



TOUCHING LIVES

CELEBRATING OUR VOLUNTEERS!

Volunteer Newsletter

Fall 2009



A Note from our Founder... Cookie Vogelpohl

We Are So Thankful For Our Wonderful Volunteers!

The wonderful season of Thanksgiving is upon us! As you know, at Our Daily Bread every day is one of thanks. You also know why! As we look at our 25th Anniversary of being there for our folks, we think of and give thanks for our many blessings. Always at the top of our list is YOU, our volunteers! Without you and the grace of our good God we would still be a dream. Now, that dream is a reality. Thanks much!



JODIE BENDER & KATIE KLUG

IN JODIE'S WORDS:

Twelve years ago (but seems like only yesterday), I received a phone call from Joanie Schaffer asking if I could bring some of my junior high students from St. James, White Oak and St. Therese, Little Flower to Our Daily Bread to help with an after school program called Kids Café. Little did I know how a simple "Sure I can!" would change my life.

When Kids Café started out, we helped feed the children and played with toys a lot and sometimes did crafts. After Joanie left Kids Café, the children began to know me as the Wednesday Craft Lady. They might not remember my name is Ms. Jodie, but they know for sure on Wednesdays we would be making a craft.

For the past twelve years, my Wednesday afternoons have been filled with markers, scissors, glue sticks and (most importantly) creativity. I always ask the young people not to "copy" my example but to be creative! These young people continue to motivate me in my ministry and volunteer work.

The children at Kids Café have become a special part of my family and a priority for Wednesday afternoons. My entire family has become supporters and volunteers for Kids Café. Three years ago I first had the privilege of bringing VBS (Vacation Bible School) to the children of Kids Café. The week we spend together each summer, learning Bible Stories, singing and dancing, praising God and just having fun, creates an atmosphere of enthusiasm that carries our mission through the year.

My life is most richly blessed. When I count my blessings each night, Kids Café is not just one of my blessings but multiple ones; because each child, each volunteer and each staff member have become Christ for me in my everyday life! **(Jodie Bender—Pastoral Administrator, Mother of Christ; Director of Religious Education, St. Vivian)**



Katie Klug and Jodie Bender with our kids.

IN KATIE'S WORDS:

I was introduced to Our Daily Bread back in 2005 when I was attending Purcell Marian High School. I originally helped serving food for the crowd that came in the morning. I started to come more frequently, and built relationships with our guests, as well as with a couple of the kids who were also there.

In October of 2008, I was asked to be one of the chaperones for Kids Café for a trip to Sunrock Farm. I had a blast! After that trip I decided to commit to helping out once a week, every Tuesday, with the [Kids Café] program.

Over my year of being with the program, I've had the privilege of getting to know many of the kids and their unique personalities. I feel that it's important to give each child an environment of continuous learning, stability, and the skills to help them advance through life. Also, being there for them as a support system with any problems they may be facing. Through our experiences, they've taught me about myself, and I have personally grown as well.

We've had the opportunity to rally a group of volunteers to be a sponsor for each child last Christmas and will continue that as a tradition this year and in the future. We all have the ability to make an impact in our life and the lives around us. By working closely with the kids, I feel they will grow with the knowledge they can do or become anything they wish to. I have become a better person throughout the year by working with the kids, and I feel they have made strides towards growth in their own lives. I care about each one of them as if they were my own (although, at the end of the day, am happy to return them!) and build into them to the best of my abilities! **(Katie Klug)**



By Leslie Baker
Cincinnati Children's
Hospital Medical
Center, Division of
Orthopaedics

When I entered high school I was forced to volunteer time during the summer at Jewish Hospital, where my Mom was employed as a housekeeper. So two mornings a week, I dressed in a complete candy striped outfit, with white stockings and white shoes and walked the ten blocks or so from our house to the hospital. To say I was embarrassed is the understatement of the century. I was mortified, and my childhood friends were only too willing to

send me off each morning by standing in their front yards pretending to play at 8:00 a.m. As I stomped by to the cacophony of hushed laughs, jibes and pointed fingers. I believe I wore a cap of some sort also, which made the entire outfit truly come together.

As dreadful as my volunteer experiences from childhood seemed to me at the time, I now volunteer my free time towards service projects focused on eliminating hunger, and that is what brought me to Our Daily Bread. My coworkers and I at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center, Division of Orthopaedics, prepare and deliver sandwiches monthly to Our Daily Bread, and on occasion serve meals. A surprising fact I have learned through this effort is there is a large number of working poor in Cincinnati. None should go hungry and it is my pleasure to help in any way.



Leslie Baker



Our Daily Bread Gets Ready to Commemorate our 25th Anniversary!

Can you believe it? We'll soon be commemorating our 25th anniversary! Our founder, Cookie Vogelpohl, had a simple vision—to feed the hungry, offer a safe place for rest and hospitality, and to listen to the folks who walk

through the doors. 25 years and thousands of volunteers later, dedicated volunteers and staff continue to carry out that vision. Throughout 2010, we will be honoring Cookie and celebrating not only the neighborhood residents we serve, but the many people and organizations that have made it possible to continue.

PLAN TO BE PART OF THE CELEBRATION!!

Stay tuned for details!

GREAT HOLIDAY GIFT SHOPPING IDEAS ...that bless our guests!

- "Food For Thought" COOKBOOK \$20 (only 500 left!)
- MURAL NOTE CARD SETS 6 for \$10
- CHRISTMAS CARD Donation Inserts - Donation



Thank You J.T.M. Food Group for your generous "in kind" donations that enable us to serve our guests delicious J.T.M. meats THREE times a week!



Photo above:

THANK YOU EMPLOYEES OF J.T.M. for serving our guests.

Immediate Wish List

- Sugar
- Individual Tea Bags
- Facial Tissues
- Toilet Paper
- Deodorant
- Soap Bars
- Socks
- Hats/Gloves

