



Idaho Falls Area Humanitarian Center (IFAHC) Newsletter



Volume VII

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December 2021

Assistant Director's Message



Lynda Chapple

'Tis the Season once again. That beautiful time of year when we spend time with family and friends, share the joy of the season by giving to those we love and to complete strangers, and eat way more than we should of the foods we like most. It's the season for decorating our homes and playing sometimes silly but most often beautiful music to remind us of why December is so special.

But mostly it's the time of year when our hearts swell with gratitude for the Christ Child and what He brought to us with His Birth. When we remember the Lamb of God who taught only love for our fellow men and giving from our hearts. Let us be forever grateful for His sacrifice on our behalf and the joy that lies ahead because of Him. Merry Christmas and may the peace of this season fill your hearts all month long.

VOLUNTEER HIGHLIGHTS



L-R Alice Bodily and Irene Larsen

Irene Larsen, a volunteer in our quilting department, wrote an article found in the December 2021 Liahona magazine in an article titled, "A Key Decision."

Pictured are Al-

ice Bodily, and Irene practicing. Irene observes that neither of them were "very good piano players," but when they combined their talents, it sounded better than either of them could do on their own. There's a message in her observation, isn't there? Irene's mother and grandmother both played, and Irene has copies of her mother's duets dating back to 1923. One of her favorites from that era is "Crimson Blush." They also find the music for their duets at a variety of sources, including local music stores. She practices for about 10-15 minutes about four times a day to avoid stiffness in her fingers. In her article, Irene writes, "We even found a collection of Christmas songs and prepared a 40-minute program to present at an assisted-living facility in December. Another

musician (the wife of another center volunteer) joined us and played a xylophone and a set of bells to add variety to our performance. Through our music, at our ages of 90 and 93, we feel that we are bringing "Joy to the World" ... not only at Christmas but also all year long. We have been playing together regularly now for three years.

Another volunteer, Beth Edgerton, is pictured here with a hand cross stitched quilt she created for the center. Beautiful work, Beth!



Beth Edgerton with her handmade quilt

THE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT

In 1966 at a December BYU Devotional, Elder Thomas S. Monson said, "... when we keep the spirit of Christmas, we keep the spirit of Christ, because the Christmas spirit is the Christ spirit. One who had a keen insight into the Christmas spirit wrote: *I am the Christmas spirit! I enter the home of poverty, causing pale-faced -children to open their eyes wide, in pleased wonder. I cause the miser's clutched hand to relax,*

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Hours: Tuesday & Wednesday 10 am – 3 pm

The Idaho Falls Area Humanitarian Center is a non-profit / non-denominational organization
PLEASE SHARE THIS NEWSLETTER WITH YOUR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS



IDAHO COMMUNITY FOUNDATION GRANT



We offer our sincere gratitude to the Idaho Community Foundation for their generous grant.

Holiday Tasting Table

Volunteers, please join us for our tasting table on December 14 - 15. Broulim's has generously offered to donate sandwiches for the event, so we are asking our volunteers to bring salads and desserts.

CHRISTMAS SPIRIT



(Continued from page 1)

and thus paint a bright spot on his soul. I cause the aged to renew their youth and to laugh in the old, glad way. I keep romance alive in the heart of childhood, and brighten

sleep with dreams woven of magic. I cause eager feet to climb dark stairways with filled baskets, leaving behind hearts amazed at the goodness of the world (emphasis added). I cause the prodigal to pause a moment on his wild, wasteful way, and send to anxious love some little token that releases glad tears—tears which wash away the hard lines of sorrow. I enter dark prison cells, reminding scarred manhood of what might have been, and pointing forward to good days yet to be. I come softly into the still, white home of pain, and lips that are too weak to speak just tremble in silent, eloquent gratitude. In a thousand ways I cause the weary world to look up into the face of God, and for a little moment forget the things that are small and wretched. I am the Christmas spirit!
[E. C. Baird, "The Christmas Spirit," Herald of Gospel Liberty 114, no. 51]



IFAHC 2021 IN REVIEW

Idaho Falls Humanitarian Center has seen continued growth and progress this year. To the precious people who serve here to the generous support of the greater Idaho Falls community, we are grateful beyond expression. We are also humbled to receive the Pocatello NeighborWorks 2021 Partner of the Year award this month. It is truly an honor to work with agencies in the area who labor tirelessly to bless the lives of the downtrodden in our neighborhoods and communities.

Through the guidance and direction of our Board of Directors and Center directors and executive committee, we are able to leverage our resources to provide the maximum possible benefit to the community. We try to be excellent stewards over the generous donations entrusted to us. For every dollar we spend, we are able to return \$5 to \$7 to the community because we have no payroll—all our labor is volunteer; supplies are, for the most part, donated; and we give away everything we produce. In addition, while we accomplish all of this, it is not possible to serve without feeling that our burdens have been made lighter by lifting the burden of another. From our heart to yours, we wish you and yours a Merry Christmas and a joyous New Year!



Monthly Impact Update

Individual volunteers.....	230
Onsite service hours.....	2,986
Offsite service hours.....	28,859
First-time volunteers.....	69
Total center items produced	2,560
Total at-home items checked in	5,832

Our Volunteers

A special welcome to our newest volunteers: Virgie Goodell, Rebecca Manwaring, Lynette Nate, and Nicole Wilcox.

We are open Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 10 am to 3 pm. Experienced sewers and detail painters (toys) are in particular demand.



Dates to Remember

DECEMBER 8	IFAHC EXECUTIVE MEETING
DECEMBER 14-15	HOLIDAY TASTING TABLE
DECEMBER 21-22	CENTER IS CLOSED
DECEMBER 28-29	CENTER IS CLOSED

Ways to Donate



venmo

Donations may be made in person or by mail: 1413 Northgate Mile, Idaho Falls, ID 83401, PayPal, or Venmo: Scan the QR code here or go to our website at idahofallsareahumanitariancenter.org.

NEEDED DONATIONS THIS MONTH ARE
**BABY ITEMS, PAPER PRODUCTS AND
CLEANING SUPPLIES INCLUDING
LAUNDRY DETERGENT**



“We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.”

—Winston Churchill



The Last Word

Everyone wants to be someone's sun to light up someone's life, but why not be someone's moon to brighten in the darkest hour. Some days are better, some days are worse. Look for the blessings instead of the curse. Be positive, stay strong and get enough rest. You can't do it all, but you can do your best.

—Author Unknown

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