Thank you for your support of Stepping Stones.

Way to Go, Taryn!

This is Taryn. She’s 7. She recently spent a morning at Stepping Stones with her godmother Cyndi, who’s on our staff. She had the best time. She read and colored and was so excited to volunteer. When a donation of hats, scarves and mittens came in, she sorted them into nice, neat piles for easy distribution.

When she got home that afternoon her mother overheard her ‘playing Stepping Stones.’ She pretended to be answering the phone with her notepad at the ready and said, “Stepping Stones, this is Taryn. Can I help you get some food or find a job?”

While we don’t actually help people find jobs (we refer to Workforce Resource), she wasn’t far off the mark. She had already picked up that there are many different ways we help people. Her brother Carter also overheard her and quipped, “I need a job!” But Taryn replied, “Sorry, we don’t have one for you!”

Taryn is no stranger to helping people. Her mother works with children who have severe mental and physical challenges. Sometimes her mom does respite care to give parents a break, so Taryn is used to playing with kids who have special needs with a wide range of abilities.

Children live what they learn. Taryn is learning to accept all people and to help those who need it in any way possible (with the exception of brothers, but that’s understandable!). Some children learn the opposite—that people get what they deserve and it’s okay not to accept everyone. Minnesota folksinger Ann Reed has a song with lyrics that remind us this perspective doesn’t come naturally:

```
You’ve got to be taught to hate and to fear
Day after day, year after year
You’ve got to be taught before you are grown
To hate those whose lives are not like your own
To fear right away because it’s unknown

You’ve got to be taught before you are grown
You’ve got to be taught before it’s too late
Before you are six or seven or eight
To hate all the people your relatives hate
You’ve got to be taught before it’s too late.
```

Thank God there are children like Taryn learning not to hate and fear. We see many of them at Stepping Stones. Some come with their parents to volunteer, some bring in money to donate from their allowance or a fundraiser they did. Oaklawn Elementary students collected 1,728 lbs. of food for our 30th Anniversary Food & Funds Drive this past fall!

At Stepping Stones everyone is welcome and accepted and everyone is helped to the best of our ability. Many grant funders require that a non-discrimination statement be submitted along with a grant application. The statement we include is part of Stepping Stones’ bylaws and reads in part:

Stepping Stones does not discriminate in providing its services by reason of a person’s age, race, creed, color, disability, marital status, family status, sex, national origin, ancestry, sexual orientation, arrest or conviction record, or political affiliation.

No hating, no fearing.

Even though Taryn wasn’t too sure she wanted to help her brother, before she ended her call with him she asked him what he could do and said she’d let him know if any jobs became available. Way to go Taryn!

Hope to see YOU there!

Stepping Stones + Soup = EMPTY BOWLS!

Sat, March 25
11 am - 2 pm
Menomonie High School
(new location)
Stepping Stones
Board of Directors
Dave Williams, President
Kris Korpela, Vice-President
Lora Benrud, Treasurer
Diane Morehouse, Secretary
Joe Aronson
Michelle Becker
Tim Eiden
Michelle Hamilton
Jay Ivens
Mike Lauer
Deanna Munoz
Jill Seichter
Tricia Sorensen
Heather Wigdahl

Got Change?
If the change in your pocket is too much to bear, Find a Stepping Stones’ canister and put it in there!

Dave Williams
Kris Korpela, Vice-President
Lora Benrud, Treasurer
Jill Seichter
Tricia Sorensen
Heather Wigdahl

Annual Quilt Raffle
Proceeds from Stepping Stones’ ticket sales for the quilt raffle that’s part of the Menomonie Sunrise RotaryFest will benefit the Food Pantry. This beautiful quilt, made by the Menomonie Peace Work Quilters, is called 30’s Something. Raffle tickets are $5 each or five for $20. Stop by the Stepping Stones’ office to get yours. Tickets will also be available at Empty Bowls.

The 2017 RotaryFest will be held Sat., April 22 at Vision Quest. For more info, go to www.menomoneeuniversity.org. The raffle drawing will be held that night but you don’t need to be present to win. You can see the RotaryFest quilt in the library display case through February, along with another lovely one that will be part of the Empty Bowls Silent Auction. After February, both will be on display at Stepping Stones.

Ace Hardware
Acoustic Café
Cenex at Exit 45
China Buffet
Culver’s
Cut Rite Meats
Family Restaurant
Family Video
Golden Leaf
Junction Liquor
Marion’s Legacy
Marketplace Liquor
Riverside Liquor
Smokedale
Ted’s Pizza

Thanks to all these businesses for keeping the canisters on hand.

Ace Hardware
Acoustic Café
Cenex at Exit 45:
China Buffet
Culver’s
Cut Rite Meats
Family Restaurant
Family Video
Golden Leaf
Junction Liquor
Marion’s Legacy
Marketplace Liquor
Riverside Liquor
Smokedale
Ted’s Pizza

What Can You Get for Just $5?
Stepping Stones Shelters
Tickets are $5 each or five for $20. Stop by the Stepping Stones’ office to get yours. Tickets will also be available at Empty Bowls.

What Can You Get for Just $5?

Through the H & R Block Nonprofit Referral Program, for every new client who mentions being referred by Stepping Stones, H & R Block will contribute $20 to us. Their local office is at Red Cedar Plaza, 2321 Hwy 25 N, Menomonie, 715-235-0021.

We were so fortunate to have Mary Peterson as a volunteer receptionist at Stepping Stones for the past few years after her retirement from teaching. Every Monday afternoon her bright smile would welcome all who came through the door, and the warmth of her greeting on the phone would be heard by those who called for assistance. Hers was the friendly face or voice that put people at ease in what’s often a difficult situation—having to ask for help.

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Thank you so much to Mary’s family for designating memorials to Stepping Stones. We will be able to help many more people because of the contributions given in memory of Mary and her generous spirit.

Mark your calendar for Stepping Stones’ Annual Garden Tour
Saturday June 24, 2017

In Memory of Two Wonderful Volunteers
Rose Studebaker was a long-time food pantry volunteer up until just five years ago, when it became too difficult for her to get around. She always had a kind word and would love it if anyone asked what was the latest good book she had read. She was also a very generous donor, especially when it was time for a new building, and served as an honorary chair of the capital campaign. She knew firsthand how cramped the previous pantry was and that we could serve many more people with a larger space.

Rose was dedicated to helping people in need in our community. Her service, contributions, and commitment made a difference in thousands of lives.
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Lora Berrud, Treasurer
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Mike Lauer
Deanna Munoz
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Tricia Sorensen
Heather Wigdahl

Staff
Katherine Dutton
Executive Director
Kris Pawlowski
Assistant Director & Food Pantry Coordinator
Heidi Hooten
Stepping Stones Shelters Program Coordinator
Jane Redig
Community Connections Program Coordinator
Cyndi Greening
Development & Communications Specialist
Pang Kou Yang
Administrative Assistant
Jim Welch
Food Pantry Assistant & Warehouse Coordinator
Mike Donnelly
Maintenance & Warehouse Coordinator

Got Change?

If the change in your pocket is too much to bear, find a Stepping Stones’ canister and put it in there!

Each dime will buy $1.00 of food from the Feed My People Food Bank. It all adds up! You can find the canisters at the following local businesses:

- Ace Hardware
- Acoustic Café—Golden Leaf
- shelf above booth—near the pick up station
- Cenex at Exit 45—Junction Liquor
- China Buffet—Marion’s Legacy—shelf by the window
- Culvers—rotates—Marketplace Liquor
- w/other groups—Riverside Liquor
- Cut Rite Meats—Smokedale
- Exit 45 Restaurant—Ted’s Pizza
- Family Restaurant

Thanks to all these businesses for keeping the canisters on hand.

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Winter Haven Gets New Beds

The Winter Haven shelter next to Stepping Stones on Stout Rd. has been full almost every night this season. Guests were recently delighted by the new and much more comfortable beds donated by Slumberland’s 40 Winiks Foundation as part of the grand opening of Slumberland’s new Menomonie store. Up to 10 adults can stay at the shelter which is staffed by volunteers each night through March. Special thanks to our tremendous crew of volunteers! There are still shifts available! If you can help please contact Shelter Coordinator, Heidi Hooten at 715.235.2920 or shelter@steppingstonesdc.org.

Thrivent Members Please Note

All 2016 Choice Dollars expire March 31, 2017. Don’t miss this opportunity to recommend Thrivent Financial provide outreach funding to Stepping Stones! Contact your local Thrivent representative to learn more. To designate your dollars, go to thrivent.com/thriventchoice or call 1-800-847-4836 and say “Thrivent Choice” after the prompt. Thank you to all who have already designated Choice Dollars to Stepping Stones!

Get Connected to Stepping Stones

Check out our new look on Stepping Stones’ website at www.steppingstonesdc.org to learn more about our programs and services and all the good you help us accomplish. Also, please like and follow us on Facebook and share our posts to help spread the word about Stepping Stones and the needs in our community.

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Gifts & Memorials to Stepping Stones

Since the last newsletter contributions were received in memory of:
Lois Ackerman from Ken & Nancy Schofield
Ardes Alexander from Friends at Bremer Bank, Helenmae & Helmer Debee, Ruth Gilbertson
Margaret (Kirch) Anderson from Susan Kirch Thibado
Clair & Ethel Austrum from Pete & Deb Holmlund
Charles Bartlett from David Bartlett
Matt Baskin from Debora Hitz
Chris Baty from Chuck & Dianne Stratton
Judy Berg from Dave & Nancy Ponto
Jeanette Bergstrand from Dave & Joy Bergstrand
Esther Bird from Kathie Metzger
Mariel Bird from David & Irma Jean Maves
Ralph Bosben from Berta Kuehn
Lola Bosse from Lois Sipple
Gordon Braatz from Bob & Helen Redlich, Harry & Barb Stai
Jeannette Breckner from Kenneth Breckner
Dorothy Bronson from Don & Arlys Olson
Arleen Bryan from Rich & Joyce Donnelly, Roger & Anita Klamm, Lois Sipple
Galen & Shanna Burton from Nanette Burton
Robert Campbell from Chris & Molly Kapsner
Patricia Tobin Chapman from Sue & Roger Jenrich
Dee Christenson from John & Denise Neiderhauser
Alton & Oma Clark from the Family of Alton Clark, William & Lenore Mercier, Ron & Lee Peshaw
Duane “Duey” Close from the Auto Club Group
Charles Coker from Janice Coker
Donald & Kevin Cook from Ann Cook
Linda & Steven Cropp from Roy & Deloris Cropp
Lora Dankemeyer from Paulette Baumgartner
Richard Debee from Lois Debee
Timothy Debee from Helenmae & Chuck Debee
Gloria Douglas from William & Jacalyn Broughton
Susie Eberhard from Michelle Hamilton, Deborah Allen Schumacher
Marlene Ebert from Kay Strand
Thor Edgeberg from Shirley Edgeberg
George & Virginia Edwards from Margaret Edwards
Lottie Einum from Robert & Susan Dahm, Elizabeth Eiseith, Deb & Ron Verdon
Ken Erickson from Mary Erickson
Tom Fandry from Dunn Co. Child Support Agency
Ellie & Joe Feeney from Jan Feeney
Donna Fisher from Keyes Chevytown
Peter Flock from Jeanne Stevenson
Mary Foley from Patricia Good
Harold Frieburg from Patty & Bob Marlette
Kevin Gabriel from Mavis Cornellier
Gordon Galoff from Marlys Galoff

In memory of continued:
Robert Gayhart from Louise Varnes
Robert Gilgenbach from Sonja Gilgenbach
Her Grandmother from Marge Endrud
Gordon Grohn from Marvin & Carol Saxton
Lloyd Hainstock from Peter & Kay Pershern
Don & Rose Hall from Lori Cieslewicz
Harry Halvorson from Teresa Stark-Halvorson
Chris Hannack from Hazel & Donald Hintzman
Elizabeth Tiamet Hansen from Kathleen Hearley
Dwayne Harnisch from Audrey & Thomas Schneider, Lois Sipple
Donald Heit from Linda Roth, Marvin & Carol Saxton
Jan Helixon from Harry Evjen, William Keyes
Doug Hellendrung from Dan & Joyce Hellendrung
Orville Hendrickson from Donna Boerner, John & Barb Deutscher
Bernard & Evelyn Heymann from Thomas & Lenore Heiman
Joel Hintzman from Audrey & Thomas Schneider
Jerry Allen Hoffman from Alex Bates, Doreen Johnson
Alice & Casper Hogenson from Ron & Lee Peshaw
Barbara Mae Holmberg from Robert & Ethel Holmberg
Doug Holzhueter from Sarah & John Kinnard, Lois Sipple
Maurice Howe from Eileen Howe
Alun Richard Howells from Gwyn Howells
Marlys Husby from Lynne & Dennis Hausman
Dale Johnson, Sr. from Dianna Fiergola
Wes Johnson from Dave & Judy Jenson
Dorothy & Larry Jones from Sue & Tim Kilgore
Forrest Jones from Marlys Jones
Otto Katek from John & Dute Rompala
Robert Kenefick from Olivia Kenefick
Don (Buck) Kistner from Shirley Kistner
Loie Koehler from Dan & Mary Riordan
Dick Kuhman from Sheila Kuhman
Stan Kuhn from Patty & Bob Marlette, Debra Verdon
Bobbi Niemi Kurth from Barbara Niemi Amtzen
Tom Larsen from Jane Larsen
Betty Lee from Dave & Irma Jean Maves, Lois Sipple
David Lee from Dianne & Frank Dummer
Dr. Sherman Lee from Lois Debee
Mary Ellen Lightle from Rebecca Baker
Eldon Linberg from Patty & Bob Marlette
Beverly Link from Gerald Link
Loved Ones from Ann Rhead
Rose Lowry from Sharon Lowry
Richard Lystrom from Connie Lystrom
Dale Mallory from Yaja Mallory
Joyce Marine from Becky Marine
Wilmer Maves from Lynn Nehring
Ann Metzger from Kathie Metzger
Thank you so much to all who chose to honor and remember friends, family, colleagues, and loved ones by gifts to Stepping Stones. (If we have inadvertently missed anyone, please let us know and we will correct it next time.)

Gifts & Memorials to Stepping Stones

In memory of continued:

Vernon & Myrene Moritz from Linda Roth
Ron Mrdutt from Mary Jo Mrdutt
Paul Neuville from B.J. & Forrest Lovett, Linda Neuville
Jean O’Neill from Lynne & Dennis Hausman, Mary Jean & Lee Nicholls
Bruce Pamperin from Ursula Berger
Her Parents from Fariba Jafari
Their Parents from Kathrynn Baumgardner & Robert Kistrner
Nancy Wagner Persian from Lois Debee
Robert Peshaw from Ron & Lee Peshaw
Mary E. Peterson from Bonnie Anderson, Anna Anton, Elizabeth Nickel Baker, Joy & Dave Bergstrand, Anna Biss, Jason Borah, Mary & Jerry Cinker, Donna Cordes, Corey Davis, Katherine Dutton & Jeanne Foley, Marlys Fredericks, Darren Ginther, David & Barbara Gorman, Robert Hoban, Independent School District 625-St. Paul, MN, Karen Jansen, Ross & Rita Lunderville, Stacie Mason, David & Irma Jean Maves, Cynthia Moe, Joseph & Jo Ann Nathan, Bill & Ruthie Norton, Jess Okey, Heidi Pelke, Thomas Peterson, Catherine Pöttruff, Bruce & Terry Siebold, Rod & Trudy Smeltzer, Jennifer Wehrenberg, Divah Yap (Listed gifts are those received at time of printing; additional gifts will be noted in the next newsletter.)
Les & Ruth Peterson from Jim & Lu Weir
John Piaskoski from Tom & Judy Humpal
Neoma Potterton from Nick & Shirley Kaiser
Jack Powers from Betty & Si Olson
Charlie Price from Jean Price
Eva Pruhls from James & LaWanna McSweeney
Bob & Anita Radle from Dave & Judy Jenson
Dorothy Rhodes from Robert & Susan Dahm, Alice Evenson
Ted & Nira Richartz from Graydon Richartz
Arlo Roswell from Hazel & Donald Hintzman, James & Joyce Solie, Dick & Lynn Quilling
Mrs. A.R. Saumer from Michael Saumer
Jerome Schlough from Nadine Schlough
Betty Schofield from Ken & Nancy Schofield
Dode (Doris) Schrantz from Patricia Marlette
Paul Schumacher from Barb Schumacher
Shorts from Ron & Monica Duncan
Blanche Sinz from Patricia Marlette
Donna Smith from Francis & Violet Eiseth
Al Sprader from Mary & Scott Howard
Lee Stansbury from Ann Stansbury
Laverne Steinke from Dave & Judy Jenson
Elaine Stevenson from Jeanne Stevenson

In memory of continued:

Lynn Stewart from Archie & Anna Abbott, Keyes Cheyvertown, Dave & Nancy Ponto, Kay Strand
Claude Stone from Paul & Wendy Clark, Bill & Lenore Mercer, Ron Peshaw Family
Rose Studebaker from Lois Debee, Katherine Dutton & Jeanne Foley, Sue & Tom Kilgore
Penny Swanson from Lynne & Dennis Hausman, Annette Taylor
Norm Tritz from Jerome Kirsling
Bonnie Tschumper from Grace Episcopal Church
Jean Turner from Toby & Marian Ellison
Julie Ubbelohde from Bob & Mary Peterson
Dr. Jim Ulesich from Rita Ulesich
Roy Verkuilen from Merl & Pat Nevala
Pat Waggoner from Rebecca Kneer, Jeanne Sprader
Donovan Wagner from Lois Debee
Wilfred Weber from Greg & Kathy Weber
William & Susan Will from John, Sandy, & Brenna Utphall
Wayne Wittman from Rich & Jeanne Roithaupt
Gerald Wolf from Louise Wolf
Veterans from VFW Post 1039
Gerald Zimmerman from Karen Zimmerman
Belva Zwygart from Mary Zwygart-Stauffacher & Paul Stauffacher

Since the last newsletter contributions were received in honor of:

Owen Avery from Lois Debee
Madilyn Baily & James Bernard from Robert & Cheryl Noah
Jason & Justin Bartz from Renee Bartz
Dawn & John Bartholow from Ursula Berger
The Birthdays of Laura, Luke, Alissa, Jeff, & Donna from Lois Debee
Gracie & Maxwell Bloom from Barry & Julie Bloom
Forest & Connie Bixby’s 50th Anniversary from Charles & Susan Gunter Brenner
Children of Dunn County from Margaret McKanna
Their Clients from Bremer Bank
Elizabeth & Hector Cruz from Lori Cruz
John & Jackie Dotseth from Sandy Haesly
Katherine Dutton from Excelsior Investors
Alice Evenson from Audrey & Thomas Schneider
Everyone who provided food to her family when she was a child from Patricia Thompson
Contributions were received as a Christmas gift for:

Anyone in Need from Brent & Sherri Husby
Bill, William, Kelley, Brienna, & Elisa from Jacalyn Broughton
Debra & Family from Barbara Laatsch
Jesus Christ from Teresa Jorgensen
Jordan, Meg, Kenzie, & Camryn from Greg & Jane Adler-Corning
Ma & Pa Waller from Emily Lund
Winter Haven from Sharon Moseler
Zimmerman Family from Kathryn Zimmerman & Steven Richter

In Appreciation
We are always overwhelmed with the out-pouring of contributions at the end of the year. This amazing generosity helps us meet so many needs in our community. Thank you to all supporters for BEing THE HOPE in the world!

Since the last newsletter contributions were received from these schools, businesses and organizations:

AgStar Financial Services
All States Ag Parts Inc.
American Edge Real Estate
Auth Consulting & Associates
Bear Valley Electric
The Birthday Club
Cardinal FG
Carpet City
Catholic Financial Life
Coiborn’s, Inc.
Duke & Dagger-Opening Night Tips
Dunn Co. Area Retired Educators Association
Dunn Co. Home Community Education Club
Dunn County Sheriff’s Dept.
Dunn County Joint Council of Unions
Erb Chiropractic
Fairmount Santrol
Gentle Dental Care
Hallman Lindsay Quality Paints
Hoof & Paw Clinic
Jackie Hunt’s State Farm
Kado & Associates Inc.
Keyes Chevrolet
Knapp Elementary
Knights of Columbus Council
Leipnitz Dental Clinic
Machine Shed Sports-Feed Your Community Fundraiser
Mainstream Boutique
Menomonie Country Club—Memorial Tournament
Menomonie Market Food
Co-op—Hill ‘O Beans
Menomonie High School Hockey Club
Menomonie Housing Authority Board of Commissioners
Menomonie Noon & Sunrise Rotaries—Proceeds from Sadistic Century Bike Ride
National Mutual Benefit Branch 927
Neighbors of Dunn County Pallet Service Corporation
Rassbach Realty
Red Cedar Steel Erectors, Inc.
Royal Credit Union
Sand Creek Arts Board
S.H. Young & Associates
Stout Council on Family Relations
Sun Life Financial
Taco John’s
Tainter Trail Tamers
Talen Charitable Trust
Transmotive Auto Repair LLC
United Health Group
UW-Stout CKTO HEC Vets Plus
VFW Post 1039
The Village at White Pine
WESTconsin
Western Wisconsin Title Services, LLC.
Women of the Moose
Menomonie Chapter #682
Congratulations to Our Savior's Lutheran for being the overall Food & Funds Drive champion!

Gifts to Stepping Stones

THANK YOU SO MUCH to these participants in Stepping Stones’ 30th Anniversary Food & Funds Drive which raised ~7,000 lbs. of food and $18,000!

*3M
Andersen Corporation
Beta Sigma Phi-Xi Kappa Ch.
Bill’s Distributing
Bookends on Main
*Bremer Bank
Cedarbrook
Christ Lutheran Church
Citizens State Bank
ConAgra Foods
Cora Frank-RE/MAX Affiliates
*Dunn Co. Dept. of Human Services

*Eiden & Hatfield, LLC
Insty-Prints
*Keyses Chevytown
*MCHS-Red Cedar
Menomonie Middle School
Menomonie High School Cheerleaders
New Life Lutheran
*Oaklawn Elementary
Olson Funeral Home
**Our Savior’s Lutheran Church
St. Joseph Parish
*Shefchik Builders, Inc.
Skinner Law Firm
State Farm-Jackie Hunt Agency
*Straight Forward
Sunshine Learning Center
WESTconsin Credit Union
* Winners in their category

**Congratulations to Our Savior’s Lutheran for being the overall Food & Funds Drive champion!

Since the last newsletter contributions were received from the following churches and church groups:

Barum Lutheran WELCA
Big Elk Creek Lutheran
Branches Church
Cedarbrook
Christ Lutheran Church
Faith Lutheran Church Women
First Congregational Church - Women’s Fellowship
Forest Center Church of Nazarene
Hay River Lutheran Church
Hay River Lutheran Hope Circle
Holy Trinity Lutheran Ladies Guild
Liberty Christian Center
Little Elk Creek Lutheran Church Women
Menomonie Seventh Day Adventist Church
Menomonie United Methodist Church
New Hope Lutheran Church
Our Savior’s Lutheran Church
Our Savior’s Lutheran-Wheeler
Peace Lutheran Church
Peace Lutheran Church Women
River of Life Assembly of God
Rock Creek Lutheran Church
Salem Iron Creek Church
Shepherd of the Hill
St. Joseph Catholic Parish
St. Joe’s School
St. Paul’s Lutheran Church
St. Paul’s Lutheran Women
Tainter United Methodist Women
Trinity Lutheran Church
Trinity Lutheran Church Women
Trinity United Methodist Church
United Methodist Women

Non-Monetary Gifts
We greatly appreciate the many donations of food and personal care items as well as hats, scarves, mittens, quilts, blankets, toys, books, Christmas trees, gas & gift cards, and other in-kind items for pantry & shelter clients over the holidays, and at other times of the year as well. People are so happy and grateful to receive these things!

Since the last newsletter the following grants were received:

Barnard Family Charitable Fund through the Community Foundation of Dunn County
City of Menomonie
Dunn Energy Cooperative—Operation Round-Up
Snoeyenbos Family Foundation
Tuesday’s Table through the Community Foundation of Dunn County
Walmart Foundation for Walmart Store #1819 & Walmart Distribution Center
West Wisconsin Charitable Energy Fund through the Community Foundation of Dunn County
Good Times for Good Causes

Fighting hunger (and other societal ills) doesn’t have to be Depressing. Of course, the reasons we do it are serious.—

In Wisconsin alone:

700,000 people are at risk of hunger every year
250,000 of them are children
121 million meals are ‘missing’—meaning that’s how much more food needs to be provided to end food insecurity
$2.6 billion is the estimated cost of hunger, primarily in medical expenses and lost work and school time
68,000 visits are made weekly to Wisconsin food pantries

The needs can seem overwhelming but there’s good news, too!

In Wisconsin:

680,000 people receive FoodShare benefits
50 million meals are provided through charitable hunger relief programs
45% growth occurred last year in the distribution of fresh food

It’s important to be aware of how great the needs are but also to celebrate what’s accomplished and the difference it makes in individual lives.

We had such a great time at Empty Bowls this spring. Lots of happy faces, beautiful bowls, delicious food, great volunteers, board members wearing hairnets 😊, amazing music, a huge silent auction, and plenty of room to spread out at our new Menomonie High School venue! AND, over $15,000 was raised to fight hunger, homelessness, and poverty in our community!

In surveys on why people contribute to charitable causes, the following motivating factors rank the highest:

• They have a passion for the organization’s mission.
• They believe the organization is fiscally sound and will responsibly steward their donation.
• The organization has stable staff and board leadership.
• They need the organization as a partner to make the community a better place.

I hope and believe the first three points are true for Stepping Stones but I especially like the last point! When you make a contribution to Stepping Stones or attend one of our events, it’s an opportunity for you to join in helping change lives. None of us can do this alone. Those who care about doing good in the world (or even in our own corner of the world) need non-profit organizations. Joining with others to build a nonprofit’s capacity to fulfill its mission means so much good can be accomplished. You get to do good and feel good—talk about a ‘win-win’!

It’s almost time for our other annual event—the Garden Tour. Turn the page for all the details. Could there be a more pleasant way to help others than a leisurely stroll through beautiful gardens on a nice summer day? Hope to see you there!

~ Katherine Dutton, Executive Director

Summer 2017 Newsletter

Save the date for next year’s Empty Bowls:
Saturday, Feb. 24th, 2018
11 am - 2 pm, Menomonie High School
You’re invited to the **2017 Stepping Stones’ Garden Tour!**

* Saturday, June 24th, 9:00 am—2:00 pm *

This year’s gardens:
- **Denise & Brent Skinner**, Plum Tree Circle
- **Joe Gessner**, Panorama Drive
- **Kate Merkel**, 538th St.
- **Kaye Pember**, 689th Ave.
- **Sue & Ted Hoyt**, County Trunk F

Advanced Tickets—$13, available at:
- Bobolink Nursery
- Bookends on Main
- Dick’s Fresh Market
- Kyle’s IGA Market, Colfax
- Lakeview Floral & Gifts
- La dee dah
- Season’s Harvest Greenhouse
- Stepping Stones’ Office

Day of Tour Tickets—$15, available at:
- Stepping Stones
- On site at all gardens on the tour

Tickets may also be purchased on-line at [www.steppingstonesdc.org](http://www.steppingstonesdc.org)

And a **Silent Auction**!

View and bid on silent auction items at the gardens including lawn ornaments, a copper trellis, artwork, rain barrels, compost, tree trimming, jewelry, quilts, a Samsung tablet, gift certificates, and more!

**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.**

2017 Garden Tour sponsors are listed on the back of the newsletter insert. Thank you so much to the sponsors, gardeners, volunteers, and all who attend! And a big ‘shout out’ to the wonderful Garden Tour Committee: Sherry Cole, Jan Harvey, Janice Kohnke, Tim Lutz, Tammy Pellet, Jane Redig, Denise Skinner, and Sharon Tripp.

Proceeds will benefit Stepping Stones’ Food Pantry, Shelters, and Community Connections Program.

---

**Also visit the Garden Market**

at Stepping Stones

1602 Stout Rd.
outside by the picnic table & bike rack

**Thurs.-Fri. prior to the tour**

June 22-23, 10 am—4 pm

and the day of the tour

**Sat., June 24, 9 am—2 pm**

Potted plants (like many you’ll see on the tour), garden items, t-shirts & hats, and more!
So Much Food!!

Thanks so much to the following businesses, churches, schools, and organizations, as well as the many individuals not listed, for their donations of food over the past eight months—it’s been a while since we listed them. So many people and places donate food and personal care products to the pantry, as well as items for our shelters and shelter residents that we’re unable to list everyone, but we try to highlight some places that make large or regular donations or have special food/item drives. If we inadvertently miss your business or group please let us know and we’ll be sure to include it the next time we list non-monetary donations.

3M
ABC Daycare
Advance Auto Parts
AgSource-Genex
Aldis
Alpha Tau
Anytime Fitness
Applebee’s
Bank Mutual
Barking Dogs Bakery
Baruk Yah Farm
Bill’s Distributing
Bremer Bank
Caribou
Cedar Corporation
Cedarling 4-H Club
Center for Independent Living
Christ Lutheran Church
Clover Valley Farms
Coborn’s
Comforts of Homes
ConAgra
Co-op Breakfast
Co-op Partners
Costco-Minneapolis
CROP Walk
Cub Scouts Food Drive
Daring Damsels
Dick’s Fresh Market & Customers
Dollar Store
Downsville School
Dunn County AHCE
Dunn County Farm Bureau
Dunn County Fish & Game
Dunn County Health Dept.
Dunn County Home Community Education Club
Dunn County Homemakers
Dunn County Human Services
Dunn County Humane Society
Dunn Energy Cooperative
Durand Area Knights of Columbus
Eau Galle Cheese
Edward Jones
Einstein Bagels
Fairmount Sand
Faith Lutheran Church
Family Video
First Congregational Church
Gamma Sigma Sigma
Girl Scouts
Goodwill
Grace Episcopal Church
Herman’s Clover Valley Farm
Hmong Alliance Church
Hope Circle Hay River Lutheran
Dunn County Jail Garden
Knapp Elementary School
Knapp Hills Farm
Knights of Columbus - Menomonie
Kwik Trip
Lake Country Land School
Liberty Christian Center
Little Elk Creek 4-H
Little Elk Creek Church
Mabel Tainter
Machine Shed Sports Performance
MarketPlace Foods & Customers
Mayo Clinic Health System Food Service
Menomonie Alliance Church
Menomonie Area School District
Menomonie Community Garden
Menomonie Co-op Customer Donations
Menomonie Country Club-Memorial Tournament
Menomonie Lion’s Club
Menomonie Market Co-op & Customers
Menomonie Middle School FCCLA
Menomonie Noon & Sunrise Rotaries—Kids Against Hunger Meals
Menomonie Police Department Food for Fines
Menomonie Rifle & Pistol Club
Menomonie United Methodist Church
Menomonie Women’s Group
Menomonie Youth Hockey Association
MHS Cross Country Team
MHS DECA
Moose Lodge
New Hope Lutheran Church
Oak Ridge Church
Oaklawn Elementary
One Love Bakery
Origins
Our Savior’s Church—Wheeler
Our Savior’s Lutheran Church
Peace Lutheran Church
PEO
Phi Epsilon Omicron Honor Society
Phillips Medisize
Plum City Food Pantry
Positive Alternatives
Pulse Party Bus, LLC
Red Cedar Speedway
River Heights Elementary
Ruby’s Pantry
Salem Iron Creek United Methodist Church
Sand Creek Arts
School District of the Menomonie Area
Spring Brook Meats
St. Croix Valley Produce
St. Henry’s Eau Galle
St. Joe’s Church of Eau Galle
St. Joseph Parish & School
St. Paul’s Lutheran Church
Styer Farm
Subway
Super America East
Sweetland Farm
Sylvan Hills
Tainter United Methodist Church
The Abbey Pub
Thursday’s Table
Tri-Mart
Trinity Lutheran Church
Tuesday’s Table
UNFI
Unitarian Society of Menomonie
UW-Extension
UW-Stout Academic Society
UW-Stout Athletic Dept.
UW-Stout Campus Change Committee
UW-Stout Campus Garden
UW-Stout Child & Family Study Center
UW-Stout CKTO
UW-Stout Council on Family Relations
UW-Stout Counseling Organization
UW-Stout ESL International Students
UW-Stout Food Lab
UW-Stout Food Service
UW-Stout Greek Community
UW-Stout Housing
UW-Stout Panhellenic Sororities
UW-Stout Soccer Team
UW-Stout Student Center
Valley Pasture Farm
Village at White Pine
Wakanda Elementary Art Class & 5th Grades
Wakanda Waterpark
Walmart
Walmart Distribution Center
Waznik Moseler Group
Wellness Fair
WESTconsin Credit Union
Wisc. Food Drive
Wisconsin Kenworth
Xi Kappa Sorority

That’s a lot of food! But, would you believe, the Stepping Stones’ warehouse turns over about once a week? Approximately 3,000 pounds of food gets distributed every day through the pantry—enough to last each of the 60 families who visit per day (on average) 4 to 5 days.

Special thanks to the Boy Scouts and Letter Carriers and all who contributed for their annual spring food drives—our two biggest of the year!
Thank you for your support of Stepping Stones.
Gifts & Memorials to Stepping Stones

Since the last newsletter contributions were received in memory of:

Debra Abrams from Jacalyn Broughton
Jim Ahnemon from Steven & Ruth Alf
John & Jean Alf from Steven & Ruth Alf
Gordon & Irene Anderson from Ronald & Debra Micek
Harlan Anderson from Barbara Laatsch
Robbie (Chuck) Anderson from Jo Klett
Barb Bauer from Ed & Lynn LaVenture
Ted & Laura Beguhn from Mickey Beguhn
Judith Berg from Pat, Ben, Pete, & Becky Quilling
Vivian Berg from Ronald & Debra Micek
Kari Bostrom from William & Rose Burns, Harry Evjen, Michelle Hamilton & Coal, David & Irma Jean Maves, Bob Peterson
Bernard (Bernie) Brehm from Ken & Carolyn Homer, Dale & Susan Mork
Sue Ann Brenne from Sheila Kuhman
Marion Brunner from Duane & Marie Bauer
James Cane from Barbara Laatsch
Bernice Christopherson from Steven & Ruth Alf
April Cryst from Marvin & Carol Saxton, Jeanne Sprader
Nelle Cook from David Cook
John R. Dale from Grace Episcopal Church
Dick Debee from Lois Debee
Dorothy & Nelson Deming from Debra Cady
Dave Dierauer from Arthur & Judy Muller
Marlene Ebert from Lynn Ebert, Kay Pershern
Rich Emmert from Judy Jenson
Ted Fesler from Steven & Kathleen Schrantz
Donna Fisher from Audrey & Thomas Schneider
Bob Gayhart from Audrey Gayhart
Hackensack Gang: John Waller, Don Williams, Bert Apelgren, Al Baldus, Bob Wilson, Bob Hanson, and Bud Wilson from Gladys Waller
Raymond Giere from Marvin & Carol Saxton
Gordon Grohn from Steven & Ruth Alf
Florence Hagness from Steven & Kathleen Schrantz
In memory of continued:

Harry Halvorson from Teresa Stark-Halvorson
Chris Hammer Hannack from Len & Merna Frank, Judy Jenson
Terri, Diane, & Joanne Hanson from Vernon & Ruth Hanson
Allen Harrison from Pamela Gane, Betty & Si Olson
Geneva Heeter from Peggy Santee
Orville Hendrickson from Donna Boerner
Stanley Hicks from Marvin & Carol Saxton
Charles & Gennie Hillstead from Ronald & Debra Micek
Scott Hillstead from Ronald & Debra Micek
Gloria Holte from Steven & Ruth Alf
Bradley Isaacs from Judy Kirk, Bob & Helen Redlich
Tom Jorgenson from Donna Albrecht
Bernard Keller from Steven & Ruth Alf
Lyle Kuester from Kay Pershern
Arlene Koeneman from Hope Circle Hay River Lutheran Church
Bernice (Bernie) Lasching from Becky & Tim Auth
Jack Leidl from Steven & Ruth Alf
Michael Levy from Diane Morehouse
Ruth Ley from James Ley
Loved Ones from Winnifred Wolf
Barb Luther from Peggy Kraemer, Daniel & Lynda Paulson, Lois Sipple
Connie Lysters from Bob & Patty Marlette
Myron Marlett from Randy and Sandra Marlett, Kay Pershern
Dale McConohy from Grace Episcopal Church
Anna Mense from Bonnie Anderson, Elizabeth Eiseth, Ruth & Carlyle Gilbertson, Joyce Sollie
Galen Mettler from Allyz Kramer Polacsek
Ray & Marcy Micek from Ronald & Debra Micek
Jean Miller from Marvin & Carol Saxton
Bessie Nelson from Bob & Patty Marlette
Phyllis Nelson from Alice Evenson
Noah Norton from Donna Shoemaker
Bonita O’Meara from Patrick O’Meara
Jean O’Neill from Dick & Marilyn Lamers
George Pesek from Anna Pesek
Gifts & Memorials to Stepping Stones

In memory of continued:


John Piaskoski from Art & Bobby Brandt
Jeanne & Harold Polasky from Joan Polasky
John A. Powers from Guillermo Gutierrez, Eleanor Powers
Eva Pruhs from Jim & LaWanna McSweeney
Lois Ann Randall from Joe & Margy Hagaman
Ted & Nira Richartz from Graydon Richartz
Dan Riordan from Barbara Brandt, Darcy Dederich, Jeanne Foley & Katherine Dutton, Jan Jordan, Warren & Marion Lang, David & Irma Jean Maves, Diane Morehouse, Joan Navarre, Tina Palmer, Don Salisbury, Jane Schwartz, Denise & Brent Skinner, Brenda & Bill Swannack, Susan Weston, Robert & Janice Willow (Listed gifts are those received at time of printing; additional gifts will be noted in the next newsletter.)

Jack Robinson from Lois Debee
Randy Roemhild from Craig & Sharon Formoe, Thomas & Judy Humphal
Dallas Schaefer from David & Irma Jean Maves, Marvin & Carol Saxton
Bob Schmidt from Steven & Ruth Alf
Lucille Schumacher from Lynn & David Dummer
Fred Seeger from Bob & Patty Marlette
Bob & Clarice Shackleton from B.J. & Forrest Lovett
Don Skamfer from Richard & Lane Rowell
Brian Solem from JoAnn Uphall
Lynn Stewart from Judy Jenson
Rose Studbaker from Ann & Cal Caturia, Lanna Laird, Marion Lang
Bernice Sutliff from William Olson, Dona Shoemaker
Norman Tritz from Jerry & Ann Kirsling
Wendy Weber from Leann Thomas
Belva Zwygart and all mothers from Mary Zwygart-Stauffacher

Since the last newsletter contributions were received in honor of:

Max Bloom's birthday from Barry & Julie Bloom
Pastor Dean from Steven & Ruth Alf
Jeff, Lori, Donna, and their families from Lois Debee
Dedicated people at Stepping Stones from Rita Ulesich
Their 4 great grandkids & great grandson from Richard & Geraldine Ernst
The Halls & the Hoyts from Emily Talen, Gerald Talen, Timothy Talen
Their grandson, Liam McGregor from Wendy & Rob MacDougall
Margaret McKanna from Sharon Hayes & Family
Menomonie Public Library Employees from Neal Schroeder
Military Men & Women from Dale & Carol Seppa
The Installation of Rev. Kathleen Remund, First Congregational UCC from Andrew Mercil & Diane Mercil
Dan Riordan from Chris & Julie Bendel
Dan & Mary Riordan from Kathy & Rod Bailey
90 years of life from Audrey Schneider
Stepping Stones Staff from Neal Schroeder
Scott Werlein Family from Jean Ann Keck

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

(In if we have inadvertently missed anyone, please let us know and we will correct it next time.)

In Memory

Harold Halfin was a longtime supporter and volunteer at Stepping Stones, especially as a member of the group the Pounding Fathers. This group, comprised of mostly retired faculty from UW-Stout, offers construction and small home repair services to community members in need and nonprofit organizations. Harold worked on many projects at Stepping Stones over the years, especially at the Broadway Shelter. He was also a former board member and the honorary co-chair of the capital campaign when the new food pantry and office building was constructed. We give thanks for Harold’s many contributions through the years and for his legacy that lives on in the Pounding Fathers’ group, the work of Stepping Stones, and in many other areas of the Dunn County community.
Since the last newsletter contributions were received from the following businesses, churches, and organizations:

- 3M Volunteer Match Program
- AgStar Financial Services
- Bear Valley Electric
- Bread for the World
- Bremer Bank Jeans Day
- Chi Lambda Fraternity Chili Feed
- Christ Lutheran Church
- Church World Service - CROP
- Coborn’s (MarketPlace)
- ConAgra Brands Bake Sale
- Dunn County AHCE
- Dunn County Area Retired Educators Association
- Erb Chiropractic
- First Congregational Martin Luther King Service Offering
- Girl Scouts of Red Cedar
- Girl Scouts Troop 3105
- Grace Episcopal Church
- H&R Block Nonprofit Referral Program
- Kado & Associates
- Knapp Daisy Girl Scouts
- Knapp Elementary School
- Lentz Fertilizer, Inc.
- Liberty Christian Center
- Menomonie High School FFA Corn Drive
- Menomonie Market Food Co-op Hill ‘O Beans
- Menomonie Middle School FCCLA
- Menomonie Seventh Day Adventist Church
- Menomonie United Methodist Church
- Menomonie Weight Watchers Groups

Businesses, churches, and organization contributions continued:

- Menomonie Women's Group
- New Hope Lutheran Church
- Northtown Ford
- Our Savior’s Lutheran Church
- Our Savior’s Women
- Pallet Service Corporation
- Peace Lutheran Church
- St. Joseph Parish
- St. Paul’s Lutheran Church
- Thrivent Action Teams
- Thrivent Choice Dollars
- Transmotive Auto Repair LLC
- Trinity Lutheran Church
- Unitarian Society of Menomonie
- UW-Stout Child & Family Study Center
- Vets Plus, Inc.
- Walmart Volunteer Match Program
- Western Wisconsin Title Services, LLC
- Wines for Humanity
- Women of the Moose

Grant Support
(since the last listing)

- 3M Foundation for Project SAM weekend kids’ meal bags
- America’s Farmers Grow Communities – The Monsanto Fund, thanks to Gary Seipel for Food Pantry & Shelter Support
- The Community Foundation of Dunn County for supplemental food boxes for Meals on Wheels’ recipients
- Dunn County for general operating support
- Mayo Hometown Health for Food Pantry initiatives including remote pantries in rural Dunn County and free unlimited fresh produce distribution during harvest season
- Our Savior’s Mission Endowment Fund for re-sealing and striping the Stout Rd. parking lot

Corrections from previous newsletter:

Gifts were given in memory of
- Alton & Oma Clark from Paul & Wendy Clark & Family
- Walter & Violet Waller from Mary & Gene Krueger
Thank You to these Sponsors of the Stepping Stones’ 2017 Garden Tour!

Iris Level
Anonymous
Checker Flag Farms/Marilyn Fanetti
Dennis & Antoinette Ciesielski
Sherry & John Cole
Greg & Jane Corning
Deedee Eiseth in Memory of Ike Eiseth
Expert Tree Service & Science
Mame Gale
Jan Harvey
Hybben Photography
Roger & Sue Ann Jenrich
Knights of Columbus - Menomonie
Lisa & Ted Ludwig
Marine Credit Union
Mayo Clinic Health System
Northern Wisconsin Hosta Society
Jerry & Kim Porter
Ron & Luanne Prochnow
Jane Redig & John Williams
Robert Giede Design
Shefchik Builders
Bill, Jennie & Tori Stewart
in Memory of Shirley K. Stewart
Charles & Kathleen Weber
in Memory of Russell Lasocki

Lily Level
5 Star Dairy, LLC
24-7 & West Wisconsin Telcom
Bobolink Nursery, LLC
Bremer Bank
Diane & Steve Brown
CliftonLarsonAllen
Heritage Builders & Professional Handyman Services
Bill & Janice Kohnke
Diane Morehouse
Lynn & Dick Nehring
in Memory of Wilmer & Irene Maves
Simply Dunn
Skinner Law Firm, LLC
Rev. Wendy & Ryan Slaback
Walmart Distribution Center
J. David & Amy Whelan

Trillium Level continued
Toby & Marian Ellison
Fairmount Santrol
Family Video Menomonie
Grace Episcopal Church
Sandy Haesly
Pinckney & Susan Hall
Junction Liquor/Dave Micek in Memory of Anne Micek
Roger & Mary Klukas
Kyle’s IGA Market
Greg & Colleen Lentz
Ross D. Olson – Bremer Investment Services/Raymond James Inc.
Dave & Tammy Pellet
Red Cedar Landscape
Season’s Harvest Greenhouse
Rod & Trudy Smeltzer
State Farm – Jackie Hunt Agency
Martha Stewart
James & Patricia Walker
WESTconsin Credit Union

Violet Level
Anonymous
Bill & Mary Ann Bailey
Barn Quilts by Mary & Janine
Sue Barnett
Bayrd Horvath Family
Cedar Corporation
Jacq & Lyn Collins
Dick’s Fresh Market
Hoof & Paw Veterinary Clinic
Esther, Jack & Leslie Jeatran
Cathy Jenson, Thrivent Financial
Tom & Barb Johnson
Leslie Koepke in Memory of Russell Lasocki
La dee dah
Lakeview Floral & Gifts
Leipnitz Dental Clinic
Mainstream Boutique of Menomonie
Ruth Morey in Memory of Dane F. Morey
Northtown Ford
Our Savior’s Lutheran Women
Joanne Rucker
Trinity Lutheran Church of Boyceville
David & Karen Williams in Honor of Donna & Paul Lark
Richard Yonko

Sweet Pea Level
Anshus Jewelers
Caribou Coffee
Colfax Antique Mall/Café II Coffee Shop
Cottage Winery
Elk Meadow Home, Community & Education Club
Elk Mound Seed
Fairchild Law Office
Henderson’s Excavating & Landscaping
Marion & Warren Lang
MarketPlace Foods
Matt’s Metal Art
Laura & Kelly McCullough
Menomonie Market Food Co-op
Mill’s Fleet Farm
Mark Palma
Sipp’s Sap Shack LLC
Jeanne Stevenson
Marie Young
In Their Own Words

We sometimes do surveys of the kids who receive Project SAM (Share A Meal) weekend bags to make sure everything is going well with the program. It’s so moving to read through the comments and see the answers in the kids’ own writing. Here are a few highlights from last year’s surveys (with a little help deciphering some that might be hard to figure out):

What’s most important to you about getting Project SAM bags?
50% $ for fam

What’s most important to you about getting Project SAM bags?
Frod and Drinks

That there is a nuff food for my fam

(That there is enough food for my family.)

How does the food in Project SAM bags help you?
Protein

(It helps me because when we don’t have anything in the fridge then I can get food from the bag.)

Keep me Helthy

(Keeps me healthy.)

Happy Food

(Healthy food.)

How does the food in Project SAM bags help you?
I shar the food with my siste

Fall 2017 Newsletter

What’s most important to you about getting Project SAM bags?
It helps us get food.

(Saves us money because we are poor.)
(It helps us survive.)

Any other comments:
Awesome

Any other comments:

Project SAM provides bags of food to children who might otherwise be hungry on the weekend. There is enough food for 2 breakfasts and 2 lunches, with extra provided for long weekends and vacations. The food is either ready to eat or easy to prepare and as nutritionally balanced as possible based on the food available to us through Feed My People Food Bank. Thanks to grant support we are able to ensure that each bag always has two servings of fruit even if it’s necessary to purchase that at retail costs.

With a poverty rate of 16.3% Dunn County is among the poorest counties in the state. Over 42% of students are eligible for free or reduced lunch. This means their families live at or below 185% of poverty level which puts them at risk of hunger. (185% of poverty level is an income of $3,793 or below per month for a family of 4.)

Project SAM bags are packed each week by volunteers at Stepping Stones and distributed through ten local schools to children of all ages from Head Start through high school. At the start of this school year we’re already serving 373 kids, and the number typically increases throughout the year.

But the good news, in the kids’ own words, is that they’re getting ‘enuff hfy fode,’ that they can sometimes ‘shar’ it, and that Project SAM ‘savs’ money for their family! We also think that’s AWESOME! :}

[Image of children wearing backpacks, smiling outdoors.]
Stepping Stones News

Farewell to Jane

Jane Redig has retired! We’re so grateful for her many years of service and will surely miss her. Help us wish her well by joining us at the Barrel Room (details below) for Stepping Stones Guest Server Night. Jane will be one of the servers and we’ll make sure she has plenty of time to mingle!

Stepping Stones’ Night at the Barrel Room

Wednesday
Oct. 18, 6 - 9 p.m.

Come enjoy a glass of wine or other beverage at the Barrel Room, 320 Main St. E., Menomonie. It will be a ‘guest server night’ and all cash tips will go to Stepping Stones. Servers will include Stepping Stones staff, board members and local “celebrities”. Bring your friends or colleagues for Happy Hour! Enjoy some music and conversation. The Barrel Room also has tasty appetizers and non-alcoholic beverages.

Welcome Jill

We’re happy to welcome Jill Seichter as the new Community Connections Program Coordinator. Jill might look familiar as she interned at Stepping Stones several years ago while completing her Social Work degree and has since been working at Dunn Co. Human Services. She has also served on the Stepping Stones board. Because of her familiarity with Stepping Stones and the Dunn County community she has already ‘hit the ground running’!

Hooray for Fresh Produce!

Thanks so much to all the farmers and gardeners who donated produce to the pantry this summer and fall. Because of all this bounty, as well as being able to get free produce from Feed My People Food Bank, we’re able to offer more/less unlimited quantities through the pantry and even have an extra weekly distribution time just for produce throughout the harvest season.

SAVE the DATE for EMPTY BOWLS!

Sat., Feb. 24th at MHS!

Mark your calendars for the 2018 Empty Bowls which will be held at Menomonie High School, Sat., Feb. 24, 11 am—2 pm. Beautiful bowls, yummy soup, wonderful community spirit, and lots more. Details in the next newsletter and on-line closer to the event. Hope to see you there!

Cooperative Breakfast

Enjoy the waffles once again at the annual Co-op Breakfast to be held Sat., Oct. 28, 8—11 am at Dunn Energy. The event includes a food and funds drive for Stepping Stones. Thanks to all our great local co-ops and their members.
Winter Haven — Ways to Help

VOLUNTEER & SPREAD THE WORD!!

Winter Haven season will be here soon and we need your help! The shelter can sleep up to 10 people per night. There are 2 volunteer shifts per night and 2 volunteers are needed for each shift— 7:30 pm - 1:30 am & 1:30 am - 7:30 am. Duties include: checking guests in, serving coffee & snacks, ensuring everyone is settled for the night and awakened in the morning, setting out breakfast foods, and tidying up.

Training Session Options for NEW Volunteers:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon, Oct 30</td>
<td>6-7 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs, Nov 2</td>
<td>6:30-7:30 pm</td>
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<td>Sat, Nov 4</td>
<td>10-11 am</td>
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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Tues, Nov 7</td>
<td>6:30-7:30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs, Nov 9</td>
<td>6:30-7:30 pm</td>
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</table>

Update Session for RETURNING Volunteers:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thurs, Oct 26</td>
<td>6 - 7 pm</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Please contact Stepping Stones Shelter Coordinator Heidi Hooten to register and indicate which session you’ll attend: 715.235.2920, x7, shelter@steppingstonesdc.org.

We also need help spreading the word about the need for volunteers.

Please tell your friends, family, colleagues, church groups, civic organizations, etc.! If there are no volunteers to take a shift the shelter must close and we don’t want that! Volunteers must be 18 or older.

Donations

$10 gas cards
Dunn County Transit bus passes
$10 Burger King or Culvers gift cards
Coffee & basket filters
Silverware
Kitchen towels, dish cloths, hot pads
Paper towels, zip-lock bags (all sizes)
Dish soap & dish washer detergent
Laundry detergent & dryer sheets
Mop & bucket
All-purpose cleaners
Toilet cleaner & brushes
Toilet paper & Kleenex
Tampons & pads
Garbage bags
Odor eaters insoles & foot powder
Socks & underwear (mostly men’s)
Twin size sheets
Pillows

What Will Your Legacy Be?

Including Stepping Stones in your estate plan is a way to ensure that the support provided to the organization in the past continues into the future.

Planned gifts will ensure the long term mission and operation of Stepping Stones, allowing us to provide food assistance to the greater numbers of Dunn County residents we now reach and those in need we haven’t yet reached.

Our shelters will remain ready to receive those who find themselves homeless, and provide other services to help them along the “stepping stones” back to self-sufficiency.

Your gift can also provide you with tax advantages as well as ensuring that more of your estate goes to the heirs you choose.

Types of planned gifts include:

- Designating an amount or percentage of your estate in your will, making Stepping Stones a beneficiary of your life insurance policy or retirement plan (IRA, 401K, etc.), setting up a charitable trust, or making a gift of real estate.

Become a member of Stepping Stones’ Keystone Society by making a planned gift today! The keystone is the critical stone at the top of the arch on which the others depend for support.

Please contact us for more information or to let us know you’ve already arranged or are considering a planned gift: 715.235.2920, director@steppingstonesdc.org.
Thank you for your support of Stepping Stones.

Or Current Resident

Thanks to these Stepping Stones Supporters!

Acoustic Café – Free small coffee, iced tea, or lemonade with purchase of 1/2 special

Advance Auto Parts (Menomonie) – 10% off all purchases (excludes sale items)

Cancun Mexican Grill – 10% off all purchases

Circle C – $1.00 off a 12” Hot & Ready to Go Pizza

Dairy Queen – 10% off all purchases (excludes sale items)

Denny’s – 10% off purchase (Bar & LTO items excluded)

Duke & Dagger – 10% off any purchase

Erberts & Gerberts – Free fountain drink and chips with purchase of any sandwich

Exit 45 Restaurant – Free soda or coffee with daily breakfast or dinner special

Log Jam – 10% off an entrée

Marion’s Legacy – 10% off any purchase

Raw Deal – 10% off any purchase

Tabby Catfe – $1.00 off any sandwich basket

Toppers Pizza – 20% off a large pizza (one discount per order)

Waterfront Bar & Grill – Buy 1 entrée, get one for 1/2 price

Valid for card holder only. Not valid with any other discounts. Present card to receive discount.

Only $10 for all of the great supporter discounts listed on card back! Valid until August 31, 2018.

Stepping Stones Discount Card

1602 Stout Rd, Menomonie, WI 54751
www.steppingstonesdc.org
715.235.2920
info@steppingstonesdc.org

All proceeds support the programs of Stepping Stones: the food pantry, homeless shelters, and Community Connections support program.

Stepping Stones Discount Cards — Only $10

Most discounts are 10% off all purchases so it quickly pays for itself & it’s reusable!

Stop by the Stepping Stones office to purchase, order online at www.steppingstonesdc.org, or use the form here and the enclosed envelope. Great for thank you or birthday gifts & stocking stuffers!

Cards are good through August 2017.

Please send me __________ Discount Cards at $10 each plus $1 handling (per order not per card). Total enclosed: $ ______________ .

Name: ____________________________________________________________________________

Address: __________________________________________________________________________

City: ______________________________________________________________________________

State: ______________________________________________________________________________

Zip: _________________________________________________________________________________

Telephone: __________________________________________________________________________

Email: ______________________________________________________________________________

Thanks to the following businesses offering savings on the Stepping Stones Discount Cards:

Acoustic Café, Advance Auto Parts, Cancun Mexican Grill, Circle C, Dairy Queen, Denny’s, Duke & Dagger, Erberts & Gerberts, Exit 45 Restaurant, Log Jam, Marion’s Legacy, Raw Deal, Tabby Catfe, Toppers Pizza, Waterfront Bar & Grill.

Welcoming these new vendors:

All proceeds support the programs of Stepping Stones: the food pantry, homeless shelters, and Community Connections support program.
Gifts & Memorials to Stepping Stones

Since the last newsletter contributions were received in memory of:

- Ann Abbott from Art & Judy Muller
- Dona Andrews from Ronald & Judy Fry
- Marie Bolstad from Edward & Susan Roethke, Eugene & Jane Schutz, Jeanne Sprader
- Dennis & Marie Bolstad from Peder Bolstad
- Kari Bostrom from Lois Sipple
- April Chryst from Leonard & Merna Frank, Robert & Janice Willow
- Leonard “Mux” Clark from Bill Olson
- Donald & Kevin Cook from Ann Cook
- Richard Debee from Lois Debee
- Jerome Evenson from Pr. Bob & Susan Dahm, E. Alice Evenson, Susan & Theodore Hoyt, Kay Pershern
- Elaine Fort from Dona Shoemaker
- Stan Garnsworthy from Diane Mercil, Susan Weston
- Liza Grandstaff from Pr. Bob & Sue Dahm
- Harold Halfin from Ned & Peggy Weckmueller, Karen Zimmerman
- Jeanette Hansen from Sheri Debates
- Terri, Diane, & Joanne from Vernon & Ruth Hanson
- Becky Harmon from Sybil Buckley
- Bob Harrison from Wilma Erickson, Judith Pechmiller, Lois Sipple
- Mike Harvey from Wilma Erickson
- Jan Helixon from Lora Benrud
- James Hintzman from E. Alice Evenson, Nadine Schlough
- Fran Karnick from Leonard & Merna Frank, B.J. & Forrest Lovett
- Leroy Keenlyne from Jeffrey & Diana Gasteyer
- Lyle Kruschke from Phyllis Kruschke
- Lyle Kuester from Pr. Bob & Sue Dahm
- Victor Lame from Marvin & Carol Saxton
- Cyrilla Lande from Nancy Cassellius
- Charleen Larson from Wilma Erickson, Leonard & Merna Frank
- Dr. Sherman Lee from Juel Smith
- Michael Levy from Alvin & Jeanette Fremouw
- Charles Liesenfeld from John & Denise Neiderhauser, Charles & Dianne Stratton
- Richard Long from Sandra Long
- Dick Lowery from Cheryl Lowery
- Joyce Marine from Rebecca Marine
- Myron Marlett from Randy & Sandie Marlett
- Myrt Marshall from Dave & Amy Whelan
- Anna Mense from Lois Sipple
- Marion Mickelson from Leonard & Merna Frank, Ron & Jan Jordan
- Meldora Myran from Gus Myran
- Phyllis Gordon Nelson from Lois Debee
- Jerry Olson from Bob & Helen Redlich
- Jeanne & Harold Polasky from Joan Polasky
- Elmer & Myrtle Prochnow from LeAnn Thomas

In memory of continued:

- Eva Pruhs from Jim & LaWanna McSweeney
- Eva & Lloyd Rogers from Peggy Rogers Kraemer
- Lucille Schumacher from Marion Dummer, Barb Lakrantz, Steven & Kathleen Schrantz
- Paul Schumacher from Barbara Schumacher
- Tony Sinz from Jeffrey & Diana Gasteyer
- Lee Stansbury from Ann Stansbury
- Rose Studebaker from Lois Debee
- Bernice Sutliff from Kay Strand
- Rodney Timm from Jeanne Stevenson
- Mike Ubbelohde from Bob Peterson
- Karen Vaver from Dave & Nancy Ponto
- Pat Waggoner from Margaret Peterson
- John H. Waller from Mary & Gene Krueger
- Corrine Wold from Helenmae & Helmer Debee
- Flora Woodford from E. Alice Evenson
- Gerald Zimmerman from Karen Zimmerman, Kathryn Zimmerman & Steven Richter
- Belva Zwygart from Paul Stauffacher & Mary Zwygart-Stauffacher

Thank you so much to all who honored and remembered friends, family, colleagues, and loved ones by gifts to Stepping Stones.

(If we have inadvertently missed anyone, please let us know and we will correct it next time.)
Gifts to Stepping Stones

Since the last newsletter contributions were received in honor of:

- Arbor Place’s Dedicated Staff from Margaret McKanna
- Pat Bade’s 80th Birthday from Adrienne Harmston
- Karl Berger from Ursula Berger
- Children of Dunn County from Margaret McKanna
- Jeff, Lori, Donna, & families from Lois Debee
- Violet Eiseth from Dona Shoemaker
- Deb Gate’s Birthday from Lois Debee
- Their Grandchildren & Great Grandson from Richard & Geraldine Ernst
- Her Granddaughters—Tessa, Josie, Allison, & Katelyn from Trudy Smeltzer
- Marion & Warren Lang’s 50th Anniversary from the Tuesday Night Mindfulness Practice Group
- Jon Leiseth from Rosemary Jacobson
- Men & Women in the Military (past & present) from Marilyn Dehnert
- Curt & Marcia Murray’s 50th Anniversary from Ann Stansbury
- Jim & Carol Olson’s 65th Anniversary from Helenmae & Helmer Debee, Lois Debee
- Their Parents from Kathryn & Bob Kistner
- People who are Homeless from Joe & Judy Jax
- Jane Redig’s Years of Dedicated Service from Joan Redig
- School Teachers from Lois Debee
- Joy Smith from Connie Flug
- Stacey Weiss from Margi Stauss

Since the last newsletter contributions were received from the following businesses, churches, and organizations:

- Anthem, Inc.
- Beauje Hair Salon
- Beta Sigma Phi Preceptor Eta Ch.
- Bremer Bank
- Dunn County Area Retired Educators Assoc.
- Dunn County Sheriff Dept.–Movie Night Concessions
- Erb Chiropractic
- First Congregational UCC
- First Congregational Women’s Fellowship
- Grace Episcopal Church
- Hay River Lutheran Church
- Herb Kohl Philanthropies
- Jackie Hunt Insurance Agency
- Kado & Associates Insurance
- Keyes Chevrolet
- Kyote’s Den 20th Anniversary Party
- Liberty Christian Center
- Menomonie Area Young Professionals
- Menomonie Market Food Co-op Hill O’ Beans
- Menomonie Police Dept.–Dunk Tank
- Menomonie Seventh Day Adventist Church
- Menomonie Women’s Group
- New Hope Lutheran Church
- Northtown Ford
- Our Savior’s Lutheran Church
- Our Savior’s Lutheran Women of the ELCA, Wheeler
- Pallet Service Corporation
- Pierce Co. Ecumenical Choir
- Rock Elm United Methodist Women
- St. Joseph’s Parish
- St. Paul’s Lutheran
- Thrivent Action Team
- Transmotive Auto Repair LLC
- Trinity Lutheran Church
- Menomonie United Methodist Church
- Vets Plus, Inc.
- WESTconsin Credit Union–Jeans Day
- Western Wisconsin Title Services
- Wines for Humanity LLC
- Women of the Moose #682

Grant Support
(since the last listing)

- Andersen Corporate Foundation
- Otto Bremer Trust
- Tuesdays Table through the Community Foundation of Dunn County
- Walmart Foundation

Special thanks to the Cottage Winery & Vineyard for hosting our annual Volunteer Appreciation Picnic!

Gifts of food will be listed in the next newsletter.

Garden Tour Sponsors
(not previously listed)

- Lana Anderson
- Christine Ness
- Mark Palma
- Joan Redig
- Greg & Kathy Weber & Family
  in memory of Dan Riordan