
First Congregational UCC150 years from Margi Stauss
Their Grandchildren from Richard & Jeri Ann Ernst
Their Grandchildren: Drew Nora, Anna Peysa, & Alex Buhr from Jan & Jim Peysa
Their Grandchildren from Richard & Jeri Ann Ernst
OK & Bobbie Helund from SI & Betty Olson
Heidi Hooten from Dayle Mandelson
Bonita O’Meara from Emily Noony McMahan
Beirne M. Rucker from Jo Ann Rucker
All Veterans from VFW AUX 1039, Winnefred & Wendelin Wolf
Elaine Werner from Winnifred & Wendelin Wolf

Special thanks to the following businesses, churches & groups that donated turkeys and other Thanksgiving food, or funds for us to purchase these items, to distribute through the pantry.

Alliance Church, Branches Church, Cardinal FG Cedarbrook Church, Dairy State Bank, Family Video, Gentle Dental Care LLC, Menomonie Noon Rotary, Peace Lutheran Church, WESTconsin Credit Union, Wisconsin Industrial Sand, Wipfli LLP

For contributions ‘above and beyond’ we recognize the Menomonie High School FFA group which donated $5,500 from their annual Corn Drive. What a great group of youth with tremendous commitment to their community.
Holiday Food & Fund Drives

Many businesses, churches and groups hold food and fund drives for the pantry at this time of the year. These donations are critical to our mission. Well over 1,000 visits per month are currently being made to the food pantry. Thanks to some generous donors, financial contributions are being matched up to $10,000 through the end of 2011...there’s still time to make a year-end tax deductible gift!

Mount Foodji at 24/7 Telcom

This photo shows just a portion of the 1,629 lbs. of food donated at 24/7’s three locations so far! This mountain of food will add more variety and cover a LOT of pantry shelves.

**Thank you to all who have contributed.**

The Giving Tree at Gentle Dental

Pictured above to the right is Stepping Stones’ Executive Director, Katherine Dutton, and Dr. Lisa Joyce of Gentle Dental Care who is matching donations made by clients during the holiday season. Dr. Joyce already presented a check to Stepping Stones $1,772!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wish List</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>For the Stout Road Building</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• VACUUM!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Snow shovels</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Mops &amp; brooms</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Microwave</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Tools or tool set</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Flashlights</td>
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| **For the Shelter** |
| • DVD player |
| • Pots & sauce pans |
| • Baking pans/sheets |
| • Silverware |
| • Gas cards |

| **For the Shelter & Pantry** |
| • Personal care products: shampoo, toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, razors, t.p., tampons, Kleenex, etc. |
| • Diapers, any size |
| • Eco-friendly cleaning supplies |
| • Ice melt |

Thank you for your support of Stepping Stones.
More Frequently Asked Questions

What else is happening at Stepping Stones? Food Pantry numbers are the highest ever. Last year the average number of visits per month was 688. It is currently almost 900. Were it not for the new building, Stepping Stones would not be able to keep pace with this growth.

Can the needs be met? Yes, but we can’t do it without you. One of Stepping Stones’ food sources is government commodities. In past years no commodities were received in July. This year, due to federal cuts, there will be no August commodities either. But for every $1 donated to purchase food we can get $10 worth of product to distribute at the pantry from the Feed My People Food Bank in Eau Claire. Summer is a hard time for low-income families with children out of school. Please help if you can, and thank you. (Contributions may be sent in the enclosed envelope.)

Are there other needs? Yes, we always need volunteers! One new opportunity in the new facility will be for volunteer receptionists. We’re looking for people to work two to three hour shifts during weekday business hours once per week, answering the phone and greeting clients and other visitors. If you’re interested, please stop by to pick up a volunteer application or download it from our website at www.steppingstonesdc.org under the ‘How to Help’ section.

What about ‘food for the soul’? Surely everyone needs this as well. Get a little food for your soul by joining us for the 10th Annual Stepping Stones’ Garden Tour. Turn the page for all the details!

In Case You’ve Been Wondering... Answers to Some Frequently Asked Questions

When are we moving? By the time you read this newsletter we will either already be moved in to the new building or very, very close. Our first day of operations there will be Wednesday, July 6th. There will still be some things to complete such as landscaping, signage, and small details inside the building, but the basics we need for running the pantry and offices are in place!

Will there be a Grand Opening? Absolutely! We are anxious to have people see the new space and the features that will make it possible for Stepping Stones to better meet its mission and to serve Dunn County residents for generations to come. But, since many people are gone for parts of the summer and it would be nice to get settled in first, we are waiting to have a Grand Opening until early September. We’ll definitely keep you posted but, if you just can’t wait, feel free to stop by any time!

Has the Capital Campaign goal been reached? We have currently raised close to $800,000 toward our $1.1 million goal. It would have been great to raise all the money up front but we were in desperate need of a larger facility sooner than later. We are still hoping for more gifts to meet the goal to fully cover the costs of construction, furnishings and equipment, the land, and to begin an endowment.

How can you make a gift? Please use the enclosed envelope and be sure to put ‘Capital Campaign’ in the memo line. Only gifts specifically designated are being used for the new building.

What’s happening to the old building? The old building will be used by the United Way of Dunn County for its Free Store. The United Way currently distributes donated furniture, appliances and household goods from a storage space outside of town. The Stout Road location will be much more convenient for customers and donors and is a great complement to Stepping Stones’ programs. For more information about the Free Store please contact the United Way at 715.235.3800.

A pathway on one of the 2011 Garden Tour spots.
You’re invited to the

2011 Stepping Stones’ Garden Tour!

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

This year’s gardens include:

- **Arknest**—Dave & Ellen Liberto, N5339 370th St., Menomonie - Feature Garden
- **Evergreen Valley**—Mary Ann & Bill Bailey, N5247 370th St., Menomonie
- **Higley Garden**—Priscilla Higley, E4537 473rd Ave., Menomonie
- **Joyce Garden**—Fran & Lisa Joyce, 602 Meadow Heights Lane, Menomonie
- **The Ponderosa**—Jamie Anderson, 2201 Eagle Point Rd., Menomonie
- **Shades of Green**—Jan Harvey, 514 Oak Park Circle, Menomonie - Reunion Garden (previously on the tour)

Also visit the all new **GARDEN MARKET** at Stepping Stones’ new building. Items for sale will include: plants (like many you’ll see on the tour), pots, stepping stones, and more!

**Advanced Tickets**—$13, available at:
- Bobolink Nursery
- Bookends on Main
- Klinger Farm Market
- Lakeview Floral & Gifts
- Season’s Harvest Greenhouse
- Stepping Stones’ Office

**Day of Tour Tickets**—$15, available at:
- Stepping Stones (new building!)
- On site at all gardens on the tour.

Tour at your convenience, rain or shine! Volunteers and gardeners will be on-site to answer questions. Maps are provided with tickets and routes are marked. Start at any garden, see as many as you choose. For full descriptions of each garden, visit [www.steppingstonesdc.org](http://www.steppingstonesdc.org) and click on the Garden Tour link.

2011 Garden Tour Sponsors

**Iris Level**
- Anonymous
- Esther, Jack & Leslie Jeatran
- In Memory of Shirley K. Stewart from Bill, Jennie & Tori Stewart
- PI Math Tutoring, Sherry Cole

**Lily Level**
- Skinner Law Firm, LLC
- Brent & Denise Skinner

**Trillium Level**
- ConAgra Foods
- In Memory of Russell Lasocki from Leslie Koepeke
- In Memory of Dane Morey from Tom & Leslie Cervenka

**Sweet Pea Level**
- Bobolink Nursery, LLC
- Bookends on Main
- Bremer Bank

Thank you so much to the sponsors, gardeners, Garden Tour Committee, volunteers, and all who attend!

The proceeds raised will benefit the three programs of Stepping Stones: the Food Pantry, the Stepping Stones Shelter, and the Community Connections Program.
Gifts & Memorials to Stepping Stones

Since the last newsletter contributions were received in honor of:
His 94th Birthday from Garlen Lemler
Their 4 Grandchildren from Richard & Geraldine Ernst
Cathy Hamblin from Marilyn Rushton
Bob Hintz from Jeanne Sprader
Shirley Humpal from Laverne & Donna Weber
Jerene Price’s 90th Birthday from Wendelin Wolf
Stepping Stones’ Volunteers from Mike & Becky Kneer

The following businesses, churches, and organizations also made donations:

AgStar Financial Services
American Hospitality Professionals
Cedarbrook Church
Christ Lutheran Church
Curves
Downsville School
Dunn County Area Retired Educators Assoc.
Erb Chiropractic LLC
Faith Lutheran Church Women
Family Video
Gamma Sigma Chapter of Alpha Phi
Girl Scout Troop #3225
Herbert Kohl Charities, Inc.
Insty-Prints
Medicine Shoppe
Menomonie Kiwanis
Menomonie Lions Club
Menomonie United Methodist Church
New Life Lutheran Church
Our Savior’s Lutheran Church
Pallet Service Corporation
Peace Community Church
Peace Lutheran Church
Phillips Plastics Corporation
Preston Chiropractic Office
tagvillage, inc., Texas
Trinity Lutheran Church—Boyceville

Contributions were received in memory of:
John & Jean Alf from Steven & Ruth Alf
Alice Anderson from David & Irma Jean Maves
George Blauvet from Schofield, Higley & Mayer, S.C.
Orene Bloss from Margo Hecker
Edwin Casper from Bob & Kitz Cleary, Donald & Hazel Hintzman, Lynn Quilling, Susan & James Reschke
Lloyd & Eva Rogers, Donna & Laverne Weber
Ava Deutscher from Ruth Gilbertson
Mildred Eisenhart from Jean Biggs
Dr. John Furlong from Judy Jenson
Donald Hall from Rose Hall & Family
Jean Harris from Marian & Toby Ellison
Richard Hoffman from Darlene Frank
Lillian Hovland from Juel Smith
Violet Klabunde from Richard & Sharon Klabunde
Rowland Klink from Brenda Kado
Alvira Schultz from Jeanne Sprader
Arlys Knutson from Bob & Audrey Gayhart
Kathleen, Selmer, & Tami Larson from Richard Larson
Barb Mrdutt from Jeff & Alice Heinzen, Jim Mrdutt
Ruth Peterson from Leslie Peterson
Josephine Quilling from Luanne Prochnow
Virgil Roberts from Al & Lorayne Baldus
Wayne Schofield from James & Jeanette Daines, Simon & Betty Olson
Alvira Schultz from Tom & Jane Larsen
Shirley K. Stewart from Bill & Jennie Stewart
Leota Tilleson from Gerald & Barbara Schultz, Trudy Smeltzer
Allen Tilseth & Eric Tilseth from Vivian Tilseth
Lorraine Wedam from Ethel Frank

Thank you so much to all who chose to honor and remember friends, family, colleagues, and loved ones by gifts to Stepping Stones.

(Gifts given as tributes to Stepping Stones Capital Campaign will be listed upon campaign completion.)

Donations of Produce Welcome

Stepping Stones is happy to receive all kinds of produce for the food pantry. We prefer that it be washed and bagged/boxed/bundled to be ready for distribution. Because of the new facility construction, Stepping Stones does not have its own garden this year but several plots have again been planted for the pantry at the community garden. Volunteers are needed to help maintain and harvest these plots—please contact us if interested: 715.235.2920, communityconnect@steppingstonesdc.org.

SUMMER 2011
Wish List

For the Stout Road Building
- Garden hoses
- Garbage bags, any size
- Dust Buster

For the Shelter
- Small dresser
- Queen size bed frame
- Baby gate
- Water park passes
- Movie tickets
- DVD rental gift cards

For the Shelter & Pantry
- Personal care products: shampoo, toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, razors, t.p., tampons, Kleenex, etc.
- Diapers, any size

See these and other beautiful spots on the Stepping Stones’ Garden Tour, Saturday, July 9th.

Garden Tour details inside the newsletter!

Volunteer Opportunities

A strong able-bodied volunteer with a van or pick up truck is needed to help with the Walmart Food Rescue program every other Weds., 11:45 am—12:30 pm. Walmart donates an average of 10,000 lbs. of food to the pantry each month that is close to date or needing to be moved out to make way for other products.

The Community Connections Program is in need of Budget Coaches to meet with clients individually to help them with their personal finances. Training is provided. If you’re interested in either of these opportunities please contact Angelakay at Stepping Stones at 715.235.2920.

Thank you for your support of Stepping Stones.
The New Building

It’s hard to believe that at this time last year we were hoping we’d be ready to break ground before a deep freeze, and now here we are in our beautiful and very functional new facility.

There’s a sense of “if you build it, they will come.” In August over 1200 visits were made to the food pantry. This is almost double our monthly average in 2010. The new building allows us to stock sufficient food and provide better customer service. The larger space provides more client privacy and makes it possible for more people to use the pantry at the same time.

While we’re grateful and relieved to have enough space, adequate parking, two bathrooms (!), etc., the reality is that the high numbers of people coming to Stepping Stones for all of our services has much more to do with hard times than with the new building.

For many people, the economic recovery is not happening very quickly, if at all. Gasoline and heating fuel prices are at an all time high along with health care costs. But the federal energy assistance program has been cut by 50% for 2012 and the enrollment for BadgerCare (medical assistance for single adults) is currently frozen. There’s high unemployment and a prevalence of part-time and/or temporary jobs that don’t provide benefits.

People don’t have the opportunity to get back on their feet. They need some ‘stepping stones’, and that’s why we’re here.

Stepping Stones’ board members, who have worked overtime the past couple of years to help make the new building a reality so that we might better fulfill our mission, were recently asked to share some reflections about it. Here are a few of their comments:

The new building is a wonderful and well-thought out space that will serve the community well for years to come. I feel a sense of welcome, professionalism and dignity when I walk in, and I believe clients, staff and visitors feel the same...I hope the community takes pride in Stepping Stones and continues to work together to overcome the root causes of poverty, hunger and homelessness. - Julie Bendel

The opening of the new Stepping Stones building is a testament to what can be done when community leaders, volunteers, businesses and individuals come together for a common purpose to ultimately serve others. The new facility truly represents the giving spirit of a community that strives to feed those in need and give them hope for years to come. - Jim Boecker

It is deeply moving to realize that this welcoming place, respectful of all who will come, work, and volunteer, is the result of a shared community vision, and of many generous financial gifts and hours of volunteer service. - Marion Lang

I consider the new building, and the work done in it, to be one of the great achievements of our community. I’m very proud to have been a part of making it happen. Now we have a base from which we can strive, for the next 20 years or so, to change our mission from aiding those in need to reducing or eliminating the conditions which create that need. - Phil Steans

Please help celebrate this wonderful achievement by joining us for the Grand Opening, Sept. 29th (details on the back of this newsletter).

The Old Building

The old building will have a new life in its use by the United Way of Dunn County for a free store, called the C3 Center. The United Way currently distributes donated furniture, appliances and household goods from a storage space outside of town. The Stout Road location will be much more convenient for customers and donors and is a great complement to Stepping Stones’ programs. For more information about the C3 Center please contact the United Way at 715.235.3800.

The mission of Stepping Stones is “People helping people strengthen the Dunn County community by providing food, shelter, and support.” We seek to be a step on the path to a better life for people who could use a helping hand.

Do you have stepping stones in your garden or know someone who does? We’re collecting photos and would like to feature them in future newsletters. Please send submissions to director@steppingstonesdc.org.
Stepping Stones
Board of Directors:
Phil Steans, President
Julie Bendel, Vice-President
Kathy Gram, Treasurer
Christian Peterson, Secretary
Jim Boecker
Bob Cleary
Sandy Ericksen
Marion Lang
Rob MacDougall
Siphewe Mainjeni
Luanne Prochnow
Linda Thompson
Rich Yonko

Staff:
Katherine Dutton
Executive Director
Lana Anderson
Food Pantry Coordinator
Angélakay Athena
Community Connections
Program Coordinator
Heidi Hooten
Stepping Stones Shelter
Coordinator
Pang Kou Yang
Shelter & Admin. Assistant
David Vanyo
Maintenance & Warehouse
Coordinator

Silent Auction Items Needed
We’re looking for items for the Silent Auction to be held as part of our Grand Opening & Fall Fest. So far we have everything from a compost barrel to a hand carved walking stick; a restaurant gift certificate to a spice rack! The sky’s the limit but items should have a minimum value of $20-$25. Please deliver donations to Stepping Stones by Mon., 9/26. (A good opportunity for cleaning out the ‘re-gifting’ closet for a good cause!)

Sharing a Bountiful Harvest
Thanks to all who have donated fresh produce to the Food Pantry during this harvest season.
The Community & Jail Gardens have provided an abundance, as has the Hmong Menomonie Alliance Church, and many other generous individuals and produce growers who had a surplus.
It’s wonderful to have fresh fruits and vegetables to distribute to clients, and they greatly appreciate it!

CROP WALK, ROCK & ROLL

Sun., Oct. 9, 1:00 pm
Starts at Our Savior’s Lutheran Church
910 - 9 th St., Menomonie

We all care about hungry people, but what can one person do? You can join in our local CROP Hunger Walk to raise your voice against hunger and raise funds to help hungry people around the world and here in our own area.

Parade-1 mile, Walk-6 miles, Bike-10 miles, or Rock-1 hour

Sign up at most local churches, at Stepping Stones, or contact Event Coordinator Julie McNaughton, 715.235.9377

CROP: Communities Responding To Overcome Poverty

25% of proceeds go to the Stepping Stones Food Pantry

Wish List
For the Stout Road Building
Hoses & sprinklers
Weed whip & hedge trimmer
Grass spreader
Garden tools
Shovels & rakes
Mops & brooms
Shop rags
Power tools
Flashlights

For the Shelter
New or gently used bath towels, hand towels, & wash cloths
Bedside lamps

For the Shelter & Pantry
Personal care products: shampoo, toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, razors, t.p., tampons, Kleenex, etc.
Diapers, any size
Eco-friendly cleaning supplies
Gifts & Memorials to Stepping Stones

Since the last newsletter, contributions were received in honor of:

- Bernice Gatz’s 90th Birthday from Laverne & Donna Weber
- Sharon Moseler’s 72nd birthday from Bette & Lloyd Drossart
- Jack Register’s 80th Birthday from Deborah & Kevin McGrath
- Don Roberts & Joni Cash’s marriage from Bruce Clark
- Eva & Lloyd Rogers from Judith & Edward Ristow
- Ruth Ann Schoenoff from Mary Ellen Schwanke
- The Allen Scott family from Nancy Bjornson
- Jeanne Sprader from Scott & Mary Howard
- Phil & Randi Steans from Susan & Pinckney Hall
- Paralyzed Veterans of America from Marshall & Josephine Quilling
- Violet Waller from Mary & Gene Krueger

Contributions were received in memory of:

- Maida Isabel Ault from Bill & Janice Kohnke
- Marion Coffin from Roger & Anita Klamm
- Florence Ellison from friends and family
- Barb Hintz from Jeanne Stevenson
- Eugene Johnson from Mary & Stan Hensley
- Maynard Larson from Phyllis Larson
- Richard Long from Sandra Long
- Bob & Ada Minter from Susan Minter
- Bernard Moravitz from Gloria Berger
- Thelma Nelson from Barb & John Deutscher, Rick & Linda Zank
- Kenneth Olson from Ethel Frank
- Leona Rompala from John & Dute Rompala
- Mary Spindler from Si & Betty Olson, Margi Strauss
- Ruth Stainer from Jerry Cognetta, Ethel Frank, Jeanne Sprader
- Harold & Frances Stevens from Ruth & Carlyle Gilbertson
- Mary Styer from Dick & Lynn Quilling
- Dennis “Denver” Timm from Arlys & Don Olson

The following businesses, churches, and organizations also made donations:

- Bremer Bank Hunger Awareness
- Cedarbrook Church
- Christ Lutheran Church
- Erb Chiropractic
- Grace Episcopal Church Gift of Grace Event
- Knights of Columbus
- Lammer’s Food Fest Benefit Auction
- M & I Bank
- Mayo Clinic—Red Cedar
- New Hope & Little Elk Creek Lutheran Churches
- Oak Ridge Lutheran Brethren Church
- Our Savior’s Lutheran Church
- Pallet Service Corporation
- Peace Lutheran Church
- Pioneer Grill & Saloon Bean Bag League
- Rock Elm United Methodist Women
- St. Joseph’s Catholic Congregation
- St. Joseph’s PCCW
- Shepherd of the Hill Lutheran Church
- Simply Dunn Business After Hours
- USDA Rural Development
- Wal-Mart Foundation

Thank you so much to all who chose to honor and remember friends, family, colleagues, and loved ones by gifts to Stepping Stones.

(Gifts given as tributes to Stepping Stones Capital Campaign will be listed upon campaign completion.)

Special thanks to 7th grader Evan Husby and his friends who hold an annual car wash for charity and chose Stepping Stones as the recipient this year.

Way to go Evan!
What a great example of how everyone can do something to help their neighbors in need.

Gifts in Kind

We are also very grateful for all the donations of food, personal care items, household goods for the Stepping Stones Shelter, and other miscellaneous items that come our way! A few other things we can always use are plastic grocery bags and egg cartons for the pantry, motel soaps & shampoos you may collect on your travels, and empty ink jet cartridges which we recycle for cash (because every little bit helps toward operating expenses!).
Please join us for our Grand Opening & Fall Fest!
Thursday, Sept. 29th
Open House: 3:30 - 6:30 pm
Ribbon Cutting at 4:00 pm
Music, Food, Tours, Silent Auction, Door Prizes & More!

1602 Stout Road, Menomonie

Thank you for your support of Stepping Stones.

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The New Home of Stepping Stones of Dunn County

1602 Stout Road
Menomonie, WI 54751