



Newsletter December 2015



Letter from the President

We have our building! 1325 Emerald Terrace. Deconstruction is about 80% complete and construction will begin in January. God has truly been on this job sight. Miracles have been happening all around us. We have had 20+ volunteers come out on the last two Saturdays to take down the inside of our building. Volunteers have brought food and goodies for workers and it always seems as though everyone walks away blessed and full of God's love. We will have many opportunities to help in the near future so please come out to help and to stand in a miracle.

We have much to be grateful for and look forward to 2016 with great anticipation. I want to encourage you during this time of celebrating Jesus' birth to think about all of the things that you are grateful for. We have started a grateful and miracle journal in our group because it is so easy to forget all of the things God has done. Those praise reports are so necessary when you go through difficulties and discouragement. It is a good habit to start each day and make a list of 20 things you are grateful for and thank God for.

Important Dates

Jan. 21 -Dine @ Willie Ty's

Feb. 21 - Gala @ Buck n' Honey's



Gala for Shelter

Please join us at Buck n' Honey's on **February 21st** from 6:00 – 9:00 pm for a Date Night with a Purpose! Gala for Shelter is a night to dress up, visit with friends, relax, and enjoy great hors d'oeuvres. There will be a cash bar and silent auction. Tickets are \$50.00 per person and can be

Well, I am grateful for each of you and hope and pray for a blessed Christmas season with family and friends. We pray for protection, prosperity and a deeper walk with God in 2016.

Love you,

Cynthia Whiteaker



New Volunteer Coordinator!

My name is Amy Skicki and I am very excited to be the new Volunteer Coordinator for Shelter from the Storm Ministries. I moved to Sun Prairie in June of 2006 and started working at Prairie Athletic Club (PAC) after serving seven years active duty in the United States Army. I spent two years as a full-time student pursuing my Bachelors of Science in Business Management Degree after discharge, then continued as a part-time student after accepting a full-time position at the PAC. I completed my degree from Herzing University on April 24, 2013 and am currently a full-time manager and the Facility Manager for PAC. I am also a single mother of a 12-year-old daughter and have raised her on my own since she was born. I personally understand the struggles that come with single parenthood and am very excited to be using those gifts to help this ministry...it has been a dream of mine for quite some time!

If you feel you have gifts that could help us get our new shelter up and running and sustain us into the

purchased through our web page: <http://sftsm.org/event-items/gala-for-shelter/>



Team Challenge Campaign

We have started a new fundraising team challenge called the Building Hope Campaign. We invite you to join us! If your company, club, group, family or friends would like to help, we have a fun way for you to make it happen! Create a challenge on our web page to your friends and family to raise an amount that you determine...we even provide a thermometer so you can check out your status at any time! Here's how to get started:

- Create a Team Name
- Decide on a Monetary Goal Amount
- Provide a Picture or Logo for your group
- Send all of this information to info@sftsm.org
- Invite friends to donate to your campaign!

Case Management

At this time of year there are celebrations and parties all around. Our hearts can become heavy under the contrast in the lives of our moms. At times we question if we are making a difference.

future, please do not hesitate to reach out to me. My email is amy.skicki@sftsm.org or please fill out an online volunteer application by following this link: <http://sftsm.org/how-to-help/volunteer-application/> I look forward to getting to know you.



Willie Ty's Eatery on January 21st!

Exciting things are happening with our fundraising efforts! We have our first restaurant signed up for Dine for Shelter on **January 21st**. We will collaborate with one Sun Prairie restaurant every month to raise funds and all you have to do is go out and enjoy a great meal. Willie Ty's Eatery at 836 Grove St. is located in the Sun Prairie Ice Arena just off the ice arena lobby. A big thank you to Steve Turner who has agreed to donate a portion of his food sales that night and will also have collection boxes there the entire month of January. Check them out and see their yummy menu at willietys.com. See you there on January 21st!

From the Accountant

Did you know? You can donate stock directly and save on taxes versus giving cash? Talk to your accountant but you may even get a bigger tax deduction doing it this way by avoiding capital gains tax since we are a 501(c)(3) charity!

It is also very beneficial to us to have many people committing to set monthly donations. These funds will go towards our monthly operating expenses. Click on this link: <http://sftsm.org/donate/> then click on the General Fund link. You will then be given the choice to donate monthly or lump sum.

Pray about these things. If we all do our part in God's giftings, we will be well on our way to raising the full \$350,000 for this project to help women and their children.

Then we receive a treasured piece of refrigerator art from a 7 yr old, or hear the pure joy in the voice of a 14 yr old as she plans a "Build a Bear" adventure for two of our children.

Somehow the heaviness seems to dissipate. Then we are reminded of the words the angel spoke 2000 yrs ago, "Fear Not, I bring to you *good tidings of great joy.*" We are then reminded of the giver of True Joy...it is He that is the true changer of lives.

Merry Christmas Everyone!

"Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."
Matthew 25:40

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