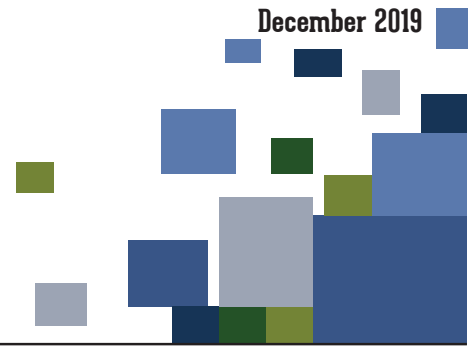


MINISTRY WITH COMMUNITY

rebuilding lives

December 2019



Coffee with Staff

It's 10:00am on a Friday. The door to the classroom opens and a small crowd steps inside. Bags and belongings are placed next to the chairs and tables that form a circle in the center of the room. A table near the door is set with pots of freshly brewed Water Street coffee and plates of pastries. As mugs are filled and everyone settles in, friendly banter begins.

Janet Karpus, Associate Director, gets ready to take notes and start the meeting with announcements, followed by the chance for anyone in the group to share good news.

Linda, a member and now MwC staff member, raises her hand as her smile widens. "I start a trial shift here at Ministry with Community today!"

Linda beams as the group cheers and claps for her. Congratulations are given. This joyful and enthusiastic response is repeated as others share their good news of finding housing, staying sober, and meeting other goals and milestones.

This is Coffee with Staff, a meeting held in the classroom at Ministry with Community every Friday. The meetings started in February as a way to foster open communication and the sharing of ideas among staff and members.

"We were looking for more feedback from the people we serve, and we wanted to give them a space to do that," says Janet Karpus, Associate Director. "We also wanted to be able to share information with them, and we wanted it to feel welcoming and unintimidating."

The meetings give everyone a chance to share what's on their mind, and the welcoming feeling is certainly noticed by members.

"It's just so personal in those meetings," says Kelly, a member who regularly attends. "It's a way to voice requests and opinions, and you get to hear about what's going on and what's coming up. Everyone really listens to each other and feels heard."

After the announcements and good news, the floor is open to anyone to share thoughts and feedback about MwC. This is the part of the meeting that benefits the organization the most.

"It's just so personal in those meetings. Everyone really listens to each other and feels heard."

- Kelly, MwC Member

"When we're puzzled about how to fix something, they can help us find a solution," says Janet. "Their feedback has helped us to place security in areas that have helped us reduce unwanted behavior. They've given us ideas on how we can avoid triggering someone's trauma. We're planning more classes on anger management, financial awareness, tolerance, and more, based on their requests."

Kelly Henderson, Executive Director, agrees that the meetings have been valuable for everyone involved. "Coffee with Staff is almost like a group therapy session sometimes, where everyone can really have a chance to speak and be heard and have what they say taken down in the notes. They know that those notes are shared with staff, and they see us take their suggestions and make actual changes. It's powerful."

In the months since the meetings started, they have grown to include guests from outreach agencies like Family Health Center, Integrated Services of Kalamazoo, Disability Network, and Kalamazoo Public Safety.

"This," says Janet, "is how we're living up to the community part of our name."



The mission of Ministry with Community is to empower people to make positive life changes.

In Memory Of:

John C. Bennink
Agnes Bennink
Penny and Philip Bennink

John Boekhout
Jean M. Koopsen

Betty Brown
Robert and Judy Rapp

Rita Culver
Jean M. Koopsen
Don and Sharon Schmidt
Doug Williams

Patti Dantone
Shirley Palmer

Dick Dozier
Connie and Joe Chrystler

Rena M. Dresser
Marie N. Mackey

Evan Ebling
Moyra Ebling

Kay Fisk
Jennifer and Joe Bell
Mary Hurlbut Cordier
Emily Mata
Maureen Murphy
Tim and Susan Pritchard-Brady
Sandy Thomley
Martin Waymire
Diane Worden

John Galopin
Mark and Ann Austin

Don Gilmer
Joe and Rosalie Novara

Sistina J. Grenke
Lenore J. Lorion

JoAnn Halvorsen
Lenore J. Lorion

Kathryn Henriksen
Helen B. Osterwald
Mike and Linda Gay

Ed Ihling
Thomas Gauntlett

Dr. Michael Kudlas
Janet Graham

Gretchen LaReau
Allan and Rita LaReau

Robert Luscombe
Faye Luscombe

Fran Mason
Linda DeYoung and Tim Finton
Carol and Harry Madison
Judy and Paul Paget
Joyce L. Thorson
Louis J. White

Gladys Mitchell
Sharon Butler

Margaret Mosher
Judy and Paul Paget

Annicc O'Brien
Brian M. Opria

Nancy Owen
Joan Atwell and Rod Budka
Robert and Judi Beam
Barbara Hathaway
Bassam and Veronica Harik
Allan and Shirley Heavey
Jerry and Barbara James
Faye Luscombe
Cliff and Brenda Mulder
Donna Lou and Charles Ritter
Norman and Elvira Schuen
Norma Smith
William J. Venema

Pat Pratt
Jean M. Koopsen

Shirley Shane
David and Jennifer Shane

Kyle Sloan
Suzanne and David Sloan

Daniel Smith
Thomas and Donna Lambert

Jeffrey Smith
Thomas and Donna Lambert

Aaron Sorrels
Anonymous

John Stroupe
Emily Shaw Haite

Tom Swiat
Jean M. Koopsen

Stanley and Agnes Tyburski
Richard and Carolyn Tyburski

Dale E. Van Antwerp
Leona Van Antwerp

Roon and Olga Visser
Ina Way

Madeline Williams
Mitch and Sharon Badders
Terri Bohlin
Lynn Carcione
Vicki Devault
Tom and Rose Nichols
Paul and Kathy Preston
Linda TerBurg

Clara Wiita
Don and Sharon Schmidt

Grace Wunverlich
Jean M. Koopsen

Carol Zemrowski
Thomas Zemrowski

In Honor Of:

All Volunteers
Barbara Albanese

Dick and Barbara Baker
Stephen Allen and
Andrea Trautman

Agnes Bennink
Penny and Philip Bennink

Priscilla Blair
Aaron Riker

Magnolia Bodley
Amy Louise Anderson

Ric and Linda Brown
Libby and Pete Seaver

Thomas H. Chase
Lenore J. Lorion

Peggy G. Drew
Jeanne Marie Greenen

Janice Lakers
Linda DeYoung and Tim Finton

Herbert and Margaret Pifer
James and Elizabeth Pifer

Mike Stoline
Linda DeYoung and Tim Finton

Thomas L. Swiat
James H. Duncan Sr.

Tuesday Volunteer Group
Laurel E. Hazel

Luana VanDam
Linda DeYoung and Tim Finton

Charles and Lynn Zhang
Patrick O'Hara and
Nancy Groenewold

Zion Lutheran Church Bible Study Group
Linda Stieve

In Celebration Of:

Jim Allen's birthday
Trudi Giffin

Connie Douglas's birthday
Anonymous

Lauren Johnston's birthday
Brian and Janine Johnston

Ellie Mulder's 1st birthday
Allison Weiner

Marti Poolman and others for their birthdays
Anonymous

Helenan Robin's Birthday
Raye Ziring

Please note: Memorials and Honorees listed here were July 30, 2019 through November 12, 2019.

Memorial and Honorees received after November 12, 2019 will appear in the next newsletter.

To correct any errors, please contact Laura Perron at 269.343.6073 x132 or office@ministrywithcommunity.org.



Staff,
Thank you for all your kindness and help. This has been the best place I've ever been in my 20 years on the streets.

We were grateful to received this note in our member suggestion box. Thank you to all of our supporters for making the work we do possible.

Save the Date!

Chefs Against Hunger
Tuesday, March 24th
5:00pm – 8:00pm
Cityscape Events Center
125 South Kalamazoo Mall
Kalamazoo, MI 49007

Chefs
against
HUNGER

Join us to watch 10 of the best chefs in Kalamazoo go head-to-head to see who can prepare and plate the most creative and delicious three-course meal in under 45 minutes!

Contact Megan Stull, Volunteer & Operations Coordinator with questions at 269-343-6073 x134 or via email at mstull@ministrywithcommunity.org.



It's Not Too Late!

The 2019 Underwear Party is over, but it's not too late to support our efforts to provide warm clothing to our members. Items like winter hats, warm insulated gloves, scarves, and thermal clothing are needed all winter long.

If you didn't make it to the event, you can still donate new, Men's and Women's adult sizes medium through 4XL:

- Thermal undergarments
- Winter gloves
- Winter hats
- Scarves
- Men's boxers or boxer briefs
- Women's underwear

Donations can be dropped off at the back door of our facility next to the loading dock. Please ring the doorbell and a staff member will assist you.

Your financial contributions also help us keep members warm and safe throughout the winter months!



Did you know?

Last year, we served **155,395** meals.



We serve about **426** meals every day of the year.

A gift of \$179 buys enough food for **one full day** of meals at Ministry with Community.

Last year, **16,630** showers were taken.

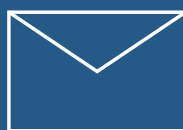


That's **2,095** more showers taken than just one year before.

Members washed **22,194** loads of laundry last year.



988 members use us as their mailing address.



That's **148** more members than last year.



The Kalamazoo Non-Violent Opponents of War sponsored and served a meal on August 17th.



Terry, Cook at MWC, poses with a recent sponsored meal.

Sponsor — a — Meal

August 9: Bronson Healthcare

August 11: Melissa and Scot Davidson in honor of Hunter Davidson

August 13: Mary Meagher in memory of Dr. Michael Kudlas

August 16: Sisters of St. Joseph

August 17: Kalamazoo Non-Violent Opponents of War

August 18: In celebration of George Dunn's 70th birthday and 70 months of volunteering at MWC

August 27: Margot Mills in celebration of her birthday

August 29: NoMI Sparkling Water

September 4: Southern Michigan Bank & Trust

September 7: Lutheran Church of the Savior Kalamazoo

September 19: Mol-Son

September 20: Breakfast and lunch sponsored by Mark and Ann Austin in memory of her father John Galopin

September 21: Zhang Financial

September 26: Ted Vliek in memory of Joyce Vliek

October 28: Sue Beadling in celebration of Ken Beadling's birthday

October 29: Notre Dame Club of Kalamazoo

October 30: the CEO's of Oakland Hills

November 11: Merrikay Burkey in memory of her husband Jeff Burkey and in recognition of the service of all Veterans

November 16: Mt. Zion Baptist Church

November 19: Mary Smyser for loved ones past and present

November 23: Lord of Life Lutheran Church of Portage

November 27: Idris, Hameed, and Labib Daranijoh in honor of their birthdays this month



Thank you to everyone who has participated in our Sponsor-a-Meal program!

If you're looking for a way to thank someone, celebrate a milestone, or remember a loved one, consider sponsoring a meal at Ministry with Community.

A gift of \$350 provides a 3 course meal for 300 people. A gift of \$500 provides both breakfast and lunch for 300 people.

On the day your meal is served you and your honoree will be recognized on Facebook, Twitter, and by mail.

Please contact Janet Karpus, Associate Director, at 269.343.6073 x138 or via email at jkarpus@ministrywithcommunity.org to sponsor a meal!



Zoo City Cycle & Sport, owner Rick Lee (left), and Alan Park (center), are presented with the Judy Sarkozy Spirit of Community Business Award for their incredible contributions to our bike program.

Congratulations to Our Annual Open House Award Winners!

On September 12, 2019, we held our Annual Open House. Many of our friends and a few new faces joined us to tour the building and garden, learn more about what we do, and recognize some of our amazing volunteers and community members. This year's winners are:

The Judy Sarkozy Spirit of Community Business Award Winner: Zoo City Cycle & Sport, and owner Rick Lee

The Dorothy Markusse Community Volunteer Award Winner: Dee Dee Hoy

The Cheever Treatment Center Young Volunteer Award Winner: Tate Westra

The Sisters of St. Joseph Group Volunteers of Excellence Award Winner: The Thursday Group of Lunch Service Volunteers

Congratulations to all who won, and thank you for your support of Ministry with Community and our members!

Love dignity?
Love hope?
Love food?
Love community?
Love rebuilding lives?

Leave a legacy of what you love.
Leave your legacy at Ministry with Community.

Your Legacy at Ministry with Community

Your gift today is a legacy that will live on in another's journey. You can also establish a different kind of legacy by including Ministry with Community in your will or estate.

Planned gifts may include:

- Wills and bequests
- Life insurance
- Gifts of securities
- Retirement assets and other giving options

To discuss how to leave your legacy at Ministry with Community, contact us at development@ministrywithcommunity.org or 269.343.6073 x131.



"I'm so grateful for the job here. It feels like home to me. Honestly, the staff here treated me with respect even before I got the job. It's like family."
- Linda, Member Services & Safety at MwC

Wish List

Can you help us by donating these much needed supplies?

Deodorant (travel size)
Shampoo (travel size)
Soap (travel size)
Conditioner (travel size)
Lotion (travel size)
Lip balm
Two-blade razors
Tampons
Maxi-Pads
Toothbrushes
Shaving Cream
Band-aids

Adult size pull-up diapers
Bath Towels
Sugar (packets or bulk)
Peanut butter
Jelly
Coffee mugs (standard 10 oz. size and shape)
Washcloths (dark colored, terry cloth)
Socks (new, adult size)
Underwear (new, adult size)
All weather shoes (adult size)
Belts (adult size)
Metro transit bus tokens
Two-wheeled luggage
Duffel bags
Backpacks

Get social with us!

Follow Ministry with Community on Facebook and Twitter to stay up-to-date with news, events, inspirational stories, and more!



facebook.com/KzooMwC



@kzoomwc

We never sell, rent or share your personal information.

Design and layout are generously provided by Bev Kirk.

Have we made any mistakes in our database?

Please let us know if:

- You have moved or are planning to move
- You have a seasonal address you'd like us to use
- The name(s) on your newsletter need an update
- We are sending you duplicates of any mailings
- You would like to be removed from our mailing list

Contact Laura Perron at 269.343.6073 x132 or at office@ministrywithcommunity.org to have your record updated or corrected. Thank you for helping us maintain a correct and efficient database!

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