

HOURS:
MON ,TUES ,THURS
11AM-2PM;
WED 1PM-4PM

IMPACTING THE
COMMUNITY ONE
LIFE AT A TIME.

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTERESTS

- Annual Food Drive Results
- Our Annual Celebration
- New Volunteer Welcome
- Christmas 'Shopping' at Crosswinds Downtown



Crosswinds Downtown

BY LYNNE MCHENRY

NOVEMBER / DECEMBER 2009

Annual Food Drive Results-Dec 19/20, 2009

When you have entered the land the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance and have taken possession of it and settled in it, take some of the firstfruits of all that you produce from the soil of the land the LORD your God is giving you and put them in a basket. Then go to the place the LORD your God will choose as a dwelling for his Name and say to the priest in office at the time, "I declare today to the LORD your God that I have come to the land the LORD swore to our forefathers to give us." The priest shall take the basket from your hands and set it down in front of the altar of the LORD your God. - Deut 26:1-4

Thank you to everyone who made this year's food drive possible. To our congregation, we thank them for their generosity. This year, we collected approximately 300 bags of food and \$2088 in cash and gift cards. (In 2008 there were approximately 250 bags of food and \$2800 in cash and gift cards.)

At the end of the weekend, our food pantry was overflowing and there was extra food stored in my office leaving me little room to work! My office has never looked better, less cluttered, but never better.

Thank you to the Crosswinds Downtown volunteers who eagerly participated by helping to receive the food and make sure the food

wasn't damaged in the shopping carts. And thanks to those who brought the food back down to Crosswinds Downtown and put it away. A special thanks to Wegmans as they let us borrow their shopping carts for our services, especially this busy time of year. Thank you Eric, Pete, and the Savages for providing cart transportation.

To those regular givers of Crosswinds Downtown who support us week after week, month after month, **THANK YOU!**

Most of all, we thank God for His continual blessing on Crosswinds Downtown. He provides us with all we need, from volunteers to food. Not one time in 5 years have we had to shut our doors because we didn't have food to offer. One time a few years ago we ran out of food, prayed, and through the door came in a donation that got us through that particular dry spell! How awesome is that!



God's Continued Blessings

Thank God

For providing food and volunteers for Crosswinds Downtown

For our pastors

That we know Jesus!

Please Pray

For employment for those seeking work.

For Carenet

For our Armed Forces

For those on the prayer chain

For suicide prevention efforts in our community

For good health for our volunteers with the upcoming flu season

The greatest blessings in our lives here at Crosswinds Downtown are serving others, praying with them, and seeing little glimpses of God's transforming power in their lives. Most of the time, we praise God and don't write them down as a testimony of encouragement to others. But here are a few stories we've remembered to share:

Mary has been coming to Crosswinds Downtown since June, 2008. Today Mary was so upbeat and happy, a complete change from previous visits. She told me she had become a member of a church in Rochester. She

said that she hates to leave the church each Sunday as she feels so good after each message. She said she would like to have a friend go to church with her to hear the good news of Christ. Praise the Lord!

— Roberta Aasness

A first time client came in and Grace served her. At the end of the conversation, the client asked if she could come back more often, just for conversation. "Of Course!" said Grace. Pete heard the client say, "Boy, I like this place" on her way out.

Anne served a client who came in after the blinds were pulled and the sign said

"CLOSED". It turned out she had a very heavy heart for her family's needs and was very grateful that we allowed her to come in after hours. She was also very appreciative of Anne's listening ear and her prayer.

—Submitted by Vickie

One of our new volunteers has had many experiences in his life. During his first several times serving, he's seen God use his trials with clients who need comforting in those same areas.

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God. 2 Cor 1:3-4

Crosswinds Downtown Annual Celebration

On Friday, December 18, we started our food drive weekend with our annual Crosswinds Downtown celebration. It's always a pleasure to have our wonderful volunteer staff over... and there's always a story to tell afterwards. Last year, Bert sat down at the ledge of the pool to find herself unable to get back up. Yeah, that was fun as a bunch of other 'elderly' volunteers tried not to pull their backs out getting Bert off the cement. If we had the budget, it would be 'the clapper' for everyone for Christmas!

This year, Glenn kept us laughing as he went through three white elephant gifts—a pocket knife (stolen), an air freshener doll (strangely stolen by Tim) and then an ornament. The 'Guess the First Line of a Christmas Carol' game was a lot of fun, too! Thank you Anne for being on my team! And, thanks everyone for being you and we look forward to next year's party!



Steve and his new bong (?)



Glenn and Bert

Welcome New Volunteers

Since October, we've added several new volunteers to Crosswinds Downtown. I've asked each one to share a little with us about them and here's what they wrote:

Angela Sulzbach: I have been attending Crosswinds for 4 years. I have 3 children (11, 8, 2) and a husband that travels quite a lot for work. Over the years, I have felt challenged trying to find opportunities to serve that would fit into my schedule -I was just too busy at home. But I recently stopped working, and have my youngest in childcare one day a week (Tuesday). When I saw the opportunity at Crosswinds downtown for Tuesdays during school hours, I knew it was a chance for me to jump in... no excuses! I am helping out twice a month and feel honored to serve at such a great place!

Sally Meierdiercks: I have attended Crosswinds for the past year and a half. My husband and I live in Farmington and have previously attended Calvary Chapel of the Finger Lakes and the Canandaigua Baptist church. We have two adult daughters and both live out of state. This is the first opportunity I had to volunteer with

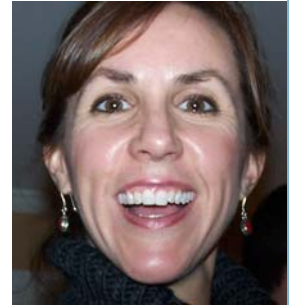


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Crosswinds and I love serving and the fellowship at Crosswinds Downtown.

Deanne Stratton: My name is Deanne Stratton and I have been married to Bruce for 11 years. We have 2 beautiful girls, Sarah who is 8 and Jessica who is 6. We have lived in this community for 10 years and very much love being here. I currently have my own jewelry business that allows me to be involved with our girls on a consistent and daily basis as I have been home with them since birth. I have a strong desire to help those not only within our community but even the greater community of humanity. Everyday I am excited to learn what our Coach has in store for me.



Bill Schukraft: My name is Bill Schukraft and I accepted Jesus as my Savior when I was seventeen. I volunteered reading the Bible and leading in prayer in the Navy. I've worked to resettle refugees from Vietnam and Kosovo. Now I find myself volunteering at Crosswinds Downtown. I believe it takes courage for each client to walk-in and say "I am in need." I also believe Jesus sends each client to this place for acceptance, compassion and prayer in addition to earthly items. My wife, Janet, also volunteers at Crosswinds Downtown and we live in Victor.



CHRISTMAS 'SHOPPING' AT CROSSWINDS DOWNTOWN—A NEW TRADITION

A few months ago, Marlene Mead approached me with a new and exciting idea. With the tough economic times, wouldn't it be great to offer any parent/grandparent that comes into Crosswinds Downtown the opportunity to pick up a gift for their child or grandchild? Totally free. No strings attached. At least they would have something to put under the tree.

I thought it was a great idea. We gave away ornaments one year, another year we wrote Christmas cards. But this was the best idea yet because we could implement this without using any additional money.

Many volunteers began bringing in gently used items to give away. Some volunteers bought a few things that were on sale. By December 1st, we had well over 100 gifts, totally supported by our Crosswinds Downtown volunteers/staff.

In addition, Marlene went the extra mile and made the Christmas story from the Bible available to everyone. We also added coloring pages which supported these scriptures for the kids. We put it all together, along with some candy, in those "Christmas in a Box" boxes we received at Crosswinds a few years ago. Cost for candy: \$7. Cost for the rest: \$0. Value to our clients: Priceless.

Thank you to Marlene and all the generous volunteers and staff at Crosswinds Downtown for making this Christmas a little easier on our clients.



NEW IN 2009

EVERY CHILD GETS A GIFT UNDER THE CHRISTMAS TREE!



"Sharing the love of Jesus through tangible acts of service that lead to the transformation of hearts by serving those in need"

Since we opened our doors in 2004, we've reached over 2,200 households in this community with 10,000 visits. On average, we serve about 200 families a month. On each visit, we have clients pick 10 non-perishable and paper products from a list of available items. That's over 100,000 items we've given to those in need. Thank you to all those who contribute to and volunteer at Crosswinds Downtown!

Phone: 585-393-4310

120 N. Main Street,
Suite 27
Canandaigua, NY 14424



Crosswinds
DOWNTOWN

CARE  NET[®]

Caret Pregnancy Center of Canandaigua resides across the hall from Crosswinds Downtown and is a sister ministry. Prior to 2006, these ministries were together under Crosswinds Downtown. The ministries separated to better reach different clients with different services. Crosswinds, along with six other Canandaigua churches, supports Carenet with volunteers and funding.