



# The Congregation Connection

## June 2013

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### Warm Weather and Warm Welcomes!

As summer approaches, I am stopping by churches to introduce myself and drop off a packet of opportunities we have for your congregation. There are a wide variety of ways we can work together to make a difference and I am looking forward to calling on you!

A special thanks to the Sage Group from St. James in Mukwonago! I enjoyed visiting with you and sharing information about Interfaith Senior Programs. You made me feel so welcome and the tasty treats were truly amazing!

I also enjoyed dropping in on numerous congregations in New Berlin and Muskego. I appreciate your willingness to share our volunteer needs in your publications and the warm conversations I had with members and staff at a variety of congregations.

I realize that fall planning begins now so please keep us in mind as you begin to schedule for the upcoming school year. If you would like the information before I am able to reach your congregation, please feel free to give me a call and we can arrange a time to get together. My direct line is 262-522-2402. I would be happy to meet with pastors, youth directors, lay leaders or committee members.

Neighbors Giving. Neighbors Caring. These actions are the driving force behind Interfaith Senior Programs. The size of your congregation is not important just a desire to work together to help the seniors and adults with disabilities in our community. We hope that you will join us in this mission.

Looking forward to seeing you this summer!

Kris Lombardi  
Community Outreach Coordinator

## Service Ideas for Summer!



Summer is a great time for your congregation to become involved in service opportunities. We can visit your congregation or have you come to our office to discover what programs Interfaith Senior Programs has to offer, and do a project on-site. Here are some opportunities for your groups.

1. **Celebrate Christmas!** Be sure to read the article below to participate in our Stockings Full of Joy Holiday Giving Program for 2013.
2. **Service Projects:** Service projects are a large part of the life of many congregations. Using our volunteer opportunities to plan such events is a great resource.
3. **Help Celebrate Birthdays!** This event involves decorating cards that we can send to our neighbors or that clients can use to send to their family and friends.
4. **Guest Speakers:** Several members of our staff are available to come to speak to your congregations. We have talks that can be incorporated into part of your worship service, or discussions that work well for senior programs, mission groups, confirmation classes and more.
5. **Workshops:** Two workshops are available for intergenerational events, Sunday school classes, youth groups or confirmation. Both workshops last about an hour, and can be tailored to meet your groups' needs.
  - a. The first workshop, Senior Sensitivity Training, is a hands-on program helping individuals discover the challenges that come with the aging process.
  - b. The second workshop, Day of Service, is an activity based event bringing the service projects to you! It begins with a quick discussion on why service is important.

## Stockings Full of Joy!

Stockings Full of Joy is our Holiday Giving program for 2013. We are in the planning stages of different ways to fill our neighbors' stocking full of gifts that will make their holiday season a festive one.

Be sure to watch our July newsletter for ways your congregation can begin to help us collect the items needed to provide a special gift to 500 seniors during the holiday season.

One of my favorite moments during this chilly spring was visiting one of our seniors who was wearing a hat that she received as part of her holiday giving basket. She told me that the walks to buy groceries were a little bit warmer thanks to the kindness of strangers.

If you would like to participate or receive more information before the July newsletter, contact  
Kris Lombardi at 262-522-2402 or [KrisL@InterfaithWaukesha.org](mailto:KrisL@InterfaithWaukesha.org).

Thank you for being the Neighbors that are willing to give and care for the seniors in our community!



## Volunteer while getting a breath of fresh air!



There are 43 clients throughout the county who are still seeking help this Summer with lawn mowing. Assist a senior or adult with a disability in your neighborhood, and help them remain living independently in their own homes. Coordinate the date and time around your schedule (evening and weekends are great). This is a perfect Summer opportunity for youth and families. For more information, or to volunteer, contact Linda at Interfaith Senior Programs by calling 262-522-2404 or email [LindaS@InterfaithWaukesha.org](mailto:LindaS@InterfaithWaukesha.org).

## Introducing, Marlene Vidal, Director of Development and Marketing

Hello, it is a privilege to join the Interfaith Senior Programs' team. I will be responsible for overseeing fundraising efforts, stewardship to donors, community outreach and agency visibility. Having personally been in the role of caregiver, I am excited to bring my fundraising experience to this endeavor of serving the aging, adults with disabilities, and their caregivers. I look forward to connecting with the congregations who help carry out Interfaith Senior Programs' mission through their volunteer and other support activities.

Looking forward to working with everyone!  
Marlene Vidal  
Director of Development and Marketing  
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## We Want to Stay Connected with You!

Please friend us on Facebook to receive weekly updates of what Interfaith Senior Programs is doing in Waukesha County.

We are trying to update our contacts to include all members of your ministry team that are connected to Interfaith. If you have any changes or additions you would like us to honor, please contact [KrisL@InterfaithWaukesha.org](mailto:KrisL@InterfaithWaukesha.org).