

The Congregation Connection May 2013



THANK YOU!

On Thursday April 25, 2013 Interfaith Senior Programs held their Life is a Celebration Keep it Growing Spring Gala. The event was attended by 200 community supporters and company sponsors. The evening highlighted the wide variety of programs and services coordinated by our agency and the opportunities for involvement. Opportunities start with children, and include youth, young adults, adults, families, and older adults.

Special guests John McDermitt and Rich Petersohn shared their experiences on the impact Interfaith Senior Programs has for the people served in Waukesha County. The evening also featured live and silent auctions, games and a sit-down dinner at the Milwaukee Marriott West. Donations support training, and recruiting of volunteers in Waukesha County.

This year we raised \$34,000! Thanks to everyone who attended the event and the congregations that donated items to our silent auction. Your support is what helps us to continue to grow and serve Waukesha County.

Volunteer Appreciation Open House Wednesday May 22 11:30-1:30 and 4:00-6:00 p.m.



A man on the beach where thousands of starfish lay dying in the sun saw a girl tossing them into the sea, one by one.

"Why bother?" He asked. "You won't make much of a difference."

Tossing yet another starfish into the sea, the girl said "I made a difference to that one".

You are invited to an Open House to celebrate YOU!

Open Houses will be held on Wednesday May 22nd.

Refreshments will be served. Register for the event at InterfaithWaukesha.org or contact Linda Sheridan at LindaS@InterfaithWaukesha.org or call 262-522-2404. Open houses will be held on Wednesday May 22nd from 11:30-1:30 p.m. and 4:00-6:00 in the Community Room at the Interfaith Senior Programs Offices.

Service Ideas for Youth and Bible School this Summer!



Summer is a great time to get youth involved in service. We have a variety of programs to help you plan this summer. We can visit your congregation or have you come to our office to discover what Interfaith is, and do a project on-site. Here are some opportunities for your groups.

1. Celebrate Christmas! We are starting to make plans for our Holiday giving drive for 2013. We are looking for groups to create cards, make seasonal decorations that will help us prepare this December. Please contact Kris for more details.

2. Service Projects: Service projects are a large part of the life of many congregations. Using our volunteer opportunities to plan such events is a great resource. Currently we are looking for volunteers to do spring yard clean-up in May

3. Help Celebrate Birthdays! Birthdays are special at any age! This event involves decorating cards that we can send to our neighbors or that clients can use to send to their family and friends. A great drive on the part of congregations would be to collect stamp packs to go with the cards.

4. Guest Speakers: Several members of our staff are available to come to speak to your congregations. We have talks that can be incorporated into part of your worship service, or discussions that work well for senior programs, mission groups, confirmation classes and more.

5. Workshops: Two workshops are available for intergenerational events, Sunday school classes, youth groups or confirmation. Both workshops last about an hour, and can be tailored to meet your groups' needs.

- The first workshop, Senior Sensitivity Training, is a hands-on program helping individuals discover the challenges that come with the aging process.

- The second workshop, Day of Service, is an activity based event bringing the service projects to you! It begins with a quick discussion on why service is important. Then it is all hands on deck.



Spring Yard Clean Up

May 1-31

HELP NEEDED

Especially in Waukesha and New Berlin!

We currently have around 80 clients looking forward to getting their yards ready for the warm weather.

Your congregation can Spring into Action by joining Interfaith Senior Programs for a day of outdoor clean-up for seniors and adults with disabilities throughout Waukesha County.

Projects Include:

- Raking winter debris
- Cleaning gutters
- Washing windows
- Weeding
- Installing screens
- Trimming bushes
- Placing lawn furniture in yard

For more information or to volunteer, visit www.interfaithwaukesha.org or contact Marcia Rupp (262) 549-3348 X2409 or marciar@interfaithwaukesha.org.

Great Youth Opportunity - Local Seniors Need Lawn Mowing Assistance



Do you know a teen that needs service hours? Interfaith Senior Programs is seeking volunteers from May - October to help on an on-going basis with lawn mowing for seniors and adults with disabilities in your Waukesha County neighborhood. You can coordinate the time and date around your schedule. You can also "adopt" a home nearby, or sign up as a "sub" to fill in for another volunteer while they're away. For information, contact Marcia Rupp at Interfaith (262) 549-3348, ext. 2409 or MarciaR@interfaithwaukesha.org