Belt-tightening time

Without question, ICS is feeling the impact of the economic times. Demands for services are increasing, in some cases more than doubling. Calls are coming for utilities, food, rent, medications...and more. Our clients often have nowhere else to turn.

We were very grateful for the generosity of our volunteers and supporters who helped us meet many of the needs at the year-end (see Holiday Food article below). However, while December’s giving was very encouraging, the overall financial resources are not keeping pace with the needs.

It’s opportunity time! Thomas Edison used to say that people don’t recognize opportunity because it “usually goes around wearing overalls looking like hard work.” The task before us means that we must look for opportunities for both cutting costs and increasing revenues – while maintaining our levels of services.

We have already implemented changes such as limited voluntary reduction of staff hours, a change in our leave policy which significantly affects our bottom line, and cost reductions in printing, mailing and supplies. Please note the “greening” article on page 4 and help us move from a paper version of this newsletter! We are also implementing new and expanded fund-raising activities, many mentioned throughout this newsletter. Please call or email me with any thoughts or ideas you might have.

We know that the next year and more may be very difficult, but with our fantastic team of staff, Board, and volunteers, we will rise to the challenge and relish the opportunities that present themselves.

Blessings to all,

Executive Director
bkampa@icstucson.org

ICS sets record for Holiday Food Packages

A lot of people were hurting financially last holiday season. The long lines of clients who came to ICS for Holiday Food Packages were a constant reminder of the need.

From Nov. 24 to Dec. 23 last year, ICS distributed 1,073 packages, compared with the previous record, 615 in 2007. That was in addition to an average of 73 emergency food boxes a day that our Food Bank distributed, up from an average of 47 in prior years.

In all, 48 volunteers helped with the Holiday Food program, in addition to our usual Food Bank volunteers. In addition, sixty people and organizations donated to our Gifts of Love program.

Businesses and volunteers helped make the program work. A special thanks goes to The Walmart Supercenter, 7635 N. La Cholla Blvd., who helped us store the 664 holiday hams received from the Community Food Bank in their freezer.

For a list of all those who contributed food or gifts, go to the ICS website at www.icstucson.org. (Record Holiday Outpouring from Community).

Thanks to all!

March classical guitar concert launches ICS benefit series

A concert by classical guitarist Gabriel Ayala will kick off the 2009 “Music for the Soul” Concert Series to benefit Interfaith Community Services.

This is a change in our “Music for the Soul” format of the past. Instead of one large concert, we’re going to sponsor a series of music events throughout the community.

Watch for information about upcoming concerts. We know you’ll want to participate.
Memorials and gifts of honor are a special way to remember friends and loved ones, as well as make a tax-deductible donation to ICS. An acknowledgement is sent to both donor and honoree. Thank you.

IN MEMORY OF, GIVEN BY
Aleah, Michael and Karen Cruce
Our Moms, Michael and Gail Drake
Our parents, Don and Bobbie Prochazka
Our son Brian, James and Marie Green
Ralph Aynes, Richard and Carol Goeman
Nadine Barlow, Bradley and Marilyn Browning
Robert Bernstein, Sylvia Lawrence
Richard C. Bostrom, Alice Bostrom
Hugh Boyle, Edmund and Kathleen Jenkins
Bruce Brandt, Henry and Julie Brandt
Martin Browning, Mac and Tiena Fiske; Richard and Bonnie Kampa
Seymour & Jack Cagan, Sid and Naomi Isnin
My loving wife Carol, Charles Davis
Papa Caruso, Wilma Maddux
Richard Christenson, Myra Christenson
Evelyn I. Cook, Gary and Carol Cook
Norma J Eddy, Marianne Felton; Thomas and Mary Gould; Reed and Barbara Holiday; Mildred Jett; Heather Lane; David and Elizabeth Parmienter
Anne Ervin, Richard and Violet Davis
Richard Fenton, Mary Jo Fenton
Robert Hall, Leonard and Mary Schwartz
George Hayes, Marcia Larson
Anna Holdcroft, Richard and Mary Boddy
Lt. Col. Donald S. Hopkins USMC (Ret), Janet Hopkins
My Mother and Husband, Marjorie Donovan
Robert Larson, Bernice Menkin
Loved Ones, Charles and Marjorie Kline
Ray, Maureen & Sarah McClure, Patricia McClure
Mary Lou and Michael McCue, Robert McCue and Arla Amara
Ruth McReynolds, Jim and Yonny Beers; Stephen and Judy Herzog; Leslie Killips; Barbara Rulter
Ernestine Miller, Geraldine Ling
Martha Milligan, Don and Louise Milligan
Myrna Moore, Anonymous
James B. Morrow, Archie and Janice Anderson; Jim and Yonny Beers; Ruth Benson; Michael and Kathleen Clark; Paul and Marlene Den Herder Richard and Virginia Eisenstaedt; Jean Farmer; Margaret Fisher; Stephen and Judy Herzog; Floyd Job; Pete and Mary Quick; TWA Sonora Seniors; Ella Waltz; Vernon and Elizabeth Woestemeyer; Archie Anderson
Helen Newton, Herbert and Beverly Wright
Donald O'Connor, James and Joyce O'Connor
Jerry A. Pickett, Nadine Pickett
Stanis Rock, Bill and Mari Rock
William and Florence Schmidt, John and Margaret Schmidt
Jerry Truitt, Will and Linda De Boer; Robert and Joyce Lyons; Robert and Susan Reavis; Eugene Scott; James and Barbara Souter
Rev. Bruce VanRoekel, June Head; Sue Hayden and Karen MacDonald; Terri Patt-Smith, Bonnie Kampa
Herman Vedder, Ralph and Tricia Balancio
Ken Weissenborn, June Head
Darlene Zuchekowski, Larry and Nancy Norris

IN HONOR OF, GIVEN BY
Larry & Marty Amend, Maurice and Mary Ellis
Yonny and Jim Beers Anniversary, Archie and Janice Anderson
William S. Armstrong, Priscilla Armstrong
Front Desk and Financial Assistance Volunteers, James and Barbara Souter
Karen Brown, Nick and Anne MacDowell
Stratton Advisors’ Clients, Stratton Advisors
Pat Collins, Edmund and Kathleen Jenkins
Jim and Sherri Denny, Richard and Bonnie Kampa; Marcia Larson
Caregiving Drivers, Cynthia Bean; Patricia Murray
The Wiley Family, Kay Wiley
Brenden Foster, James and Bonnie Johnson
Friends and Family at the Holidays, Edmund and Kathleen Jenkins
Col. & Mrs. William Gardner, Anonymous
Jule Gill, St. Mark’s United Methodist Church
Mrs. Linda Greene, Anonymous
David and Melissa Griegel, Sue Hayden and Karen MacDonald
Ms. Elaine Griegel, Sue Hayden and Karen MacDonald
Steve and Rosemary Griegel, Sue Hayden and Karen MacDonald
Wayne & Janet Griegel, Sue Hayden and Karen MacDonald
Dr. & Mrs. Keith Gruty, Anonymous
Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Gruty, Anonymous
Mr. & Mrs. Jeffrey Gruty, Anonymous
Bill and Jane Hady, Anthony and Elizabeth Barnosky
Glen & Isla Hamstra, Jeffrey Hamstra; Lester and Suzanne Hayt
June Head, Hershel and Elizabeth Craig
Vince Kermitez, Barbara Bourne
Rev. Gerald Kicanas, D.D., Thomas and Mary Ann Hackett
Susan Lane, Allan and Sandra Harrington
Jim and Sue MacDonald, Sue Hayden and Karen MacDonald
Ms. Wendy MacDonald, Sue Hayden and Karen MacDonald
Scott & Kim MacDonald, Sue Hayden and Karen MacDonald
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Mattai, James and Theresa Cartin
Bernice Menkin, Janet M. De Keyser
Louise Milligan, Sid and Naomi Isnin
Bill and Vicky Morcom, John Charles
Bette Newton, Keith and Mary Gruty
Susan North, Jane Erickson
The Social Service Staff of Casa de la Luz Hospice, Frank and Linda Williams
Rev. Mike Pearson, St. Mark’s United Methodist Church
Linda Penny, Marshall and Janet Stewart
Mr. & Mrs. Carl Petersen, Anonymous
Gelaine & Ken Petrick, Robert and Joyce Kuneth
Ruth Protas, Brandon Protas
Mr. & Mrs. Matthew Russell, Anonymous
Jeff and Angela Sagalewicz, Leon and Julia Sagalewicz
Bill and Lee Schroeder, Bill and Jeanne Schroeder
Jerry Stillman, James and Joanne Christner
Mr. & Mrs. Leon Swanson, Anonymous
Trish Thayer, Lynn Gilley
Ann and Jerald Wheeler, Brian McPherson
Frank and Lorene White, Caryle Mead
Kathryn and Dave Wilkinson, Marshall and Janet Stewart
Marcia Winick, Diane Bart
Bill and Francie Winslow, Charles and Connie Chase
Sherwood Winslow, Charles and Connie Chase
Mr. Warren D. Winston, Anonymous
Nancy Young-Wright, Bob and Marianne Hadden

Please consider making a lasting gift to support ICS. For more information, call Bonnie Kampa (297-2738, ext. 212) or Monnie Applegate (297-2738, ext. 222).

GRANT AWARDS. We are grateful to the following organizations for recent grants: Bess Spiva Timmons Foundation; Carl’s Jr.; Eugene C. & Wiletta F. Denton Family Foundation; Elizabeth Read Taylor Foundation; Employees Community Fund of Boeing Mesa; Lewis Hertz Foundation; Carl & Mabel Shurtz Foundation; Trico Charitable Trust; Tucson Electric Power Grants That Make a Difference; Walmart Neighborhood Market, Ruthrauff Road; Walmart Superstore, Tangerine Road.
ICS thanks its CORPORATE PARTNERS

PLATINUM LEVEL

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Thrivent Financial for Lutherans: Let’s thrive.

COPPER LEVEL

Tucson and Green Valley Team

Celebrating our Founding Partners. In this issue, we complete our series on ICS founding congregations. Cortaro Vista Community Church, pastor Ted Vande Berg at 8600 N. Camino de Oeste, is affiliated with the Reformed Church in America. The Third Church of Christ, Scientist is located at 7355 N. Paseo del Norte. They minister and worship together as laypeople. Sandra Foster is their interim Clerk. Our 45 member faith communities are the core of our work. We’re grateful for each of them for their partnership.

Health and Wholeness workshop. In October, ICS and Carondelet Health Network teamed up to provide a two-day workshop on congregation-based health programs. Representatives from ten faith communities gathered to explore opportunities. The program is available to congregations wishing to start or strengthen their health ministries. Contact Karen MacDonald at 297-6049 or kmacdonald@icstucson.org.

A heartfelt thanks!

We don’t want to miss this opportunity to once again say “thank you” to all those who participated in or supported our fall fundraising events.

Whether you attended the “Music for the Soul” concert, golfed with us on Veteran’s Day, enjoyed “Dancing with the Stars,” or supported us through your donations...we just can’t thank you enough! You made an impact in the lives of others.

Gift ideas for Valentine’s Day ...

Jewelry show benefits ICS. Make your jewelry shopping easy and help support ICS! On Saturday, February 7, you are invited to an afternoon of fun, friends and fabulous Silpada Sterling Silver Jewelry. The event will be from 1 to 5 p.m. at a local home. Call 297-2738, ext. 212 to RSVP and for directions to the event. View the entire catalog online at www.mysilpada.com/michele.thompson. Pre-orders will be accepted by contacting Michele Thompson, at nmilt@msn.com. Mention ICS!

“Have a heart” table displays are available for your faith or civic groups. These are “ready to go” displays to encourage donations to help those less fortunate.

Red, pink and white food drive for ICS. With the increase in needs, the ICS food pantry is even more important in helping families. Consider a food drive based on the colors of Valentine’s Day: pasta sauce, pasta, red jello, diapers, canned chili, jams, etc! Call ICS to share your ideas.

Garden of Caring. Dedicate a personalized brick in the ICS garden for someone you love. Go to www.icstucson.org...Donate...Garden of Caring for the order form.

Upcoming Events

Write A Will Workshops: ICS will again sponsor the “Leave a Legacy” campaign with a series of “Write A Will” Workshops, hosted by members of our faith communities. Call 297-2738, x 209 for a listing of dates, times and locations.

“We Care” Walk for Fitness and Fun(ds) for ICS: Watch for details of this fun way to enjoy our great weather and raise much-needed funds for ICS. Location, date and time TBA.

Thank You

Guest hosts. Many thanks to Dove of Peace Lutheran Church for hosting our September Council meeting, and to Christ Presbyterian Church for hosting our November Council meeting.

Carolyn Maurer, a volunteer Telecare caller, made beautiful, warm afghans for recipients who attended the annual Telecare holiday party, held Dec. 7 at St. Andrew’s Presbyterian Church. Caryl Willand, one of the recipients, also brought a variety of gifts, and Susie Melton entertained on the keyboard.

Gary and Ruthie Rehm provided Thanksgiving and Christmas meals to several recipients on their Mobile Meals route, with funds from science teachers at Ironwood High School.
ICS NOTES

“Sounds of Christmas.” Our thanks to the Oro Valley Church of the Nazarene, 500 W. Calle Concordia, which raised $14,600 for ICS with its annual “Sounds of Christmas” concerts. More than 150 OVCN members took part in the six concerts and more than 6,000 people attended.

Tax help. ICS is hosting a Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) site this tax season. VITA, sponsored by United Way of Tucson and Southern Arizona, offers free tax preparation for eligible working families and seniors. The ICS site will be open Wednesdays from 4:30-6:30 p.m. and Saturdays from 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Call 352-3792 or go to unitedwaytucson.org for information.

Volunteer Trainings

Here are upcoming training sessions for new volunteers. They are held in the ICS Conference Room, 2820 W. Ina Road.

February 10
10 a.m. – Noon
February 25
1 – 3 p.m.
March 10
10 a.m. – Noon
March 25
1 – 3 p.m.
For more information and to reserve a spot, call Sandi at 297-6049.

The ‘greening’ of the ICS newsletter

To help ICS cope with the recession, we hope you’ll consider subscribing to our e-newsletter instead of this paper version.

There are many advantages to the e-newsletter: more timely news about ICS, color photographs, and major savings on printing and mailing costs, which can be passed on to clients through our programs.

To make the change, just send an email to: scaulley@icstucson.org, put “Go Green” in the subject line, and in the body of your message tell us an email address we can use to reach you and indicate the name and address you want removed from the print newsletter mailing list.

You’ll be notified by e-mail when a new e-newsletter is available and we’ll provide a link that will take you there. Thank you for helping us stretch our resources.

Interfaith Community Services thanks our ongoing supporters!

Faith Communities:
Avra Valley Community Church
Beautiful Savior Lutheran
Canyon del Oro Baptist
Capilla del Sol Christian
Casas Adobes Congregational UCC
Catalina United Methodist
Christ the King Episcopal
Christ Presbyterian
Church of the Apostles
Church of the Painted Hills
Congregation Chaverim
Congregation Or Chadash
Cortaro Vista Community
Dove of Peace Lutheran
Grace St. Paul’s Episcopal
Emmanuel Presbyterian
La Aldea (formerly Community Church of the Foothills)
Lutheran Church of the Ascension

Mountains Shadows Presbyterian
Mountain View Baptist
New Spirit Lutheran
Northminster Presbyterian
Northwest Baptist
Oro Valley Church of the Nazarene
Oro Valley United Church of Christ
Our Saviour’s Lutheran
Resurrection Lutheran
Rincon Congregational UCC
Sanctuary United Methodist
St. Andrew’s Presbyterian
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic
St. Francis in the Foothills United Methodist
St. John on the Desert Presbyterian
St. Mark the Evangelist Catholic
St. Mark’s Presbyterian
St. Mark’s United Methodist
St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal
St. Odilia Catholic
St. Philip’s in the Hills Episcopal
Temple Emanu-El
Third Church of Christ, Scientist
Tortolita Presbyterian
Tucson Community of Christ
Tucson Young Nak
U.U. Congregation of NW Tucson

ICS Community Partners:
American Red Cross, Southern Arizona Chapter; Pima County Community Action Agency; Pima County Community Development and Neighborhood Conservation Department; City of Tucson Human Services Department; Community Food Bank; United Way of Tucson and Southern Arizona; Robert Wood Johnson Foundation;
Pima Council on Aging
ICS Mobile Meals Partners:
Amber Lights
Campana Del Rio
Health South Rehabilitation Hospital
La Cañada Care Center
Mountain View Care Center
Northwest Medical Center
Northwest Medical Center, Oro Valley
Santa Catalina Villas

Supporting Groups:
Tucson Meadows Mobile Home Park
Desert Skies UMC
Presbyterian de Cristo
Chapel of Country Club of La Cholla