



Sunshine Soup Kitchen News

Providing a free meal to anyone in need.

August, September, and October 2009

There has been a lot going on here



since the last newsletter edition in May. Two of the most notable items are plans for the 20th anniversary of the Sunshine Soup Kitchen ministry and staff changes.

The Board has struggled in the past about giving undue recognition to an organization that exists because of human misfortune. To say we are celebrating 20 years of serving meals to struggling people just doesn't seem like the right thing to be celebrating. In a different light, if you look at it as celebrating 20 years of outstanding support by the community to a ministry of compassion, it looks different. We want to celebrate you! You who volunteer, you who give services, you who organize fundraisers and food drives, you who write checks, you who take the time to donate. 20 years of faithful support so that people in need are cared for—now that is something worthy of celebration! Please mark your calendars and come to our open house. There are so many supporters out there whom I have never met. And few of you have met the soup kitchen board. The entire staff and board will be there as well as the people who operate the First Baptist Church Community Food Pantry, as this is where we had our start.

I have been on staff for fourteen of these 20 years and have absolutely no regrets in taking the job as director and sticking with it. I like to jokingly tell people that I have been here since before I had grey hair and needed reading glasses. I was looking for a part-time job to help with the education of my children that would still allow me to manage my household as I believe I was called to do. I was happy to take the office position at 12 hours per week and never aspired to more than that. But after two years, the founding director was moving on and I didn't get out of the way fast enough to avoid the director's job landing on me. After much soul searching, I took the job even though it was a huge stretch for me. I promised God that I would take it if He would give me what I needed to do the work. He has always faithfully done that. I still love what I do but for several years have yearned to do it, well, a little less. Some time ago, I started thinking about how I could share my job. I would come up with a plan, then things would get busy and I would lay it all aside.

This happened a few times, and then I came to realize that the biggest part of giving up some of my responsibilities was not restructuring the staff of tasks but finding the right person to join me in managing the ministry.

Well, through a long string of seemingly unrelated happenings, not coincidental in the least, a person emerged from the fog and said, "Here I am!" No kidding, it almost happened just like that, and her name is Christine Fudala. Really, no kidding. The same Christine who served for years as a volunteer with the St. Jude's Church group. The same Christine who took the job of Office Assistant four years ago and reluctantly left to take a full-time job. I don't know how all of this fits or will work, but I know it feels right. Christine started as Program Director on July 15, and I have a new lease on life. I am sure that I am good for at least another 14 years, that is if it is God's plan for my life and the leadership of the Sunshine Soup Kitchen. Only He knows, and I am very glad to leave it all in His hands.

~Cynthia Dwyer

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Tiffany Garden Tour



Lose yourself in the beauty of nature and enjoy a self-guided tour of Tiffany Gardens on Sunday, August 16, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Admission is \$10, and all proceeds go to benefit the Sonshine Soup Kitchen.

Well-supervised children are welcome, but please leave pets at home. Wheel chair accessibility is limited. For directions, go to www.tiffanygardens.com.

L'derry Old Home Day

The Sonshine Soup Kitchen will be a presence at this year's event on **Saturday, August 15**. Londonderry Old Home Day is actually a five-day extravaganza appealing to people of all ages. There will be band concerts, activities for children, a parade, fireworks, and a road race, to name just a few of the fun-packed events. Besides offering information about the soup kitchen ministry, we will be **selling flower arrangements**. Talented floral designers from the Derry and Windham Garden Clubs will be putting together works of art in vases to be purchased, cash and carry. Please come!



Current needs

At this time the following list of items (in order of greatest need) are in short supply. This list is also posted on our web site and updated monthly. Go to www.soupinderry.org to check it out in between newsletter publishing. Thanks!

- Canned fruit juices
- Non-dairy coffee creamer
- 3 compartment foam dinner take-out trays
- Rice, not instant
- Instant mashed potatoes
- Egg noodles
- Canned chicken or turkey
- Canned vegetables
- Sugar-free juice mix
- Cereal
- Parmesan cheese
- Canned white potatoes
- Coffee, decaf and regular
- Dishwasher Detergent



Besides these items needed for meals, we are in need of the following:

- Bike rack for six or so bikes
- 2-door metal storage cabinet 78 H x 36 W x 24 D
- Office desk chair
- Large (10" or higher) vases

Community Rewards

In March, Shaw's made the transition from paper to electronic processing for their charitable Community Rewards program. Instead of saving receipts and passing them into non-profit groups for a tedious processing method, all you have to do is register your Shaw's Reward Card, and 1% of your eligible purchases will be automatically donated to your designated non-profit agency. As of April 30, 19 supporters have signed up designating the Sonshine Soup Kitchen to benefit from their shopping. Since we signed on to the program last year, we have received over \$1,200 from this program. We are most grateful for this support that costs the donor nothing. After all, everybody has to shop for food anyway!

To register as a donor, go to <http://www.albertsons.com/cp/shaws/>. You will need your Shaw's Reward Card number to log on. It's easy!



Community Rewards

New Staff Position and Office

Hours

We welcomed **Christine Fudala** back as the new **Program Director** at the Sonshine Soup Kitchen on July 15. Christine worked as the Office Assistant two years ago and a series of “coincidental” events opened the door for her return. The new position gives Christine the responsibility of managing the ministry programs, primarily the meals, for the soup kitchen, and she will be working closely with Jenn, the Kitchen Coordinator. Cynthia continues as Executive Director and is very happy to share responsibilities with Christine. Both positions are 21 hours per week. Cynthia will cover Monday through Wednesday and Christine will work Wednesday through Friday. Sue continues as the Office Assistant.

With the addition of a fourth staff member, the Sonshine Soup Kitchen office hours will extend to include **Fridays**. Hours are still **1:00 to 6:00**. We enjoy donated phone answering from NH Answering Service, so messages can be left at any time.

20 Years of Service to the Community

September 11 marks the 20th anniversary of the first meal served at the Sonshine Soup Kitchen. On that first evening, a meat loaf dinner was served by eight volunteers. Eight meals were served. By December, the average meal count was 31 per night. The kite was off the ground and flying. The word was getting out. Volunteers were recruited and became dedicated in their service, and people in need were being fed, enjoying new friendships, and experiencing the love of Jesus.

It all started with Pat Sevenser’s (now Murphy) awareness that there were people in the community who did not have enough to eat. She was working as the secretary at the First Baptist Church at the time. We can point to Pat as the impetus to start the ball rolling, but God’s hand was clearly part of the endeavor as exhibited in the success and growth of the ministry.

We are commemorating the start of this vital community ministry with the First Baptist Church Community Food Pantry Committee by hosting an open house on Friday, **September 11, from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.** There won’t be a lot of fanfare. No speeches. No applause. Just the recognition of God’s great mercy and how He uses ordinary people to do great things, like serving 190,000 meals as of June, 2009.

Meal Delivery Boom

Each evening, volunteers deliver meals to people who are unable to get out of their home to dine with us. Over the past few months, the need for this service has increased. We’ve gone from delivering a total of 130 meals in March of this year to a total of 272 in June! Additionally, some of our new meal recipients live in Londonderry, so the delivery route is spread out over a greater distance. Because of the increase in time that it takes to cover the entire route, we’ve started scheduling two volunteers to deliver meals every evening, and each driver covers half of the route. This change means that we need more volunteers to deliver meals. It takes about an hour, beginning at 4:30pm. If you are interested in doing some of the deliveries, on a regular basis or otherwise, please call the office at 437-2833 or email Jenn at sskcoordinator@myfairpoint.net.

Prayer Concerns

Please join us as we pray for:

- Bible Study on Tuesdays
- B struggling with depression
- People out of work or under-employed
- B with chronic health issues

*Be joyful always; pray continually;
give thanks in all circumstances,*

for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 (NIV)

Numbers to Note

2009 YTD (June 30)

Guests served 4,361

Meals served 6,170

Average of meals per day 62

Average people per day 47

Volunteer hours logged 2,938

2008 YTD (June 30)

Guests served 3,875

Meals served 6,108

Average of meals per day 66

Average people per day 26

Volunteer hours logged 2,849

Calendar goes here

The Sonshine Soup Kitchen...

...is to be an interfaith community project to reach out to individuals and families struggling to live independently. We do this primarily by serving a free meal in a spiritually uplifting atmosphere to any person who enters our facilities and by seeking to exhibit the love and grace of Jesus Christ in our service.

SSK Board of Directors

JoAnne Packard, Chairperson
Jane DeRosa, Vice Chairperson
Richard Cardner, Secretary
Cynthia Dwyer, Executive Director and Treasurer
Atty. Edmund Boutin
Cynthia Cleary
Christina Germain
Linda German
Leona Lampro

Sonshine Soup Kitchen

4 Crystal Avenue # 4
Derry, NH 03038-2428
Phone: 603-437-2833

Email: sskdirector@myfairpoint.net
sskcoordinator@myfairpoint.net
Internet: www.soupinderry.org

*Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 1-6 p.m.
Meal served at 4:30 p.m., Monday ~ Friday*



Sonshine Soup Kitchen
4 Crystal Avenue #4
Derry NH 03038-2428

NONPROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE PAID
DERRY NH 03038
PERMIT #66

Return service requested



Exciting news inside!

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- ↳ Londonderry Old Home Days
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