



Holiday 2017

Volume XX Issue 4

Upcoming Events

Watch Our Website For Details

THANKSGIVING FEAST

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 23
11:30 AM-2 PM
THE SALVATION ARMY
TRI CITIES CORPS
1710 S. 7TH AVE
ST. CHARLES
FOOD DELIVERY 11:30-11:45
THE BUFFET OPENS AT NOON

**ST. CHARLES HOLIDAY
HOMECOMING ELECTRIC
CHRISTMAS PARADE**

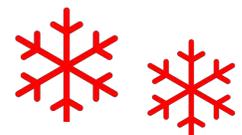
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25
5:30 PM
MAIN STREET FROM SIXTH ST.
TO FOURTH AVE.
ST. CHARLES

CHRISTMAS BRUNCH

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25
11:30AM-2PM
214 WALNUT ST.
ST. CHARLES
FOOD DELIVERY 11:30 -11:45
THE BUFFET OPENS AT NOON

**LAZARUS HOUSE GALA &
AUCTION EVENT**

UNMASKING THE FACE OF
HOMELESSNESS
SATURDAY,
JANUARY 20, 2018
ST. CHARLES COUNTRY CLUB



Visit our new
website:

LazarusHouse.net

Message from the Executive Director

Dear Friends,

As I was welcoming guests to a recent event hosted by Lazarus House a few days ago, I was met with the most beautiful smile and enthusiastic greeting. I recalled having had the pleasure of meeting this lady in the past; I just could not recall the details. “Ellen” reminded me she had come to interview me as part of a project for her Masters in Social Work course-work. Once reminded, I recalled that conversation in which she shared her delight in being on the cusp of earning her MSW degree. What is most remarkable about her journey is “Ellen” and her children were once guests of Lazarus House.

They arrived at our door in the middle of winter many years ago. She was beginning her college career back then, while at the same time a single mother of two. She was a victim of domestic violence, who had bravely chosen to end her marriage. Fast forward to 2017 which finds her living a life she had only dreamed of. She is working in a helping field, driven to support others as they grow in confidence and purpose, just as she did.

“Jennifer” arrived at our door several weeks ago; a single mother whose dreams were shattered by domestic violence as well. “Jennifer” too is braving her new way of life, which is driven by her desire to support her children moving forward. She is a focused, wise and an amazing mother. Having already applied to and enrolled, she too will soon begin her college education. She works hard at her outside employment, attends to her

children and is building the strength and confidence needed to achieve her dreams. As a guest of our Center for Transitional Living’s two year program, she will have the benefit and blessing of focusing on completing her education and readying herself for an independent life post-Lazarus House; all the while being supported with the professional wisdom of a Case Manager, the care and compassion of other Lazarus House staff and volunteers, and the provision of all daily necessities.

As we begin the seasons of Thanksgiving and Christmas 2017, I cannot help but reflect on the communities who have wrapped their arms around these two brave families, and so many others. Every act of kindness you have participated in have allowed these women the opportunity to bring their children to a loving and safe environment. They each entered our doors with fear and trepidation which eventually fell away as they came to trust the support and safety we offered, and as they grew in personal strength and determination with each new day.

Please consider yourself personally invited to participate in one or all of the ways we will celebrate God’s blessing of our communities over this holiday season. Inside this newsletter are all of the details.

This Christmas, I pray you and those you hold most precious know the same measure of peace and joy that you have bestowed on Lazarus House and all of those we are blessed and honored to serve.

Serving Him with you,

Holiday Celebrations with Our Community Family



It's the most wonderful time of the year! Lazarus House invites you to join us at our annual Thanksgiving and Christmas feasts as we celebrate the holiday season with our community family. The potluck style buffet at both events gives you the opportunity to enjoy delicious food, entertainment and rich fellowship together. Our annual Community Thanksgiving Feast will be celebrated from 11:30am-2:00pm on Thanksgiving Day, November 23. Dining begins at noon, so come to The Salvation Army Tri Cities Corps at 1710 South 7th Avenue in St. Charles and enjoy the feast.

Our annual Community Christmas Brunch will be celebrated from 11:30am-2pm on Christmas Day. Please come celebrate and enjoy a divine meal at Lazarus House, 214 Walnut Street. Dining begins at noon.



Plans are already underway for food & supply donations for both feasts, and we encourage you to **please sign up now**. We need many items to make these events a success, so please consider donating. Even if you can't attend the parties, we are very grateful for your food & supply donations. Check our website at www.lazarushouse.net for more details. Contact Anne, the Volunteer Coordinator, at volunteer@lazarushouse.net or call 630-587-2144 to get involved. We are so thankful for all of the volunteers who serve and help prepare these feasts, as well as those who attend the festivities and give the gift of community.

*Thank you for helping to make these holiday meals such special events.
We look forward to celebrating with you!*



Gift Giving Opportunities

Lazarus House has continued to grow since it opened its doors in 1997, and it has been able to serve so many men, women and children who are either

homeless or in need of assistance, as well as give them hope for the future. The generosity of donors in our community is the secret to the success of the shelter. As we approach the Holiday Season, please see below for the various opportunities we have for gift-giving. Lazarus House is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization and cash gifts are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law.

Honorary Gifts

This is a perfect way to honor those friends, relatives and teachers who have a special place in your life, but seem to have everything. The best gift is to make a donation in their honor. All you have to do is give us their name and address so we can send a heartfelt acknowledgement of your gift.

Memorial Gifts

A gift like this is a thoughtful way to remember those who have passed. When you make a gift in someone's memory, please provide us the name and address of a loved one to whom we can send an acknowledgment of your kindness.

Gift Cards

These gifts are the best way to extend Christmas giving throughout the year. Visa, MasterCard, and American Express Gift cards allow us to meet specific needs of guests and are great for purchasing prescriptions and other necessities. Please place a sticker on the gift card to indicate the card's monetary value.

Wrapped Gifts

Gift tags are created from our guests' wish lists. You can request one or more of these tags. Then purchase and wrap the specified gift so that each guest receives a few holiday packages to open on Christmas morning. When tags are requested, details will be provided as to wrapping, tagging and delivering the gifts. Contact Anne at volunteer@lazarushouse.net to request tags and be a holiday elf.

Thank you for considering Lazarus House this Holiday Season! We appreciate your support!



Geneva Giving Trees



Last year we were #1 and received \$2,300 for our cause thanks to everyone who took the time to vote for us! Can we do it again this year? Geneva History Museum's annual **Geneva Giving Trees** are on display from November 21st to December 23rd. Volunteers from Geneva East Book Club are once again decorating our themed tree. The public is invited to vote at the museum or online for their favorite tree with donation dollars. 14 local charities participate and the winning organization keeps 100% of the funds pledged to support their tree. The remaining organizations split their winnings with the museum. Enjoy the display and vote at the Geneva History Museum Tuesdays through Saturday from 11 am to 4 pm at 113 S. 3rd St. or vote online starting Dec 1st using PayPal at www.genevahistorymuseum.org. What a great way to support Lazarus House while enjoying the holiday season!



Want to give a Huge Hand UP?

Lazarus House will be participating with #ILGive which is happening in tandem with #Giving Tuesday. After Black Friday and Cyber Monday, Giving Tuesday helps remind us to support our local community organizations. #ILGive campaign engages Illinoisans to donate online on November 28, 2017. Spread the giving bug by shouting "I Gave!" on social media and sharing our profile.

Watch for ways to link to our Huge Hand Up campaign starting mid-November by going to www.lazarushouse.net.

The Joman Calendar is back for 2018!



WANT
JOY

"IT'S A
MIRACLE"



If you want to be a member of the secret Joman Calendar Club, hold this up to a mirror and see the secret message hidden. Now you know how we feel about your generosity to others. Joe is busy working away on the cartoons for this year's collection for the 2018 Joman Calendar. These new creations will baffle and amuse you! There are no hidden costs with these masterpieces. McMahon Builders absorbs the entire cost and donations you send in go directly to help pay for the operation of Lazarus House.

The calendars created by Joe make great Christmas gifts, which result in a win/win for all involved. A suggested donation of \$20 would be appreciated and only 350 of these calendars will be available, so secure yours early! Put it on your Christmas list not only for yourself, but for your friends as well. Joe's goal this year is to raise \$10,000! To tempt you further, one lucky buyer will win \$100. The winner for the 2017 calendar was Maureen M. from New Jersey, who donated the money right back to Lazarus House.

To order, email Joe at mcmahon_joe_05@yahoo.com or call him at 630-217-7562.

Lazarus House
214 Walnut Street
St. Charles, IL 60174

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You are cordially invited to attend our 3rd annual “Unmasking the Face of Homelessness” on January 20, 2018 at the exclusive St. Charles Country Club. Social hour begins at 6:00 pm with live background music by Sam Wyatt on the keyboard, a chance to bid on silent auction items and to purchase a mystery wine. A delicious dinner will follow with a presentation and an exciting live auction.

All proceeds will benefit Lazarus House operating funds. Dinner tickets are \$120 each or a table of 10 for \$1,000. Formal invitations will be mailed in December. Sponsorships and donations for games/auction items are being accepted by contacting Darlene at 630-587-2144 or email darlener@lazarushouse.net.



Lazarus House
214 Walnut Street,
St. Charles, IL 60174



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*Business Friends of Lazarus House
Thank You to our Corporate Sponsors*

