

Summer 2010

Serving Up Hope

A Newsletter of Our Daily Bread



He Will Dazzle You With His Fancy Footwork

A message from Ruth "Cookie" Vogelpohl,
the founder of *Our Daily Bread*



The past few months have been so busy with plans to commemorate our 25 years of service to the poor of our inner city neighborhood.

Memories abound!! Never did I think that we would ever be here this long, but then I am reminded of some wonderful one liners from my friends and family members. I would like to share two of them from my Aunt Ruthie, who was a Sister of Charity, and you can see the same miracles in your own life.

- She advised me, "My dearest Cookie, once you say yes to Jesus, just get out of the way and let him do what He wants!"
- When we were in danger of losing our first location on Logan Street (which we did in 1990), she again reminded me, "Remember who you are working for! He will dazzle you with His footwork, and remember He has carried you this far, and I don't think He will drop you now!"

Well, He did not, and here we are in the wonderful, clean, neat, bright, air conditioned building that so many people helped to re-hab and get ready for business!

Our Daily Bread creates an oasis of blessings for the poor, elderly, mentally and physically challenged and provides a safe place for children to eat and play in the afternoons. The spirit is alive and often breathtaking when you look into the faces of those we serve. One of the steady volunteers told me, "I expected to really enjoy it here, I did not expect for my life to change and to fall in love with our poor."

God has sent us wonderful people to help us grow. Our staff and volunteer force are outstanding! We have a great working board of directors who challenge us and give us new directions to keep us going. And then, there are all of you, who have kept us in your minds, your hearts and your prayers. Saying Thank You is not enough, but know that those words are said every day when we open our doors and cheerfully announce with a smile, "Your tables are ready!!" And the folks laugh. They love us because we love them and welcome them as guests would be welcomed in our own homes. So, we thank you for your part in making us so very special!!!

I wish you peace and all good!

Cookie Vogelpohl

Our Daily Bread Needs YOU!

Visit www.ourdailybread.us

♥ Join our email list ♥ Become a Facebook fan ♥ Read the volunteer newsletter ♥



Staff

Mary Beth Peters, S.C.
Executive Director

Kathy Ray
Kitchen Manager

Joyce Cue
Social Worker

Valerie Elfers
Executive Assistant

Andrew Brunsmann
Volunteer Coordinator

Joyce Foster
Kids Café Coordinator

Paul Miller
Development Director

2010 Board of Directors

Lisa Fiessinger, President

Michael O'Brien, Vice President

Thomas Kemen, Treasurer

Karen Farmer, Secretary

James Berendt

Phillip Cohen

Margaret Grizzard

Julie Hopkins

Joeline Lecture

Charlotte McManis

Courtney Reitman-Deinlein

Susan Schmitt

**From the Executive Director...****The Heat is On**

Hot summer days are here with a vengeance! Our guests suffer from the unrelenting heat and it is not an unusual sight to see them asleep on our old church pews in the air conditioning. Our Daily Bread provides a place of respite from the heat for our guests. We could not do this without your support.

Prayers for Lazarus

This month, we welcome one of our employees back into the fold. Lazarus McKinnis has been working very hard in Salvation Army's recovery program. The program is a 5 to 6 month program in which men with addictions can get sober and learn the skills they need to remain sober. Lazarus has battled with alcohol for years and finally was ready to get the help he needed. He graduated on July 18th and we are so excited for him and his achievement. He looks great and is very proud of himself. Please join us in congratulating him on his achievement and praying for his continued success, one day at a time.

God bless you,

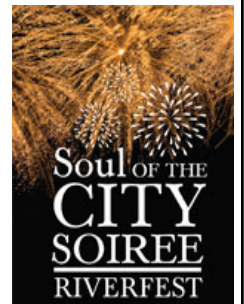
Mary Beth Peters, S.C.

End the Summer with a Blast and support *Our Daily Bread*

Sunday, September 5, 2010

Soul of the City Soiree at Riverfest

Our Daily Bread is commemorating our 25th Anniversary with a bang! In partnership with the Greater Cincinnati Restaurant Association, join us at the Montgomery Inn Boathouse for an evening of food, fun, and fireworks. Tickets On Sale Now. Sponsorships Available. Call us at (513)621-6364 visit our website www.ourdailybread.us/soiree.aspx

**From the Board President**

Sometimes it's a smile.

Sometimes it's a hot meal.

Sometimes it's guidance to find who or where to go to solve a problem.

Sometimes it's seeing another person struggling, whose burden is heavier than your own.

These "Sometimes" would not be possible without Our Daily Bread. Every day we are Serving Up Hope to those who need a spot of

sunshine in their lives. This bit of sunshine brings hope to what sometimes seems a life full of struggles.

Your support allows us to bring these "Sometimes" to life and make a difference for those less fortunate.

Thank you from the bottom of our hearts

Blessings,

Lisa Fiessinger

2,600 Cans of Food and A Truckload of Good Deeds

It all started with a phone call to Kathy Ray, Our Daily Bread's kitchen manager. The organizers of the "Tea Party" political group were having a rally on the campus of U.C. As part of the rally, they asked attendees to bring a canned good to be donated to a local food charity. Our Daily Bread was invited to be the beneficiary. It was anticipated that 10,000 people would attend the event. That required a lot of planning for us to be able to handle such a large donation.

So it began. Kathy met with the event planners at U.C. St. Vincent DePaul lent us 16 barrels to collect the canned goods. Phil Cohen, one of our board members, contracted with a trucking firm to pick up the barrels from St. Vincent and deliver them to U.C. Kathy contacted groups from St. Xavier High School,

LaSalle High School and Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity from the University of Cincinnati to help collect the canned goods at the event. A member of the Cincinnati Fire Department helped coordinate the collection. JTM supplied us with boxes to package the canned goods, skids on which to load the boxes, and a truck and driver to pick up the skids. They delivered them to a vacant building on Elm Street that the Corporation for Findlay Market let us use to store and sort the canned goods. Joseph House, a residential treatment facility for veterans, sent a busload of volunteers to unload the boxes of canned goods, one by one, from the JTM truck into the storage building. Regular volunteers from Our Daily Bread and a group of students from LaSalle High School sorted the canned goods and transported them to Our Daily Bread's storeroom where our kitchen

staff could then pull from the sorted goods to cook meals for the guests of Our Daily Bread.

The timing could not have been better. Our food supplies were low. Over 2,600 cans of food were collected that helped replenish our storeroom. Our Daily Bread could not do this without help. By God's grace and the generosity of so many people, our resources are boundless. All these people from many different backgrounds came together for a common cause, to support Our Daily Bread and the people we serve.



A Note from Andrew Brunzman... Volunteer Coordinator

Hey volunteers! On behalf of our staff and guests, thank you for all you do for Our Daily Bread. It was Gandhi who called the world to action by stating, "You must be the change you want to see in the world around you." Our volunteers are that change every day.

Volunteers Are Currently Needed:

-We are looking for donation drivers; someone to commit to picking up and/or dropping off donations to Our Daily Bread from around the tri-state area.

-We are looking for someone to help monitor our computer room starting in September. This volunteer helps our guests with basic computer

needs. The commitment would be for 2-3 days a week for 2 hours, preferably from 10:00AM to noon.

- Another way volunteers can support Our Daily Bread is through canned food drives or coat collections for when the weather gets cold. **Our canned food pantry urgently needs replenishing.** Anything you can do to help is appreciated.

-We are in need of "Baking Buddies". This entails baking and delivering desserts to be served as part of our daily meal.

Please call Andrew at (513)621-6364 or e-mail andrew@ourdailybread.us





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www.ourdailybread.us

Our Daily Bread is an Over-the-Rhine ministry of Christian hospitality, comprised of paid staff and volunteers, dedicated to serving the needs of the neighborhood residents and those who frequent the area.

Our Daily Bread provides a warm meal in a safe place for all who come, a place where all are invited to be part of a community that is caring, supportive, accepting and welcoming.

Your Generosity Makes a Difference

Our Daily Bread can continue its mission because of our generous, compassionate donors.

There are so many ways you can help:

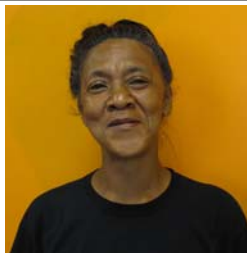
Financial Support
Donate Food
Donate Time

Contact us (513)621-6364
www.ourdailybread.us

The annual Our Daily Bread **Bocce Ball Tournament** is in need of new leadership! Call Andrew Brunsmann, Volunteer Coordinator to learn more about this exciting opportunity!



~ In Her Own Words ~



(Editor's note: Elaine is a guest of Our Daily Bread and she shares her story below)

My name is Elaine Blair and I am 58 years old. My mother and I were very close, like best friends. We started our day off together with a cup of coffee. She prepared me for life with wise sayings like: "Keep your job."; "Don't do it tomorrow, do it today." She often asked me what I would do when she was gone... My mother died two years ago in July of lung cancer. I miss her very much.

I have always liked to help people, and I take time to help others. I live in a boarding house and often cook and share my food with my neighbors. I really love kids. On my own, I learned to decorate cakes. Then I got some training and eventually became a bakery manager. Here in Cincinnati.

What I would tell others about the poor is: Don't judge people by how they look... their outer shell. Look at them with the windows of the soul and say a kind word. Sometimes cruel words hurt more than a physical punch.

Our Daily Bread has given me peace of mind when I couldn't hold my head up, when times were hard. When I got a job, the staff and volunteers helped me get clothing, toiletries, and support through the women's support group held on Monday mornings. I appreciated the meals when I didn't have food. I really want to get a job. I'm out of work currently for health reasons.