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January 2021

Happy New Year

I always love the beginning of the New Year and set aside time January 1 to just sit in God's presence and listen to what He wants to tell me. It varies from year to year depending on what is happening in my life, but it gives me a lot of peace and a strong foundation. One thing never changes though, and that is giving him thanks for all of the blessings he brings to me and my family - and they are too numerous to count. Even when things are not going well, the blessings still outweigh the burden by far. Knowing I can always count on the love of Jesus to guide me and comfort me is very grounding.

I think many can agree that 2020 was a year none of us would like to repeat. I'm reminded of the Bible verse: ..." but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus" Phillipians 3: 12-14 NKJV. While many of us may be dealing with the lingering effects of 2020, I hope that we can find a renewed sense of purpose and hope in 2021.

Cornerstone Rescue Mission is grateful for all who have donated to us with their time, money, donations to our Thrift Store, and for your prayers. 2020 has been a difficult year for everyone, yet we are so grateful for the continued support of our donors, a vital part of our Cornerstone Family. We continue to lift up all of you and your families in prayer and thanksgiving. We wish you a Happy New Year full of health, love, prosperity and a deeper relationship with God - our provider and our strength!

Happy New Year,
Lysa



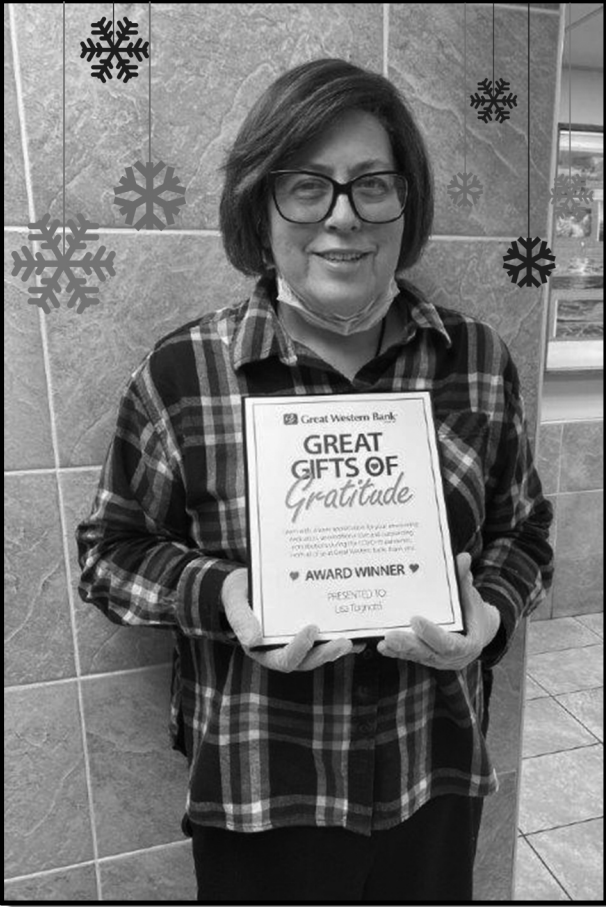
❄️ ❄️ ❄️ ❄️ **Great Gifts of Gratitude** ❄️ ❄️ ❄️ ❄️

Great Western Bank started a program called Great Gifts of Gratitude to honor local heroes who are going above and beyond during the COVID-19 pandemic. Two people connected with Cornerstone were honored with this award: Lisa Tognotti - Cornerstone Kitchen Manager, and Dr. Mark Harlow - Cornerstone Board President. Kim Panton, Cornerstone Admin Assistant, nominated them both and here is the nomination she submitted for Lisa. Next month we will feature Dr. Mark Harlow.

“Lisa is the head cook at Cornerstone Rescue Mission and overnight had to immediately make adjustments to the meals she was to prepare and serve at the Mission. It went from doing breakfast and lunch 5 days a week to prepping and arranging service of 3 meals a day 7 days a week. Many of our volunteers had to stop due to health concerns, and although many still supplied food, it was up to Lisa to prep and arrange service. Then once again a change was made and suddenly there was an overwhelming need for sack lunches to provide food to individuals that could not dine at the facility, or were in quarantine. Not only did she have to arrange the meals to be served, she now needed to also make meals that could be picked up for those in need – all from food that was not from a planned menu. Feeding South Dakota, local churches, and organizations were very generously supplying food but not in a typical shopping list. One day there may be lunch meat but the next produce, sweet goods, or leftover pizza. No order, no particular quantity –

just a need to turn it into a nutritional meal whether hot or cold or in a sack lunch. Not an easy task when you need to serve hundreds of meals a day. Lisa does it all with a positive, down to business attitude and always has a kind word to say to lift someone else up. She takes the cancellations, adjustments, and last minute changes all in stride and does her best to promote doing so in a safe and efficient manner. Many days she works over ten hours and goes home exhausted but we can count on her to come back the next morning ready to do it all again. Thank you Lisa! Your dedication and service to those less fortunate in our community is truly a blessing!”

Thanks Lisa for all you do for the guests of Cornerstone! And thanks to Great Western Bank for honoring local people that are going above and beyond during the COVID pandemic!



❄️ ❄️ ❄️ **20 Years of Blessing the Children of Cornerstone** ❄️ ❄️ ❄️

20 Years is a Long Time to carry on a tradition! For 20 years Fay Swenson (Avon Representative) and her friends have provided the Avon stuffed animal of the year, a small blanket and Avon personal care items, all tucked into a cute cloth tote for each child of Cornerstone. This year Helen Snyder, Lynne Stetler of Wee Ones, and Deb Malott of Century 21 Clearview helped Fay purchase the stuffed animals; GG Bunnie and Bunnie Sue made the cute totes;



and Deb Malott assists with filling the bags. The amount of organizing and work that goes into this project every year, and the generosity, is amazing - and to think they have done it for 20 years - WOW! We want to thank Fay Swenson and her friends for once again making Christmas brighter for the children of Cornerstone!

Deb Malott & Fay Swenson carry on the tradition!

❄️ **Winter Clothing Drive Success** ❄️

St. Thomas More High School, St. Thomas More Middle School & St. Elizabeth Seton Elementary School held their 4th annual thermal underwear, socks and winter clothing drive for Cornerstone. Mary Helen Olsen (St. Thomas More Middle School Principal), John Paul Sullivan (St. Thomas More Middle School student) and Wayne Sullivan (St. Thomas More High School Principal) presented all the wonderful items to Lysa. Thanks to everyone who contributed to providing our guests with these much needed items!



❄️ ❄️ **A Tradition of Giving** ❄️ ❄️

The Spearfish Unit 164 of the American Legion Auxiliary has carried on the wonderful tradition of donating backpacks to the Veterans who stay at Cornerstone. These backpacks are stuffed with very useful items and one special pack even included items for a Veteran with a service animal. This year donations were gathered by the Spearfish Middle School PE Department who did a "Sock-a-Thon", the Spearfish High School Student Council, the

Scouts Pack 17 and Troop 17, and members of the Spearfish Unit 164. We appreciate everyone who came together to help support our Veterans!

2020
CORNERSTONE
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(Board Liaison, non-voting)



SrA Keandra Nicholson from Ellsworth Air Force Base is shown with the items they collected for Cornerstone. She started a month long food drive for the Women & Children's Home and brought in many boxes of food items that the women and children can certainly use. Thanks to Keandra for starting the drive and thanks to everyone at EAFB that donated items!

Fleet Farm donated a Weber wood pellet grill worth \$1,000 to Cornerstone - How cool is that! Todd Jockisch, Marketing & Pricing Coordinator and Tom VanVlack, Cornerstone volunteer are shown getting ready to load it up. Thanks Fleet Farm for this generous gift!



Needs List:



MEN'S MISSION - 30 Main St.

KITCHEN: Canned fruits and vegetables, eggs, milk, coffee, sugar, oatmeal, pancake mix, cream of mushroom or chicken soup, cereal, egg noodles.

MISSION: Foot powder, towels, twin-sized blankets, twin-sized sheets, reading glasses, bottled water for sack lunches, personal hygiene items for men & women, backpacks.

WOMEN & CHILDREN'S HOME - 301 Fox Run Drive

Coffee, eggs, milk, cereal, sandwich bread, butter, sugar, laundry soap, dish soap, baby wash, baby lotion, kleenex, clorox wipes, personal hygiene items.

CORNERSTONE THRIFT STORE - 401 - 11th Street

Beds, furniture, small appliances, kitchen items, home décor.

VETERANS - 30 Main St.

Shoes, boots, sugar, creamer, antiperspirant, lotion, backpacks, coffee.

APARTMENTS - 1220 East Blvd.

Dish soap, household cleaners, toilet paper, laundry soap.

ADOPT A FAMILY

Gas cards, oil changes, laundry soap, dish soap, toilet paper, household items.

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO CORNERSTONE RESCUE MISSION
(The enclosed envelope is for your convenience. We are serving more people every day. Your help is appreciated!)