

**Mission:**

**To provide a nutritious daily meal to the hungry of the area, as well as to provide a safe and sheltered place for social gathering.**



# THE SOUP KITCHEN



A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION  
1-269-925-8204

2011 SUMMER EDITION

## CLIENT COMMENTS



### *Darlanne*

I like the Soup Kitchen. It's a nice place to come and have a free meal. A lot of homeless people need the Soup Kitchen. My favorite people who come here are the ones who make the Cheesy Rice Casserole. (That is Pioneer Memorial Church from Berrien Springs.) I would eat the Cheesy Rice every day. I love all you guys and what you do for the community. When I feel good, I always come to the Soup Kitchen.

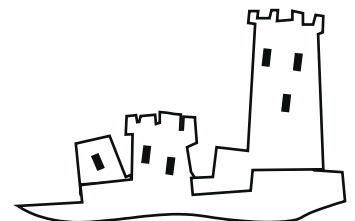
### *Nate and Nevaeha*

I'm a people person and I like to chat with friends at the Soup Kitchen. I like to see people feeding the community. Sometimes I like to volunteer myself to give back. I was homeless for seven years in Minneapolis. People here have helped me a lot with things like housing and food. I like to help people back. I do it for my daughter.



### *Willie*

I come here every day. I enjoy the food. I moved here from Muskegon; I have five sisters and four brothers in Muskegon. I like the Soup Kitchen. People are friendly.





**NEW BOARD  
MEMBER**

**Laurie  
LESAUSKIS**

Laurie was born in St. Joseph and has lived in Watervliet for about the last twenty years. She has two sons, both graduates of the University of Chicago. Paddy, the oldest has just finished his third year of grad school at Cal Tech and has recently passed his candidacy hearing. He is going for his PHD in math and plans to teach. Seamus, is living in Chicago and playing drums in a band.

When not moving her children in and out of dwellings, Laurie likes to go on hikes with her two new young, very active dogs. She likes hiking in Grand Mere, exploring the Van Buren Trail and following paths along the Paw Paw River. Laurie ran marathons for the past ten years but is taking a break from the 26.2.

She also likes to cook and is the former owner of the Black Swan Inn, a fine dining restaurant in Kalamazoo. Other careers in her eclectic background include copywriter, competitive intelligence and trends analyst, decorative painter (including Marie's in New Buffalo), airport marketing director, and hospital and radio sales. She also delivered a spiel on the train at Busch Gardens alerting passengers to the whereabouts of various animals in the park. For the past six years she has worked at Whirlpool and has just joined the Gladiator team in marketing.

Laurie has always believed in getting involved with the community whether it was organizing a Christmas party for the Readiness Center, working in Detroit on a Jimmy Carter Habitat build or serving on the Little League board in Watervliet. Laurie is honored to join the board at the Soup Kitchen after long admiring their work and reputation in the community.

*Laurie*



**OCTOBER 16 IS FOR YOU  
SOUP KITCHEN SUPPORTERS!**

On Sunday, October 16, the BISTRO on the Boulevard has an event lined up for you! All of you servers at the Soup Kitchen and you donors as well make up one of the largest volunteer networks of which we're aware. So on October 16, we're going to give you all an opportunity to come together and help the needful of our community--just by having a good time with your friends and family!

The BISTRO on Lake Boulevard in downtown St. Joseph will be offering you three opportunities on that date to benefit those served by the Soup Kitchen:

- 1) An after-church buffet brunch for you and your family with a large percentage of your bill going directly to the Soup Kitchen
- 2) An afternoon Euchre tournament open only to volunteers of the Soup Kitchen with trophies and monetary prizes going directly to 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place churches for their respective ministries--and the balance of the proceeds from entrance fees will benefit the Soup Kitchen
- 3) An evening dinner for people associated in any way with the Soup Kitchen, again, with a percentage of each bill going directly to the Soup Kitchen

There will be more details coming in the mail in the months to come. In the meantime, please circle this date on the calendar and we'll be in touch with you. And as always, thank you for all you do for others in this community!



**ATTEND A PLAY,  
BENEFIT THE SOUP KITCHEN**



On November 19th the Box Factory for the Arts will host the play "Ain't Tina Turner Classical Music" to benefit The Soup Kitchen.

South Haven author Linda LaRocque's play is about three homeless people and their abilities (and inabilities) to cope with the turbulence of daily life.

## KUDOS TO TABOR HILL !

Kudos to the Tabor Hill Winery and Restaurant and its Vice President Paul Landeck and his staff of excellent hostesses, servers, chefs and cooks . . . for a most successful dinner benefit for The Soup Kitchen on April 17, 2011. The event is vital to help The Soup Kitchen to achieve its mission of providing a warm meal everyday to the hungry of our area. We average about 140 meals per day, with weekday servings being considerably higher than on weekends.

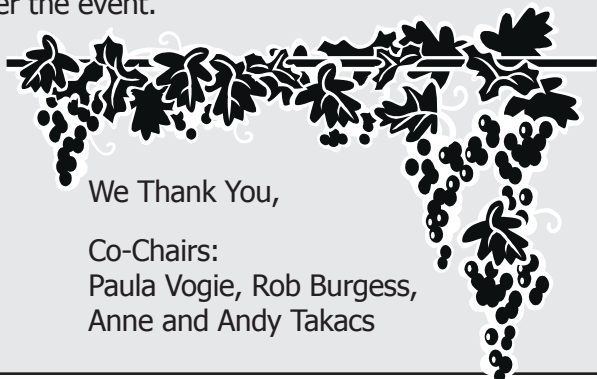
We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the donors that joined us at Tabor Hill on April 17, and we really appreciate the significant contributions received from non-attendees.

The Tabor Hill benefit is special. It's a low-key intimate dinner event, with none of the typical fund-raising activities, such as, raffles, auctions, speeches, 50-50's, etc. The program offers your choice of wine or cocktails, your choice from a top-drawer menu list, hors d'oeuvres, and dessert . . . in the elegant ambience that characterizes the Tabor Hill facility. Upon your arrival at the restaurant, a hostess greets and guides you to your personal table, whether you are a twosome or a table of 12.

Dinner guests who attend this event seem to always come back. And, many who cannot attend, but believe in The Soup Kitchen's worthy cause . . . respond to the invitation with a contribution. The remarkable feature is that Tabor Hill donates all of the proceeds to The Soup Kitchen. Paul and his staff do it all gratis !!

The dinner donation was \$80 per person, with \$60 being tax deductible (Federal) and qualifies for a 50% tax credit in Michigan. We always advise consulting your tax advisor in matters of taxation.

We commend our Soup Kitchen Executive Director, Merry Stover, for coordinating the administrative details in a most efficient fashion, both before and after the event.



We Thank You,

Co-Chairs:

Paula Vogie, Rob Burgess,  
Anne and Andy Takacs

## SOUP BOWL 2011

The 12th annual 'Soup Bowl' was held at Kelley's Bowl on Sunday, April 10. 26 teams participated.

LMC plus One took home the first place trophy while Frazier Electric took the silver.

James Mummaw from Frazier Electric bowled a 300 - a perfect game - Congrats James!

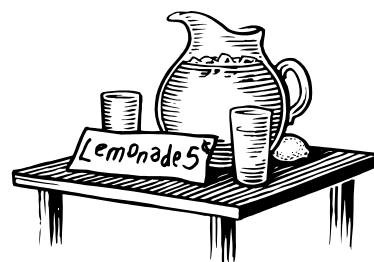
Team US Jack took third place.

The Alley Cats won Best Team Theme.

Vickie's SandBar claimed the Team Spirit trophy for the first time. Congratulations!

Beau Deja (Grande Mere Inn) won the Grand Prize, a KitchenAid suite of small appliances. Angie Siemens and Ken Clark won the 50/50's. The Soup Kitchen would like to thank our generous donors: Whirlpool Corporation, The Boulevard Hotel/Bistro at the Boulevard, Gillespie's Pharmacy, Martin's Super Market, Gary Kunkel, The Golf Club at Harbor Shores, Pauly's, The Friendly Tavern, The Pump House, Czar's, Clementine's Too, Sandy and Denny Dent, Expressions Café, Berrien County, The Ideal Place, OK Distributors, River's Edge, Family Video, Passaro's Pizza, Tabor Hill, Wings Etc., Lambrecht's Liquor, the Mark III, The Mendel Center Mainstage and Kelley's Bowl.

Special thanks to our great volunteers; we couldn't do this without you! Kristi Clark, Kelli Reeves, Nancy Gillespie Smith, Nancy Hendrix, Cathy Fechner, Sue Mennuchi and Jeff Von Koenig.



## NEW STAFF MEMBER RANDY KLING



Randy Kling has joined the Soup Kitchen staff as one of our dishwashers. Formerly a resident at the Salvation Army's Men's shelter, Randy now works for the Salvation Army at the shelter as well as working four days a week at the Soup Kitchen.

Welcome Randy!

Thinking about the  
Soup Kitchen? Check out the new  
“Need Right NOW!” page on our website at:  
[www.soupkitchen-bentonharbor.com](http://www.soupkitchen-bentonharbor.com)

### Soup Kitchen Wish List

- Cambro Coffee Server \$250
- Laundry soap, bleach
- Fruit and Vegetables - we use five #10 cans of fruit and vegetable daily
- Aprons, especially those that will fit men
- SOS pads, dish soap, kitchen cleanser
- A group of volunteers to clean our chairs (a church youth group is ideal)
- Volunteers to do some yard work

### THE MINISTRY OF ST. LUKE'S LUTHERAN CHURCH GOES ON

St. Luke's Evangelical Lutheran Church of Stevensville was one of the earliest supporters of the Benton Harbor Soup Kitchen, dating back to 1980. During their 46-year ministry, St. Luke's always had a focus on priorities. In the Book of James, chapter 2 v. 1 we hear: Brothers, how can you claim to belong to the Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of Glory, if you show favoritism to the rich and you look down on the poor? No one understood better how important the needful were in God's eyes than the people of St. Luke's.

When St. Luke's closed their doors last December, one may have thought that was the end of their collective ministry to this community. Not so. At a recent Soup Kitchen Board Meeting, we were presented with a tremendous gift from St. Luke's that will help keep us in the business of serving God's people in this community into the future. The Soup Kitchen Board will now meet to prayerfully determine the best way to handle this blessing and we will get back to the members of the former St. Luke's in the near future with our plan. In the meantime, thank you and blessings to all you members of St. Luke's on behalf of the Soup Kitchen Board!

### SOUP KITCHEN PRESENTATIONS

We would be honored to present the Soup Kitchen story to your organization. Please call today to schedule a time and date.

### STATE OF MICHIGAN FOOD KITCHEN TAX CREDIT

Michigan residents who donate to the Soup Kitchen get a tax benefit at both the state and federal level. Consult your accountant or tax advisor for advice on how your donation may qualify.

### GLEANERS FOOD BANK

Churches are automatically eligible to purchase food at 17 cents (or less) per pound, including food in #10 cans, from the Southwest Gleaners Food Bank, 1488 E. Empire Ave., Benton Harbor. Unlike other organizations, churches are not required to be a 501 (c)(3). Please think about shopping there first.

For more information, contact SW Gleaners Manager, Rich Glista at 269-926-2646.

### MATCHING GIFTS PROGRAM

The Whirlpool Corporation has one matching gift program to help maximize employees charitable donations.

The Matching Gifts Program matches personal contributions over \$50 with dollars from the Whirlpool Foundation. Full-time, salaried and hourly U.S. Whirlpool employees and retirees are eligible.

### BOARD MEMBERS:

Jill Beach  
Rob Burgess  
Ken Clark  
KC Gast  
Debbie Gillespie  
Chris Heugel  
Laurie Lesauskis  
Andy Takacs  
Paula Vogie  
Barbara Whitwam

