



Among Volunteers



MONTHLY E-NEWSLETTER FROM LITTLE BROTHERS - FRIENDS OF THE ELDERLY

NOVEMBER 2011



We're thankful for you!

It can't be said enough: Volunteers are the heart and hands of Little Brothers - Friends of the Elderly. We're proud that you've chosen our organization and the people we serve for sharing your time, talents and caring.

Our elders, too, are grateful for all you do as visiting volunteers, drivers, bakers, office support, animal-assisted companions, Friendship and Flowers visitors, interns, Board members and more. Here's a message from one of our elder friends who relies on your generosity:

"LBFE enhances my life and provides social, and literature, and holiday connections for me. (As an elder, that is life-saving!) I easily could be classified as an 'isolated senior' without your programs. Thank you! Virginia"

Countdown to Thanksgiving Day Dinner

We are SO excited for our big Thanksgiving Dinner, which will be held from 12-2 p.m. on Nov. 24 at the Prom Center in Oakdale. Thank you to the 94 volunteers and their families who have already stepped forward to share their holiday with our elder friends!

We still have the following volunteer needs to fill:

Driver/dinner companions - 11 a.m.-3p.m. Pick up elders and provide companionship during the meal.

Dishwashers - 12:30-3:30 p.m. shift.

Centerpieces - Centerpieces for approximately 30 round tables.

Pumpkin pies - Approximately 15-20 pies (eight servings each)

To volunteer, contact LuAnne Speeter at lspeeter@littlebrothersmn.org or **612.746.0753**.

Volunteer Time Reports for October Now Due

Take a moment to appreciate all that you do to bring companionship to elders! Please complete, then submit your monthly time report via email, fax, or mail to your LBFE staff contact. If you are unsure to whom you should submit your report, contact Dianne Feltham at 612.746.0732 or dfeltham@littlebrothersmn.org

Download a writable copy of the time report to fill out and e-mail back:

www.littlebrothersmn.org/volunteer/volunteer-forms.

Reporting of volunteer hours helps us to secure and maintain funding. *It's also a great way to recognize the value you bring to fulfilling LBFE's mission. Thank you* for your commitment to our elders.



Partner Spotlight

The League of Catholic Women's "Tuesday Club"

Twice a month, the Minneapolis League of Catholic Women draws isolated seniors and volunteers together for bingo and lunch through its social outreach program called Tuesday Club. It's a collaborative effort with LBFE, ElderCare, Northeast Senior Services and other groups within the area who share a common goal.

"The mission of Tuesday Club is to provide a social outlet for the isolated elderly," explained Sue Ready, Tuesday Club's co-chair. The Club was started over 15 years ago and it is the League's oldest outreach program. "It has evolved into a fun and popular midday event that provides fellowship in addition to bingo and lunch." Their team of volunteers consists of League members who cook for and serve the guests. The dedication and longevity of the volunteers who have been active since the start of the program start has impressed Kathleen Kennedy, the other co-chair. "The energy, enthusiasm and culinary skills of our members are amazing," said Kathleen.



LBFE volunteer Bridget Doyle (rt.) and elder friend Lorrene enjoy Patsy Cline Day at Tuesday Club in August.



The Fourth of July themed decor drew oohs and aahs.

Sue and Kathleen are impressed that many of the volunteers give up a part of their workday to pitch in. "We're located right downtown, so it's easy for workers to stop in to help cook and serve. Yet it means so much to our seniors, for whom this is often their only outing all week," said Sue. She believes the special touches, from the festive decorations to the imaginative menus, make it a memorable outing for the guests. "They even ask for our recipes," she added.

The co-chairs dive into the creative planning of each twice-monthly program. "We both have teaching backgrounds so we're compelled to attach a theme to each event," Sue joked. For example, in August, seniors and volunteers sported cowboy hats and bandanas for "Patsy Cline Day." Chocolate turkeys and a Christmas sing-along provided by Mary Hall are on the agendas for the next two events.

Sue didn't set out to minister to seniors, but when the League asked her to take on the leadership of the Tuesday Club with Kathleen, she was game. "I was used to working with children, so it challenged me to step out of my comfort zone and see what a difference I can make here."

Likewise for Kathleen, who didn't know much about the Tuesday Club when she accepted the co-chair position. "I had never met Sue, but since the start we have worked well together and continue to gain friends as new volunteers join." And she added, "This is what has made the League such a vibrant organization for the past 100 years."

The League of Catholic Women appreciates the partnership with LBFE and looks forward to more fun Tuesday Club activities together. LBFE is seeking volunteer drivers to bring elders to the Tuesday Club bingo lunches and provide companionship. Please contact Dianne Feltham at dfeltham@littlebrothersmn.org or **612.746.0732** to sign up.

“Refer-a-Volunteer” for a chance to receive an MOA coupon book!

LBFE is looking for volunteers!

By referring a friend or family member, you could make your holiday shopping a whole lot better. If you are an existing volunteer and refer another volunteer, you can be entered into a drawing to receive a Mall of America coupon book. The book includes coupons for restaurants, stores, hotels and more, and is set to expire by the end of 2011.

Referrals must complete all volunteer application forms and return them to LBFE by 11/21/30. Contact LuAnne Speeter at lspeeter@littlebrothersmn.org or **612.746.0753** for more information.

Join us at our memorial service

Monday, December 19, 4-5 p.m.

Where: LBFE, 1845 E Lake St, Mpls

We encourage anyone whose life has been touched by an elder we served to attend our memorial service. Each service includes a time of sharing memorable and touching moments, which we have found to be especially helpful in our healing process. Please contact **Josh Windham** at jwindham@littlebrothersmn.org or **612.746.0746** if you would like to attend.

DONATE

Support LBFE’s mission of providing companionship to isolated seniors in the Twin Cities.

www.littlebrothersmn.org/contribute

Orientation Sessions

Learn about LBFE's history, current programs and what the future holds in store for Minnesota's older adults. As a prospective LBFE volunteer, you'll gain valuable insights on working with older adults, handling various situations and LBFE practices and policies.

The session is FREE and essential for all volunteer companions - please join us!

Saturday, Oct. 8, 9 a.m.

Wednesday, Oct. 19, 5:30 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 12, 9 a.m.

Wednesday, Nov. 30, 5:30 p.m.

RSVP to LuAnne Speeter at lspeeter@littlebrothersmn.org or 612.746.0753.

Volunteer Department Information

For information about becoming a volunteer: contact LuAnne Speeter at 612.746.0753 or lspeeter@littlebrothersmn.org.

To volunteer for upcoming events (existing volunteers): contact Dianne Feltham at 612.746.0732 or dfeltham@littlebrothersmn.org.

Location: 1845 East Lake Street, Minneapolis, MN 55407

Office hours: 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m, Monday-Friday.

Volunteer opportunities and events: November and December

THANKSGIVING DINNER

Thursday, November 24, 12-2 p.m.

Where: The Prom Center, 484 Inwood Ave., Oakdale

See page one for volunteer opportunities

CHRISTMAS DINNER

Sunday, December 25, 12-2 p.m.

Where: Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, 285 N. Dale Street, St. Paul

Volunteer needs: [Click here](#)

Contact lspeeter@littlebrothersmn.org or 612.746.0753.

BINGO AND LUNCH

Tuesday, November 8, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Tuesday, December 13, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Where: Minneapolis League of Catholic Women
207 S 9th St, Minneapolis

Need: 5 drivers

Sponsored by Minneapolis League of Catholic Women

BIRTHDAY LUNCH FOR NOVEMBER

Wednesday, November 16, 12-2 p.m.

Where: LBFE, 1845 E Lake St, Minneapolis

Need: 3 drivers (2 Mpls. and 1 St. Paul)

FRIENDSHIP AND FLOWERS

Saturday, November 19, 9-11 a.m.

Saturday, December 17, 9-11 a.m.

Ongoing need for volunteer visitors

GENTLE YOGA

Mondays, Nov. 14, 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12, 19; 10-11 a.m.

Where: Hamline United Methodist Church
1514 Englewood Ave., St Paul

Need: 2 drivers

KNIT & CROCHET / CARD-PLAYING GROUP

Thursday, November 17, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Thursday, December 29, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Where: LBFE, 1845 E Lake St, Minneapolis

Need: 5 drivers

To sign up for opportunities, please
contact Dianne Feltham at
dfeltham@littlebrothersmn.org or
612.746.0732.

NEST NEIGHBORHOOD

BAKING

Needs: 2 prolific bakers or 1 group
Ongoing need for a total of 6-8 dozen
treats per month (bars, cookies, etc.)
Where: Bake at home; deliver to LBFE
at 1845 East Lake Street, Minneapolis.
For alternate drop-off site, contact
Dianne Feltham, 612.746.0732, or
dfeltham@littlebrothersmn.org.

BIRTHDAY LUNCHES

Tues., Nov. 22, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.

Thurs., Dec. 15, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.

Where: Our Saviour's Lutheran Church
674 Johnson Parkway, St Paul

Need: 1-2 drivers (St. Paul)



CHRISTMAS TEA / BIRTHDAY LUNCH FOR DECEMBER

Tuesday, Dec. 6, 11:30-1:30

Need: 10 drivers

*Sponsored by McGough
Construction*

CHRISTMAS TEA

Wednesday, Dec. 14, 12-2:30 p.m.

Need: 10 drivers

*Sponsored by Farnam Street
Financial*