

JUNE NEWSLETTER 2009

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

“Retirement is a good time to do things to help others.” These are words from Bill and Norma VanPopering who volunteer at the Center. Bill is our cardboard cleanup guy on Monday’s. Norma helps us stock on Thursday’s and both are available at other times if needed. This is what they say about volunteering: “helping out at the Center gives us opportunity to use our time and energy serving others. We enjoy meeting all the people who are helping keep the Center a happy and “joy-filled” place. We pray God will bless everyone who is given help.” Thank you Bill and Norma, we appreciate you!

COMMUNITY SUPPER

Our first supper was held Thursday, April 23 at the ROCK. We had a great turnout, about 90 people from the Community enjoyed brats, sauerkraut, hotdogs, veggies, chips and apple pie. Thank you to Sheri Postema and her small group from 1st CRC for serving with us this month with set-up, greeting, serving and cleanup.

(add something about May’s supper)

Future suppers are scheduled for these Thursday dates –

June 25 July 30

August 27 September 24

October 15 November 26 – Thanksgiving Day

December 17

Volunteers are needed to help set up, serve and cleanup.

If interested, please call 583-4080.

VERSE – I Peter 4:11b If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ.

Did you know that Volunteers in Service, Byron Community Ministries, The Buist Foundation and Buist Community Assistance Center are partnering together to recruit and train church members who are willing to be a mentors for individuals in the Community.

The definition of “mentor” is – counsel, coach, teacher, friend, companion, helper and person who advices.

A few of our clients are partnered with a mentor from the community and various needs are being met. Transportation, a friendly visitor, respite for a caregiver, a financial coach, we see God at work in the lives of our clients.

Bernita Tuinenga from VIS comments – One of the referrals was in church with her mentor/friend, “ this match is fantastic!”

We continue to seek out opportunities to serve here at the Center and in the community. If this type of ministry attracts you, please call us at 583.4080.

From the Director.....

Our cup overflows....

We just celebrated our volunteers! We are so thankful for the gifts they bring and their willingness to serve here at the Center. We continue to assist about 200 families each week and our volunteers are vital to our ministry. They live out the meaning of the word service – the performance of labor for the benefit of another, and active service to God.

We are reminded of this prayer from Mother Teresa –

The fruit of silence is Prayer

The fruit of prayer is Faith

The fruit of faith is Love

The fruit of love is **Service**

The fruit of **service** is Peace.

We continually see the evidence of this fruit in our volunteers and it flows into the lives of our clients.

Praise God from who all blessings flow.....

Shirley TenHarmsel

Blessings all around.....
Comments from our clients

Thank you so much, it has been a blessing for us to have a food pantry like this to go to. It would be impossible to make our monthly obligations without the extra help. The people at this organization are so helpful and friendly. Thank God for all the volunteers during these difficult times.

People like you are blessings cause you help a lot of people with food and clothing. Without you guys I don't know what we would do.

I want to say thank you to those who donate their time, money and goodwill to those of us struggling in these poor economic times. I am down to working three days a week and the help you provide is greatly appreciated. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.