



Serve In Our Community

**Throughout the year, English Lutheran Church also participates in many drives and fundraisers for our La Crosse neighbors. Be on the lookout for how you can help.**

**For information on any of these wonderful organizations, email  
the contact person.**

**Causeway** | Interfaith caregivers for senior citizens. Provide company, odd jobs, transportation, and more. Contact: [Mary Sween](#)

**Come for Supper** | 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday each month. Provide food and/or service for this free community meal. Contact: [Pastor Grow](#)

**CROP Walk** | October. A walk through the Coulee Region to raise funds and awareness for hunger.

Contact: [Kathy Hageseth](#)

**Donation Center** | Give and/or deliver to local charities through the ELC Donation Center.

Contact: [Mary Fitzpatrick](#)

**La Crosse Neighbor's Day** | Organized by Habitat for Humanity-La Crosse Area designed to help elderly and disabled individuals in the City of La Crosse spruce up their homes for spring. Usually a Saturday in April.

**Mobile Meals** | Day varies; 1.5 hour commitment. Pick up and deliver meals to shut ins.

Contact: [Karen Newburg](#)

**Sugar Creek Volunteers** | Summers, Tuesdays. Ground/building/gardening maintenance at camp. Contact: [Bob Weeks](#)

**WAFER Food Pantry** | Donate non-perishable food to our local pantry. Drop off at shopping cart in the narthex. Volunteer at pantry.

Contact: [WAFER](#)

**Warming Center for Homeless** | Fall/Winter at downtown location. Overnight volunteers needed in shifts and food donations. Contact: [Catholic Charities](#)

The La Crosse Warming Center is seeking your help! We are a local shelter in Downtown La Crosse, who serve up to 40 guests staying with us every night. From November 1<sup>st</sup>- April 30<sup>th</sup>, we provide a warm place and meal for people in our community who are without homes. We are currently putting together our dinner schedule and are seeking dinner donations. Here are a couple of ideas

that we have had donated before: Pizza, casseroles, spaghetti, hot dogs and hamburgers, pastas, soups, tacos, etc.

A few notes:

- Dinner needs to serve 40-45 people.
- Ideally a meal includes: A main course, a side (starch, steamed veggies, cold vegetables or salad), a healthy option of dessert/fruit, and juice or milk.
- Drop off between 5:30pm-6:45pm (the closer to 6:45 the better). If you need help with delivery, one of our volunteers could make arrangements, as well.
- It is best if the meal is delivered in disposable containers. Especially for the main course, it makes storing and reheating easier. If items are brought in personal containers or equipment, please make sure that they are marked with your name and arranged to be picked up at a later date.

Alternate Ideas:

- You can make this a pot luck idea within your business, have people sign up to bring items!
- Supplies are available from the Hunger Task Force; please tell them you're prepping a meal for the Warming Center. Hunger Task Force is a food bank located at 1240 Clinton St, La Crosse, WI 54603 where you can go and grab items for free for your dinner donation.
- It is not required to make these meals; you can also sponsor a meal through catering!
  - Warming Centre Roles
- The La Crosse Community Warming is open every day from November 1<sup>st</sup> through April 30<sup>th</sup> from 7:00pm until 8:00am. The center serves up to 40 adults each night. In arriving at our front door seeking shelter, most of our guests have fallen through every crack in our community support system. For them, this could be the last stop before sleeping on a park

bench or an out-of-the-way section of pavement in the dead of winter. We provide a truly life-saving service to our guests and make a difference in our community. The Warming Center is supported by hundreds of dedicated volunteers who generously donate thousands of hours of their time annually. Training is provided.

- **Questions and volunteer registration**  
**information requests for the first 2 Fridays of each month can be directed to Bridget Crave at [bridget@firstlu.org](mailto:bridget@firstlu.org). Other questions should be directed to Leticia , the Warming Center Coordinator, at [l Silva@cclse.org](mailto:l Silva@cclse.org) or 608-782-0710 ext: 1220**

- **Intake and Kitchen**

6:30pm-9:00pm, 6-10 volunteers per evening  
This is the busiest shift at the Warming Center and includes welcoming our guests at the front door, signing them into the shelter, helping with paperwork, checking their possessions into a tote, assigning chairs for the evening, and serving dinner. Volunteers on this shift have the greatest opportunity to interact with our guests. Volunteers often have time on this shift to just sit and talk with guests and other volunteers, play board games, and generally help make the center a welcoming place to be.

- **Overnights**

anytime from 9:00pm-8:00am, example: 9pm-11pm-12am, 9pm-3am, 3am/5am-8am

- **3-4 volunteers per evening**

The Warming Center stays open through the night and volunteers are needed to supplement the staff present on the overnight hours. Overnight shifts are flexible in terms of what part of the evening is covered; volunteers aren't expected to be at the shelter for the whole 9:00pm-8:00am period. The shelter is generally quiet during the overnight hours, so volunteers typically work on cleaning, laundry, and keeping

track of the sleeping room. Many volunteers bring a book, tablet, or crossword puzzle to occupy them during the quietest hours.

- **Early Mornings**

6:30am-8:00am, 1-2 volunteers per morning  
Volunteers are needed in the morning to help with putting out breakfast items, helping guests get their possessions out of the tote, cleaning, and generally helping guests get out the door by 8:00am so that business hours can start at 9:00am.

- **Meal preparation/Donation**

Drop off between 5:00pm-6:45pm each evening. If you drop off food in a non-disposable container, please pick up your container within 2-3 days.

We strive to foster an atmosphere of hospitality and openness at the Warming Center and, as part of that effort, we serve a hot meal each night that is prepared by volunteers. The meal is delivered ready to serve and is prepared for 40-45 people.