

## LOOKING TO SUPPORT HABITAT?

Here's an idea: Zion Lutheran Church in Shawano hosted a women's tea to raise money for Wolf River Habitat. Nearly 40 women attended the event and were treated to flavorful tea, a delicious meal and a raffle.



PO Box 532  
Shawano, WI 54166-0532

*Building homes with God's  
people in need!*

## DID YOU KNOW ... THE COST TO BUILD A HOUSE?

Please consider supporting Habitat for Humanity. Your donation will help a local family build a home. Whether contributing enough for the foundation, a bathroom sink or light switch covers, we know a couple families who will be very thankful for your donation.

Framing package	\$9,000.00	Interior Door	\$90.00
Foundation	\$8,500.00	Kitchen Sink	\$85.00
Plumbing	\$4,000.00	5 Gallons Paint	\$40.00
Electrical Work	\$4,000.00	Roof Truss	\$50.00
Furnace	\$3,000.00	Medicine Cabinet	\$25.00
Vinyl Siding	\$2,900.00	50 lbs. of Nails	\$20.00
Kitchen Cabinets	\$2,000.00	Bag of Insulation	\$20.00
Driveway, Walkway	\$1,500.00	Light Fixture	\$20.00
Shingles	\$800.00	Doorbell	\$11.00
Vinyl Flooring	\$500.00	Grass Seed	\$10.00
Tub/Shower	\$280.00	Smoke Alarm	\$10.00
Exterior Door	\$250.00	One Gallon of Paint	\$7.00
Hot Water Heater	\$200.00	Doorknob	\$7.00
Window	\$175.00	Light Switch Covers	\$5.00
Bathroom Sink	\$100.00	House Numbers	\$6.00
Toilet	\$100.00	Telephone Jack	\$5.00

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*building  
houses,  
building  
hope*

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[www.wrhabitat.org](http://www.wrhabitat.org)

## President's Message WE'VE ONLY JUST BEGUN!

Ten years and seven houses since our beginning in 1998 – that's seven families living in decent affordable housing because they put forward the necessary "sweat-equity" and you put forward the financial support, volunteer labor, and in-kind donations of materials and skilled tradesmanship to make it happen. The really exciting part is those homes, being paid for through no-interest mortgages, will provide significant funding to make it happen again ... and again!

Our plans for 2008 call for starting the 8th house in Menominee County, the 9th house in Tigerton – and possibly the 10th in Shawano this fall. To make this real for partner families we need your continued support (not just donations, although those are always greatly appreciated) of time and talent to continue what we have started.

We need committed individuals to serve on our three major committees:

- **Building and Site Selection** – Find suitable build sites, develop affordable build plans, solicit in-kind donations of building materials and skilled trade help, recruit and help train volunteers

- **Family Selection and Support** – Find and work with new families who fit the financial requirements and are willing to partner, follow up with existing partner families to ensure they become and remain successful home owners

- **Development and Church Relations** – Spread the word so our communities are aware of what Habitat is doing and wants to do. Coordinate events that contribute to the quality of life in our community while generating funds

for future building projects, build relationships with churches and organizations that will form the foundations upon which we can continue to grow.

And, we need construction supervisors to oversee builds. The construction supervisors are "on-site" individuals whose responsibility is to make sure the job gets done right, volunteers get proper instructions to do the job safely, state and local codes are complied with and proper inspections and certifications are accomplished in a timely manner. Essentially the construction supervisor will agree with the building committee on a construction schedule that fits his/her specific situation. Wolf River Habitat will then be responsible to make sure volunteers and required building materials meet the schedule.

This is truly a unique opportunity for qualified builders to share their skills with a group of people willing to help and learn, and in the process help a willing family to get a piece of the American dream – a decent, affordable home of their own.

Because of the time required for this job (about four months with an average of 24 hours per week including all day on Saturdays so the partner family can get "sweat-equity" hours in) a modest stipend may be available, if needed.

Please prayerfully consider if you are the one who can make the difference in one of the above mentioned areas. With your help, we can continue what **WE'VE ONLY JUST BEGUN!**

Sincerely,

Steve Fellman,  
President

## BY THE NUMBERS

*A quick (and amazing) summary of what Wolf River Habitat donors and volunteers accomplished in 2007!*

**4** family partners contributed 861 “sweat equity” hours

**164** volunteers contributed 4825 hours of labor

**145** individuals, businesses and organizations contributed \$100,499 in cash

**25** individuals, businesses and organizations contributed goods and services valued at \$35,636

Our affiliate tithed **10%** of our cash income to Habitat for Humanity International for their work in Mexico

**4** homes were built – 1 in Shawano County, 1 in Menominee County and 2 in Mexico (based on an average cost of \$4500 outside the US)

*“Never doubt that a small group of committed people can change the world. Indeed, it is the only that that ever has.” - Margaret Mead*

Our thanks to the following individuals and businesses whose in-kind donations of materials and skilled labor helped make all this happen.

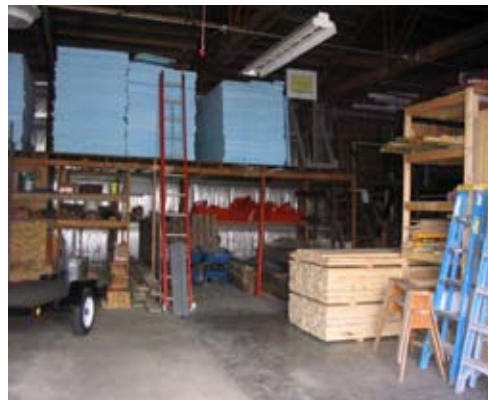
- Berken & Moesch Plumbing & Heating
- Bisley Fabrication
- Dearco Glass and Paint
- Dow Chemical Company
- E. R. Systems/Claire’s Insulation Services
- Faith Technologies
- Hunter Douglass Window Fashions
- Kohler Co Corp Giving Program
- Larson Mfg
- Menzner Lumber and Supply
- Midwest Carpet Warehouse
- Montour Engel, LLC.
- Owens Flooring Company
- Owens Forest Products
- Perry Seamless Gutters
- Professional Heating & Air Conditioning
- Retail Lumber and Supply Co.
- Square D/Schneider Electric
- Torborgs Shawano Lumber
- Valspar Corp
- Whirpool Corporation
- Yale Residential Security Products
- Zahringer Trucking and Excavating

## INTRODUCING OUR OFFICE AND STAFF



Meet our new Office Manager! Lorna Dreher has been a working member of our Building & Site Selection committee as well as an able volunteer on build sites. Now she will add her expertise and welcoming personality to our new office/warehouse in Shawano. With Lorna’s help, our office is staffed Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to noon. Have a question about Habitat? Want to volunteer your time, talent and cash? Give Lorna a call at (715) 524-3007!

Located on the southwest corner of South Lincoln and East Richmond streets in Shawano, you will find our “new” combination office, conference room and warehouse. Thanks to the cooperative attitude of our new landlord, Bob Johnson, we were able to consolidate all our “stuff” under one roof and do a little “construction” to fit the space to our needs. We also share the office space with Shawano County Literacy Council and aptly call it “Shawano’s Non-Profit Corner.” Stop in when you are in the neighborhood. See what we’ve accomplished in our 10 year history and what we’re planning for the future. We look forward to renewing old friendships and starting new ones!



## Building With Thrivent

For years, Thrivent Financial for Lutherans has been a strong and valuable supporter of Habitat for Humanity. Julie Bargholtz, Lutheran Community Service Specialist - Thrivent Builds shares the rationale behind this wonderful partnership.

From the first nail to the last, building a home with Habitat is a profound experience for everyone involved. It’s not just a matter of sticks and blocks. It’s also tears and smiles, borne of hard work and faith. More importantly, it’s the knowledge that you’ve helped change lives. That’s why Thrivent Financial for Lutherans works with Habitat. And it’s why we want to do more. Much more.

Since 2006, Thrivent Builds with Habitat for Humanity has engaged Lutheran congregations, Thrivent chapters and members, Habitat affiliates, and individuals from across the United States and around the world to build hundreds of homes with families in need, provide mission trips for Christian outreach in local and foreign communities, and directly reduce poverty housing and homelessness.

**• Why did Thrivent Financial and Habitat form this alliance?** Participating in this alliance makes sense for both organizations. As a faith-based membership organization, Thrivent Financial’s mission is to care for others. Similarly, Habitat seeks to work with organizations that share its values and want to help eliminate poverty housing. A home is the biggest financial asset most families have and a key ingredient to achieving economic independence. Providing decent, affordable housing is a demonstration of the organizations’ values.

**• Is this the first time Thrivent Financial has worked with Habitat?** No, but this agreement does significantly expand Thrivent Financial’s already strong relationship with Habitat for Humanity. Since 1991, Thrivent Financial and its members have worked with Habitat to build more than 500 homes, raise more than



*This Habitat and Thrivent Builds home was built in Shawano in 2007. We’ll soon be starting a new Thrivent Builds home in the Village of Tigerton.*

\$25 million and contribute more than 1.4 million volunteer hours in homebuilding time. The new alliance is estimated to provide over \$25 million in support over four years.

### **• How does this alliance differ from Thrivent Financial’s previous relationship with Habitat?**

In the past, Thrivent Financial supported Habitat builds through a program called “Building Hope ... Building Homes” and was managed at a regional level. Grants of \$5,000 to \$40,000 were awarded to a handful of builds in an area. Thrivent chapters (local volunteer groups made up of Thrivent Financial members) had an opportunity to participate in the builds, but this was not a requirement of the grant. The new initiative, Thrivent Builds with Habitat for Humanity, funds 65% of the cost of the home and requires substantial participation by chapter volunteers and Habitat affiliates. In addition, it includes neighborhood grants and short-term trips to build houses worldwide.

Being part of this program is a great example of the commitment Thrivent Financial has made to eliminating poverty housing. It is here the missions of Habitat for Humanity and Thrivent Financial for Lutherans come together.

For more information on how to get involved with the Thrivent Builds home in Tigerton this year, please e-mail Julie at [julie.bargholtz@thrivent.com](mailto:julie.bargholtz@thrivent.com) or call (920) 284-0286.

### **Upcoming Events:**

- We’ll soon be starting to build! Check out our Web site for updates as we begin ([wrhabitat.org](http://wrhabitat.org)).

If you would like a Habitat representative to speak with you or give a presentation to your community organization or church group, please contact the Habitat office manager at 715-524-3007.