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October 2023

Love is Always in Season

Summer is winding down and school is in session and the trees are starting to show signs of changing. Many people don't like this time of year as it means another summer has ended. At the same time, many people like this season as they love seeing God's paintbrush as the trees change color, harvest is plentiful, and the chill in the air smells delightful. Hot cocoa, apple cider, jumping in leaves and warm sweaters all point towards coziness and shorter days. Transition is a constant in our life and sometimes it is positive and sometimes it is negative - but the constant is God's presence, healing and love.

All of our donors and sponsors show their love by giving to the Cornerstone Thrift Store, writing checks, praying and donating their time. Some of the most visible volunteers are the ones who cook and serve our meals. We are so blessed to have so many churches and civic groups who want to help feed the neediest in Rapid City. Our soup kitchen has a special

place in our hearts as that is the true foundation of Cornerstone Rescue Mission. Thank you to all who cook, serve and preach at our evening and weekend meals. We truly could not feed our guests without your help.

As the season moves from summer to fall and temperatures drop, we are preparing to serve our guests by stocking up on coats, hats, gloves, scarves - any cold weather gear. As you buy new winter items, please consider donating last year's items to Cornerstone Rescue Mission or throwing a few new items into your cart. We have people who come daily to the Men's Mission in need of warm items, so we can certainly use anything warm you bring to us - especially the large, XL, XXL and XXXL sizes.

Thank you for your concern for the homeless and we wish you a Happy Harvest of God's blessings!

Peace, Lysa



Noteworthy Milestones

(As told by Amanda Pioche, Cornerstone Women & Children's Home program manager): Theresa has been living at the Women & Children's Home and has been making progress to become independent. The day we took her to get her ID she could not stop smiling. It amazed me how something so simple could be such a huge success for Theresa - and she let us know how much it meant to her. She wrote a note to go along with this picture.

"I am so thankful, grateful and appreciative for this amazing opportunity at this shelter and especially for all the staff here. I am learning how to be positive and independent to get my life back on track after many hurdles. After 8 years I was finally able to get an ID with my picture on it, a Social Security card, and my birth certificate. I feel like I am getting my dignity and freedom back".

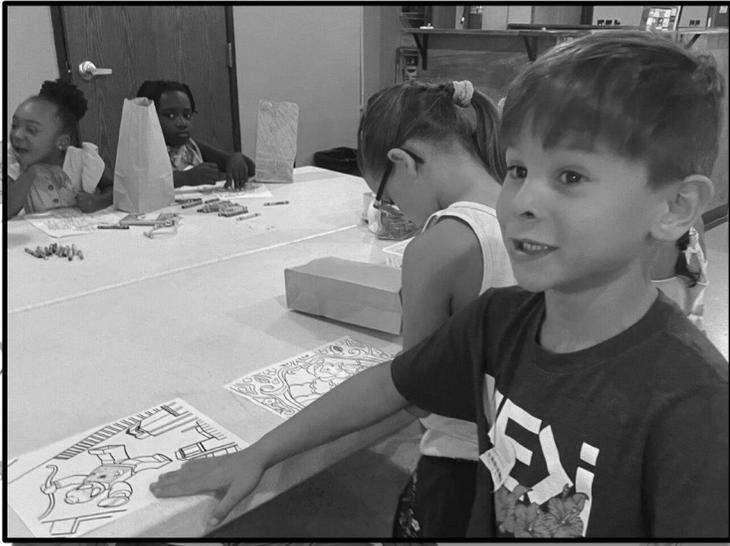
Congratulations Theresa! We continue to cheer you on!



Theresa proudly displaying her new ID.



Our friends at Black Hills Federal Credit Union once again had a blanket/sheet drive for Cornerstone. Brandi Wells and Amanda Grohs brought over many blankets, sheets, and pillowcases - plus presented a check for \$250 to Lysa! Blankets and sheets are such useful items that are used at all of our sites. Thanks to everyone at Black Hills Federal Credit Union, and all of their customers, for once again keeping our guests warm and comfortable this upcoming winter season!



The Bethel Church's KIDS series in July was called Staycation. Throughout the Staycation series, the kids learned not only about God's blessings, but how they could be a blessing to those around them. During the month of July, the kids brought in different items weekly such as toothbrushes, toothpaste, socks, soap, washcloths, snacks, etc. to fill the Blessing Bags. On the last Sunday, the kids were able to fill a Blessing Bag and write kind notes to the recipients of their bags. The kids were very excited to be a part of blessing people in our community. Thanks again to all the kids (and teachers) for their Kind Hearts!



Ryan Punt, CEO of SDN Communications, presented a check for \$1,780 to Lysa. The company donated the proceeds from their annual golf tournament to help the guests of Cornerstone. Thanks again for this generous gift!

The Rushmore Rotary has started helping serve a meal every month at the Men's Mission. Pictured are (L to R) Scott Van Dam, Chris Heacock, Roger Heacock, and Mark Crosswait. A big Thank You to this group for helping out!



2023
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Xaiven, Tatiyanna, Zarian, Novaria and Rainie, along with their friends (not pictured) Mavis, Rylie and Mason, had a lemonade stand where they donated the proceeds to the Women & Children's Home. They purchased \$450 in gift cards to be used by ladies that are moving out of the shelter and getting their own place. What a great idea and what a generous gift!



Dr. Diane Sharp, Executive Director of the Indigenous Community Empowerment Network, picked up some prom dresses to start preparing for the Pine Ridge High School prom next year. The Cornerstone Thrift Store generously donates dresses, suits, shirts, and shoes for this event every year!



Needs List:

MEN'S MISSION - 30 Main St.

KITCHEN: Spaghetti sauce, tomato sauce, canned beans, salsa, BBQ sauce, salad dressing

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, 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.

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!)