



Faith Connections

United in Faith
Helping People In Need

Volume 1, Issue 1
May 2018

Our Mission: Serve this community † Revitalize the Church † Celebrate Christian Unity

We'd Like to Get to Know YOU!

In our 57th year, Churches United of the Quad City Area continues to reach out and connect with our Christian faith community. Volunteers from our Member Churches make it possible for us to serve those most in need in our bi-stage region.

We've been feeding the hungry since 1976 with the opening of 10 food pantries. That ministry has grown to 24 food pantries and hot meal sites welcoming guests at one of three locations 365 evenings every year.

We've sheltered homeless women and children since opening Winnie's Place in December 2006. Women and families leave life-threatening situations for a safe place to stay, nourishing food, basic essentials, comfort, care and counseling provided by Winnie's Place staff.

Interim Executive Director Rev. Dr. Melvin Grimes and Associate Director Betsy Vanausdeln are visiting with representatives from our 143 Member Churches to find out how Churches United can best serve the needs of the faith community we rely on.



Out and About Churches United staff (left to right) Winnie's Wishes Shop Manager RuthAnn Murphy, Associate Director Betsy Vanausdeln and Office Manager Nichole Payney at the Bee Healthy Wellness Fair held April 27th on the St. Ambrose University campus.

Look for our staff at events like the Bee Healthy Wellness Fair at SAU and Movers for Moms at WQAD Channel 8 in Moline on May 9th from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. This event, sponsored by Churches United community partner Two Men and A Truck, collects donations for the women and children at Winnie's Place.

We're always ready to tell our story to your group! Give us a call at (563) 332-5002 and get to know US!

New Look, E-Delivered

We're changing the name of our newsletter, the look and method of delivering all the News and Updates on Churches United of the Quad City Area ministries, upcoming events, and Member Church happenings in our community.

"Faith Connections" will arrive in your e-mail box the first Monday of every month!

Member Church announcements of job opportunities and events that are open to the general public must be submitted to newsletter@cuqca.org by the 15th day of every month.

If you prefer to receive a copy of our newsletter at your home or business address, please call the Churches United office at (563) 332-5002 Monday through Friday, from 8:30 a.m. until 4 p.m. or email

newsletter@cuqca.org.

If you wish to remove your name from our mailing list, please [click here](#).

We pray that you'll stay and continue to support the ministries and mission of Churches United.

Thank you for connecting with us!

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Churches United Management Staff

- Interim Executive Director Rev. Dr. Melvin Grimes
- Associate Director Betsy Vanausdeln
- Marketing and Grants Director Teresa LaBella
- Office Manager Nichole Payney
- Winnie's Wishes Shop Manager RuthAnn Murphy
- Winnie's Place Supervisor Pauline Gordon



"I feel our case management program is very unique because it is centered on the client's needs. We do not create a one size fits all action plan."

*Pauline Gordon
Shelter Supervisor*

Where Women In Need Are Nurtured Into Excellence

When Shelter Supervisor Pauline Gordon is asked about case management goal setting for clients at Winnie's Place, she replies "the sky's the limit."

"It can be housing, employment, counseling, medical care, getting back into school and even drinking water!"

Pauline recalls a young woman who came to Winnie's Place because her family wanted her to end her pregnancy.

"She was trying her best to do everything she could to set up a life," Pauline says, "but she had been exposed to so much negativity she had just given up."

Pauline and her client formulated a case plan that included paying off old debt and saving to secure an apartment as well as counseling to help her cope with family issues.

A recurring urinary tract infection uncovered a serious problem that was easily solved.

"I took this as an opportunity to teach her about how important it is to take care of her own body, not only for her, but for the baby," Pauline says. A pledge to drink 3 full glasses of water a day was kept with the purchase of a case of bot-

tled water and water enhancer to eliminate the tap water taste the client did not like.

"Her doctor told her she needed to drink more water and she could never bring herself to do it on her own," Pauline says. "Once she felt she had accountability, she was able to incorporate it in to her life and she started a pattern that she still carries on to this day."

Pauline says any case plan must begin with the client. "A case plan is 85% about the client picking what they want to accomplish. The other 15% is guidance in housing, finances, and exploring what they need to have a successful future."

Pauline refers to Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs to help guide the planning process. "I read through it and see if we are missing anything. The moment that a client enters the door, we are able to provide them the bottom 3 tiers of the pyramid" (shelter, food and clothing; safety; belonging and love) "and begin work on the 4th and 5th" (self-esteem and self-actualization). "However, they need to be able to sustain each tier once they go out on their own so we guide them in

that direction."

All clients at Winnie's Place must meet three goals to stay in the program. "Clients are expected to follow all the rules and policies we have in place, secure some source of income and, once secured, save as much as possible, and search for housing," Pauline explains. "The rest of the case management is up to them."

The client is given a packet of information with forms to fill out and return within 24 hours of intake. "We ask them to identify immediate needs, reflect on their situation and write in their own words what's going on," Pauline says. "Often, it is not one single event that leads someone to homelessness."

If the client has no family, Winnie's staff works to link her up with potential support systems. "This could be church, parenting groups, co-workers, or volunteer opportunities," Pauline says. Clients are then asked to list long and short term goals.

"This is them again telling us what they feel is beneficial to their life, how we can possibly help them," Pauline says.



Winnie's Place Wish List

From 17 new twin mattresses and mattress covers, to wall clocks and kitchen trash cans, Winnie's Place needs what every home does to offer the comfort a temporary place of safety provides for homeless women and children who may be fleeing life-threatening situations.

Other giving ideas for the shelter include: store gift cards to

HyVee, Walmart and Lowes, heavy duty trash bags, 2 gallon size zip lock baggies, dishwasher detergent and dryer sheets. Food items needed and appreciated are sliced and shredded cheese, macaroni and cheese, stewed and diced canned tomatoes, creamed soups, canned fruit and potatoes, instant potatoes, saltine and snack crackers, baking soda,

salt and pepper and spices, butter, margarine and sour cream, ketchup and salad dressings, hash browns and tater tots, frozen pizza and meals, lunch meats and beef, chicken and pork.

The women at Winnie's Place can always use Illinois bus tickets to assist in providing transportation to appointments and job interviews.

Volunteer Spotlight: Helping Hands Lift Us Up

Rescue food. Stock food pantry shelves. Serve a hot meal. Help out the staff at Winnie's Place. Take a 3-hour shift at Winnie's Wishes Resale Shop. So much ministry work to choose!

Volunteers for Churches United's hunger ministry keep the doors open at our 24 food pantries and rescue donated food from restaurants and businesses in the region. Groups from member churches and other faith traditions purchase, prepare and serve dinner to guests seven days a week at one of three hot meal sites. Call Betsy at (563) 332-5002 for opportunities to serve at a food pantry or meal

site.

Volunteer tasks at Winnie's Place range from sorting and storing items used at home everyday to routine cleaning or repairing a leak. Contact Pauline at (309) 764-9466 to offer your time and talent at Winnie's Place.

Our cheerful team at Winnie's Wishes accepts donations and keeps our resale shop looking tidy and attractive for the customers they greet. Helping hands are most appreciated on Friday afternoons. If you have time to give call RuthAnn at (563) 323-5007.



THANK YOU Youth group members from Asbury United Methodist Church in Bettendorf serve guests at the Salvation Army hot meal site in Davenport.

Winnie's Wishes May Deals

- **Wednesdays:** 10% off for active military/veterans
- **Fridays:** 10% off for Seniors age 60+
- **HALF PRICE!**
All Red items May 7-13
All White items May 14-19
All Blue items May 21-26



*"A generous person will prosper;
whoever refreshes others will be refreshed."
Proverbs 11:25*

With Thanks: Donor Spotlight

Gifts from caring donors make our ministries possible.

THANK YOU to **The Bechtel Trusts** for the generous and sustaining \$5,000 grant award in support of our 12 food pantries in Scott County.

Member Church Announcements & Events

Job Opportunities

The Eldridge United Methodist Church has a part-time opening for the Children Youth, Family Ministry coordinator position; 15 hours per week, \$15 dollars per hour. Good communication, organizational and people skills with the ability to delegate tasks will be important. Social media experience an asset! If interested,

please contact the church of office at (563) 285-4314 or Gary, Chair SPPRC (563) 285-9621.

Zion Lutheran Church, Davenport, is in search of an Office Administrator. This is a 30-hour position with limited benefits. Responsibilities include clerical, administrative and bookkeeping. For more

information visit www.ziondavenport.org or by call the Zion office at (563) 322.3533.

Discernment Weekend: Common Life, Common Prayer, Joy: The Benedictine Way, Saturday, May 19 at 9 a.m. through Sunday May 20 at 1 p.m., Benet House Retreat

Center at St. Mary Monastery, Rock Island. For more information on all program at Benet House, call (309) 283-2108 or (309) 283-2300 or email: retreats@smmsisters.org.



Churches United of the Quad City Area

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United in Faith Helping People in Need



On the Web

www.cuqca.org

Who We Are † What We Do

Churches United serves those most in need in Scott County, Iowa and Rock Island County, Illinois. Over 1,300 volunteers donate 45,000+ hours annually to help staff *Feed the Hungry* and *Shelter* homeless women and children.

In 2017:

- **24 Food Pantries** distributed free food to over 125,000 individuals and families.
- **3 Hot Meal Sites** welcomed over 28,000 guests.
- **Winnie's Place** – the only emergency shelter in the Illinois Quad Cities for survivors of domestic violence – aided 124 women and 131 children.

*Reach Out! Be a Blessing!
Give TODAY to Churches United*

Online at www.cuqca.org † Call us at (563) 332-5002

Mail or drop off your gift
Churches United of the Quad City Area
2535 Tech Drive Suite 205
Bettendorf, IA 52722

THANK YOU!

What's Up at Churches United SAVE THESE DATES

Join us at these events and locations this summer!

Friday, June 15: Ice Cream Social, sponsored by Churches United of the Quad City Area, 7:30 p.m. at the Bill Bove Bandshell, Veteran's Memorial Park, Bettendorf.

Wednesday, July 4th: City of Bettendorf parade, 10 a.m. in downtown Bettendorf. **July 4th Festival** begins at 12 noon in front of Cumberland Square along Spruce Hills Drive.

July 1-31: Thanksgiving in July 3rd annual Community-wide Food Drive. Donation boxes for non-perishable food items and paper products such as baby food, canned fruit, vegetables, meat, (tuna, chicken, and Spam), peanut butter, rice, pasta/pasta sauce, macaroni & cheese, juice boxes, soups and diapers will be located at all 3 Quad-City area Fareway Stores, QC Core Chiropractic and Caddy's Sports Bar & Grill in Bettendorf, and Winnie's Wishes Resale Shop in Davenport. Fill the boxes and the food pantry shelves! Hold your own mini-food drive! Cash donations gratefully accepted! For more information, contact Betsy at (563) 332-5002 or bvorausdeln@cuqca.org.

Friday, July 27 and Saturday, July 28: Street Fest, along 2nd Street between Ripley and Brady in the heart of downtown Davenport. Free admission! Food, drink, live music and a whole lotta FUN! When & where our booth will be TBA!



**Pledge to give MORE
for People in Need!
A 5% Bonus
GUARANTEED!
PLEDGE CHURCHES
UNITED BIRDIE #572**

Pick up pledge cards at our Bettendorf office, 2535 Tech Drive Suite 205 or Winnie's Wishes Resale Shop, 1605 N. Harrison Street in Davenport.

