

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.



A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

FALL EDITION



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BOARD MEMBERS:

- Ken Clark
- Deb Gillespie
- Toni Hauch
- Dave Peterson
- Bill Sinclair
- Louise Solak
- Andy Takacs
- Paula Vogie
- Barbara Whitwam

✧ Holiday Message from the Soup Kitchen Board Members ✧

As the holidays come and go we wish and pray for you a Holiday season that is filled with peace, joy and great love for you and your family.

To our volunteers :

You have graciously given your time, money and talents to those who come to the Soup Kitchen needing a good, nutritional meal and friendship.

You have made the path easier for our administrator's Shirley, Liz and Ruth each day with your smiles, your work and your humility.

You have made the task of those of us who watch over the affairs of the Soup Kitchen lighter.

You have blessed this community with your tireless effort of great service to others.

May your efforts bring a warm internal glow, reflecting on your tireless giving year after year. You gave not just in this season of giving but when no one was watching. Thank you.

To our donors:

Every time you ring the Soup Kitchen door bell with food or kitchen supplies; every time you write a check or provide other donations you make at least "one starfish's" life better. Donors often say "this is not much" but the donation, no matter how small is greatly needed and carefully used. Our best minds never know what is needed even today, let alone tomorrow but when you follow your Spirit, as you do, someone's need is met through you. In fact none of our newsletters are large enough to share some of the marvelous outcomes of your generosity. Thank you.

To our vendors:

Many of you wish to remain anonymous but we thank you for the many times you perform that extra service at no charge or a reduced charge. The times you respond rapidly helps keep us running. Thank you.

To our fund raising volunteers:

You guys are terrific! People see you but they don't know who you are but we do. Please know that your tireless effort in what seems to be the background is so very much appreciated. Thank you.

We pray, as you reflect this holiday season on it's beauty and wonder that you know deep in your heart the "good work" God has inspired and enabled you to do. Thank you and may the same God who has lead you this far, may He continue to bring an inner peace and outward love to you and your families.

✧ * * * * *
The Soup Kitchen Board

Meet our newest volunteers:

The clients of our Soup Kitchen are served by 48 churches and organizations in our community. In this newsletter we are proud to introduce our newest church St. Augustine's. St. Augustine's is located on Union Street in Benton Township.

These photos are from Saturday, August 30th when 7 members of St. Augustine's served our clients with a well balanced meal of goulash, salad, tropical fruit salad and cookies.



The group got started when Rob Burgess, delivered some food, from one of the Lake Shore events, to the Soup Kitchen. It "just so happened" I just lost a serving group and me "just so happened" to offer the opening to Rob.

In a heartbeat Rob went back to St. Augustine's, presented the idea, ask for volunteers and these photos are the happy faces our clients got to see. Actually this was their fourth time to serve our clients. The other cheerful servers are Vern Peachey, Les Knickerbacker, Tom Hanson, JoAnn Burgess, Carolyn Dorgelo and Gail Wells.

They came, they cooked, they served, they talked and they laughed with the clients. They helped us conquer another glorious day at the Soup Kitchen!

Shirley Schadler
Administrator

Thanks!

Contributions to The Soup Kitchen can be a real deal!

Financial contributions to The Soup Kitchen can be a "real deal" due to special tax benefits . . . both State of Michigan and Federal . . . for donors. Here are examples of the tax benefits for financial charitable donations:

1. If couples filing jointly donate \$400, the Michigan tax credit is a maximum of \$200 (which means subtracting \$200 – (50%) – from your tax payment). Assuming a Federal tax rate of 25%, the deduction is \$50. This is a combined total benefit of \$250 for a \$400 contribution to The Soup Kitchen
2. An individual tax payer that contributes \$200, gets a maximum \$100 Michigan tax credit, plus a \$25 Federal tax deduction . . . a total \$125 benefit.

At tax time, it's always advisable to consult your tax advisor.

VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATIONS

AKA Sorority	Friends of Geneva & Jesse Beck	St. John's Catholic Church
All Nations SDA Church	Hartford United Methodist Church	St. Joseph's Catholic Church
Andrews University	Highland SDA Church	St. Joseph's Catholic Church Youth Ministries
AWS-Services Comm. Support	Immaculate Conception Catholic Church	St. Luke's Lutheran Church
Baroda Church of God	Michiana Fil-Am SDA Church	St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Berrien Springs Middle School Special Ed Class	Muslims of Benton Harbor	St. Peter's Church
Bread of Like Missionary Baptist Church	Napier Parkview Baptist Church	Stevensville United Methodist Church
Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church	New Paradise Baptist Church	Thanksgiving Group
Christ Reformed Church of St. Joseph	Oakridge Baptist Church	Trinity Lutheran Church
Coloma United Methodist Church	Peace Lutheran Church	Trinity Lutheran Church - Berrien Springs
Fairplain Presbyterian Church	Peace Template United Methodist Church	Twin City Area Newcomers Club
First Church of God - St. Joseph	Pioneer Memorial Church	United Way
First Congregational Church - St. Joseph	Pioneer Memorial Church Youth Group	Village Adventist Elementary School
First Presbyterian Church - Benton Harbor	Scottdale Baptist Church	Woodland Shores Baptist Church
First United Methodist Church - St. Joseph	Second Baptist Church	Zion Evangelical UCC
	Sister Lakes Comm. Church	Zion United Church of Christ - Baroda
	St. Augustine Church	
	St. Bernard's Parish	



Hi

My name is Liz Dixon. For those of you who volunteer at the Soup Kitchen you may have seen me when Shirley, our Administrator, is absent. I am a member and currently coordinating for the New Paradise Missionary Baptist Church which serves at the

Soup Kitchen. I have been filling in as Administrator, at the Soup Kitchen, since I retired in 2000. Many of you may remember Tom Dokter who was a previous Administrator. Tom is a good friend of mine and ask me to help him now and then. Well that's how I got started.

I feel blessed to have the opportunity to work in a ministry that God put in place many years ago. The hungry are always with us for a variety of reasons and, every day, there are people waiting to come through the doors for food, fellowship and a place to rest. It is my honor to be a part of this great community service.

I have the opportunity to work with the 47 churches that donate their time and food to keep the Soup Kitchen running throughout the year. It's so obvious how very committed our volunteers are in serving their fellow men and women. I enjoy their company and it is truly a blessing to see their commitment year after year. Each volunteer group is so unique in its people, the food they prepare to serve and their interaction with our clients. The clients have come to know which volunteer group serves which food and they look forward to the meals and fellowship with the volunteers.

As far as the clients are concerned: they appreciate the work, commitment and fellowship from the many volunteers. Day after day I hear and see the clients smiling, making small talk and "thanking" the our volunteers. It's delightful and I wish everyone in the community would come and experience a day at the Soup Kitchen. The "goodness" that goes on each and everyday at the Soup Kitchen needs to be spread around the world. We live in a community that has so many loving people committed to serving others.

Please come and say "Hello" and experience the camaraderie.

Liz



2008 Soup Kitchen Golf Tournament

The Board of the Soup Kitchen would like to thank all of the people that helped make this year's event a success. We had a beautiful day for golf and fun. The staff from Lake Michigan Hills Golf Club were very helpful. The volunteers, Bill Smith, Tyler Clark and Ken Clark Sr., did a great job. We were able to raise over \$4,000, which will go a long way in supporting our mission.



Thank you!



PEOPLE & ORGANIZATIONS THAT HELPED MAKE THIS EVENT POSSIBLE

OK Distributors	Grand Mere Inn
Gillespie Pharmacy	Rogers Foodland
Vail Rubber	Mendel Center
Dave & Barb Whitwam	Bistro at the Boulevard
Bill & Jane Marohn	Shell Oil (John Curtis)
Anne & Andy Takacs	Lambrechts Liquor Store
Caddy Shack Golf League	Debbie Gillespie
Johnson Rauhoff	Tabor Hill Restaurant
Starks & Menchinger Family	Weber's Ink
Funeral Home	LeValley Olds Cadillac
Mark Whitwam	Competitive Edge
Laura Ridgeway	Whirlpool Corporation
Tom Whitwam	Heavenly Ham
Pri Mart	Keeler Keg
Hardings of St. Joseph	Pump House
Oscar's Speedo Print	Clementine's
Blossom Trails Golf Course	US Jack



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.

EXTRA! EXTRA!

We're always looking for ways to get the word out about the Soup Kitchen. If you know someone who would like to be on our mailing list for our newsletter, please call or e-mail us today.

MATCHING GIFTS PROGRAM

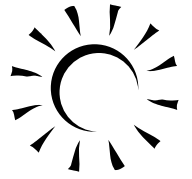
The Whirlpool Corporation has two matching gift programs to help maximize employees charitable donations.

The first, called the Matching Gifts Program, combines personal contributions with matching dollars from the Whirlpool Foundation. Full-time, salaried and hourly U.S. Whirlpool employees and retirees are eligible.

The second, Dollars for Doers, provides a \$500 contribution for non-profit organizations in which an employees has a continuing active involvement. Only full-time Whirlpool employees are eligible. Other companies have similar programs. Check with your employer today!



When its rain
for some,
its sunshine for others.



Many thanks
to Whirlpool Corporation for
donating the food
from the World's Fair to
the Soup Kitchen!

Name the Soup Kitchen in Your Will and Become a "Food for Life Partner"

We salute these "Food for Life Partners"

Dave Peterson II
Toni Hauch

A "Food for Life Partner" is someone who has made a permanent commitment to helping the neediest in our community by naming Benton Harbor Soup Kitchen as a beneficiary of any amount of money or property in his or her will. This is a wonderful way to show your ongoing support for the Soup Kitchen and to receive recognition for your generosity today, while keeping your donation for your own use and control during your lifetime.

Of course, you may include the Soup Kitchen in your estate plan and keep your bequest private. Your gift will be appreciated just the same.

Please consider the Soup Kitchen in your estate plan, and show your support as a "Food for Life Partner."

Soup Kitchen Wish List

- 3 Drawer lateral file cabinet for the office
- Built-in storage cabinets with locks to replace our current food lockers
- #10 cans of fruit & vegetables (when we fall short of food or dessert we rely on our canned supply)
- Coffee, coffee, coffee (we serve coffee every day)

Did You Know?

Remember, churches are automatically eligible to purchase food at an average of 15 cents per pound, including food in #10 cans, from the Southwest Gleaners Food Bank, 622 Langley Avenue in St. Joseph. Unlike other organizations, they are not required to be a 501 (c)(3). Please think about shopping there first and picking up the rest of what you need elsewhere.

For more information, contact SW Gleaners Manager, Rich Glista at 269-983-7260.