

THE GUIDING LIGHT

newsletter

of Shelter Ministries Inc.

AUTUMN 2012

Community Assistance / New LIFE Classes

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LIFE Classes
Time: 7:00-8:30 PM

In the Shelter Ministries
Conference Room—(Door #2)

- 11/6/12—Stone Soup
- 11/20/12—Thankfulness
- 12/4/12—Easy Budget
- 12/18/12—The Lies We Believe
by Deb Driscoll
- 1/8/13—Workplace Ethics
- 1/22/13—Surprise Topic
by Pastor Shawn DuRault
- 2/5/13—Easy Budget
- 2/19/13—The Lies We Believe
by Deb Driscoll
- 3/5/13—Couponing
by Debbie Leon
- 3/19/13—Relationship Drama
by Dr. Brenda Wright
- 4/2/13—Easy Budget
- 4/16/13—To Be Announced
- 4/20/13—To Be Announced



Be Sure to Register Early as
Class Size is Limited.

Phone: 260-925-9200
Text Msg: 260-410-1915
E-mail:
shelter.ministries.auburn@gmail.com

Reminder



Reminder post cards are sent to all financial assistance clients, and are also posted in the lobby of Shelter Ministries, Inc.

Education is the key to change, and Community Assistance is offering free **LIFE Classes** on Tuesday evenings which will be taught by various DeKalb county Pastors and Professionals starting in October.

These classes will cover everyday life situations from learning how to make a basic budget, to mending a

torn shirt, as well as what to do when faith is lost.

Clients receiving financial assistance are encouraged to attend three LIFE Classes within a six month period of time, before they apply for financial assistance again.

“Holidays, such as Thanksgiving can be very hard on a family when they are home-

less and left wondering, ‘What do I have to be thankful for’, says Renee.

So classes are designed to not only change the way we think, but to lift us up into a relationship with Christ and each other”.

Prayer and Scripture are a required part of each of the LIFE Classes regardless of the subject.

Recognizing a need for education, local apartment complexes and Trustee Offices have also requested to be part of the mailing list for the LIFE Class schedule.

LIFE Classes are open to anyone wishing to attend, but space is limited so registration is encouraged.

- *Loved the class! — SD*
- *Enjoyed the class and the lively talk which followed. — HP*
- *Just to be able to talk to someone who understands was a great relief. — RB*

STAFF

Renee Florin, Director

Robyn Smith, Bookkeeper

Debbie Leon, Food and Clothing Bank Coordinator

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Brian Wessley

Dr. Robert Edwards

Anne Brandenburg

Jean Ferrell

Christine Simpson

Our New Director!

We are happy to announce our hiring of Renee Florin as Director of Shelter Ministries, Inc. Renee will be administering our Community Assistance Program and the new LIFE Classes, as well as overseeing the ministries and financial needs of Shelter Ministries, Inc. She

began on September 4th and will have 9-5 office hours on Tue and Thur, as well as by appointment on Mon, Wed, & Fri. “I am here only to be truly helpful. I am here to represent Him who sent me”, says Renee. “I will do my best to be His hands and heart in the community, but

I can’t do it without YOU. It’s only by working together that we help one another”.



Christmas Bureau

Christmas is still two months away, but to Debbie Leon, coordinator of the Christmas Bureau, that is just *not* enough time to prepare!

Volunteers are needed to help unpack and sort the many boxes of clothing, toys, and gifts at Shelter Ministries before wrapping can begin.

To help raise funds for this ministry, Shelter Ministries will be participating in the ALTERNATIVE GIFT FAIR fundraiser on November 3rd from 10-2pm at Cedar Lake Church of Brethren.

Question: What do you give the person that has everything??

Answer: Our Christmas Pledge

Cards! *The gift that gives to others!*

Donors can sponsor a Family for \$100.00, Two Children for \$50.00 or a Single Child for just \$25.00.



The donor receives a Christmas Card to give their recipient showing the amount of the gift given in their honor, and the type of sponsorship.

Shelter Ministries will begin taking names for the Christmas Bureau the last week of October.

The number of families needing Christmas assistance has been growing each year as the economy continues to decline.

We are encouraging everyone, to participate in this “giving” ministry through the donations of new toys or service.

See our WISH LIST on page 4

Cookbook Sale!

- *Christmas*
- *Showers*
- *Birthdays*
- *Mother’s Day*
- *Holiday Hostess Gifts*
- *and Just Because*

To name a few of the reasons you can give the gift that gives THREE ways.

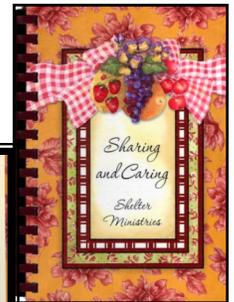
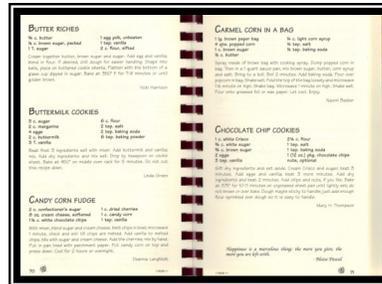
First, the recipient receives a beautiful cookbook full of delicious recipes from easy, to the more complex for the advanced chefs in the family.

Second, the entire \$10.00 purchase price goes to Shelter Ministries to continue our Community Outreach programs!

And **Third**, you’re bound to receive a delicious Holiday cookie made from one of the many recipes in this book!

And that, (along with knowing you’ve done so much, for so little a price), is worth the cost! ♥

Cookbooks are available at the Shelter Ministries office on 7th Street or contact any of our Board Members.



Sharing & Caring Cookbooks \$10.00

Bell Ringers Needed



The funds raised in DeKalb County, stay in DeKalb County

A large portion of our funds for the

Community Financial Assistance comes from the monies raised through the Salvation Army. *Many don't realize that the funds raised in DeKalb County stay in DeKalb County* and are given back to the our residents through our Financial Assistance Ministry!

Shelter Ministries is able to have 2 Bell Ringers at a time at Wal-Mart (one by each door) and are hoping to have a Bell Ringer at Kroger this year as well.

Because the weather will be turning

cold, shifts are only 2 hrs. long. It is such an enjoyable ministry to do, that many volunteers sign-up for additional shifts.

We need over a hundred volunteers!

If you are interested in being a Bell Ringer for Shelter Ministries, or if your **group or organization** would like to volunteer for a day of Bell Ringing, please call Renee Florin at 260-925-9200.



Clothing Bank Opens!

On October 22nd the Clothing Bank opened to serve the community with clothing during the Food Pantry hours.

On it's very first day Shelter Ministries served 134 individuals with cold weather clothing!

Do you remember laundry day? Multiply it times ten!

Many volunteers gave hours- upon-hours of time moving shelving,

unpacking bags & boxes, sorting clothing by size, folding pants & jeans, and hanging shirts and blouses on plastic hangers... only to do it over and over again.

Of course there was the occasional, "Oh

this is so adorable," when little red Christmas dresses are pulled out of a

box to be admired and carefully



hung on hangers for several lucky little girls to wear this holiday season.



But it is hard work done solely by volunteers with big hearts, and we can't thank them enough for the service they give to this ministry.

Presently the Clothing Bank is open on Monday's during the Food Pantry hours of 2:30-6:15 two Monday's of the month.

Our prayer is that we will one day have enough volunteers to work daily at keeping our intake room empty and our Clothing Bank open several days a week!

To volunteer for this ministry, or any of our ministries, stop by the Shelter office, fill out a short form, and meet with Debbie Leon for training.

Food Pantry

The Shelter Ministries Food Pantry is presently open every Monday from 2:30 - 6:15 pm. But starting 2013 we will begin to be open twice a week to accommodate our increasing community needs.

Because we are a Christian based ministry, beginning in November the families receiving food will also receive a "Community Compassion Repayment Card". All they are asked to do is drop

this card into the offering basket of their local church to confirm their attendance.

Although no family will ever be turned away, we are hoping to encourage church attendance by recognizing the food they have received is an opportunity for others to share CHRIST'S love in a practical way. We pray it catches on!

This Summer we were blessed with

many fresh food donations. One of which was a pick-up truck full of freshly dug potatoes from local Indiana farmers. And another was baskets and buckets full of freshly picked garden vegetables from the local Garden Club members — Thank You!



Your Helping Hands

Community Assistance

Summer Quarter (July, Aug, Sept)

July: 10 Families (25 Individuals)
 Aug: 6 Families (17 Individuals)
 Sept: 8 Families (19 Individuals)

TOTALS

24 Families (61 Individuals)

Utilities: \$1857.46 Medication: \$41.00
 Transportation: \$40.00 Rent: \$700.00
\$2638.46



Clothing Bank

Since Opening October 20th

Households: 39 (Individuals: 134)
 Nonprofit Agency: 1 (Individuals: 3)

Food Bank

Summer Quarter (July, Aug, Sept)

July: 229 Families (704 Individuals)
 Aug: 296 Families (556 Individuals)
 Sept: 160 Families (431 Individuals)

TOTALS

685 Families 1,691 Individuals



This is all possible because of YOU!!



"Offering light and hope through the storms of life"



Join us on **facebook**
Together we make a difference!

Shelter Ministries
PO Box 565
315 East Seventh Street
Auburn, IN 46706



Here at Shelter Ministries Inc., we strive to help the people of DeKalb County. Countless individuals and families are in great need, and we want to be here for all of our community members. We are a Christian based ministry and we know God has a purpose for us, as a ministry, and as a community. We ask for your continued prayers, guidance, and funding, in order to continue our mission of

"Offering light and hope through the storms of life."

Wish List

Office Supplies:

- Forever Stamps
- Post Card Stamps
- Canon MX 330 Ink Refills (Especially Black)

Food Supplies:

- Cereal
- Peanut Butter
- Mac & Cheese
- Box Dinners
- Noodles/Pasta
- Rice

- Box Potatoes
- Canned Fruit & Vegetables
- Canned Soups

Christmas Bureau:

- Girls -

- Anything Barbie!
- Dora
- Disney
- Littlest Pet Shop items
- Zhu Zhu Pets
- Fur Real Friends
- Squinkies



- Zoobles
- Xia-Xia
- Boys -
- Hot Wheels
- Cars/Trucks
- Tech Deck

- Legos
- Bukugan
- Kung Zhu

*No, those aren't misspellings or a foreign language, and personally, I don't have a clue either!
Ha Ha*