

# THE BRIDGE

GOD'S BODY SHARING HIS UNCONDITIONAL LOVE

January 2024

## Happy New Year from Us!



As a team, we start our new year by asking each other what God is speaking. We are eager to have the NEW things He wants to do in this year.

*"Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland."*

Isaiah 43:18-19

In 2024, we are thankful for the new daily mercies God promises and this is what enables us to look ahead with confidence. We know that He who began a good work in us will carry it on to completion.

We trust God to bring to pass all that He has for us, for you, and for this ministry.

## Community Christmas Lunch & Gift of Dignity



With the support of many volunteers, local businesses, churches, and other partners, we served 393 people with a traditional Christmas meal and a gift bag. One visitor wept as she got her gift bag. She had nowhere to go and would not have gotten a meal or gift if it was not for our celebration lunch. A volunteer shared how joyful she became as she felt the joy in the room. Joy is contagious!

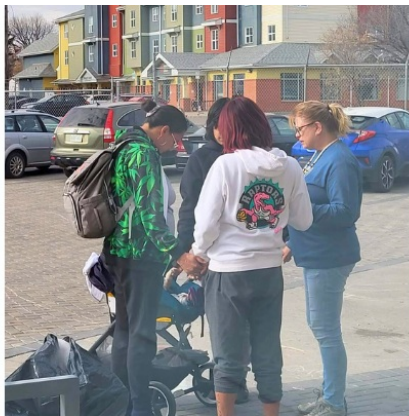
We know that we could not have reached our \$320,000 "Gift of Dignity" goal without the Lord. Thank you for doing your part to pray, donate, listen, and share our visitors' stories.

We want to sincerely thank all those who donated food, gifts, time, and funds to help make the Christmas Lunch and Gift of Dignity campaign successful.

[Christmas Celebration 2023 Recap](#)

[Gift of Dignity Recap](#)

## Coming Alongside the Hurting



Many people in our community are going through tough times as they start this new year. Since the beginning of the year: one of our visitors passed away in palliative care, another visitor overdosed and died, yet another visitor overdosed and survived after some resuscitation attempts, and a long-time volunteer lost his girlfriend in the ICU.

As a staff team, the weight of these losses has been heavy on our hearts.

Our ministry's mandate *"to meet the people where they're at, accept them as they are; for God's body to share His unconditional love"* has given us direction in how to respond to the pain around us.

Since Jesus is near to the brokenhearted, we too choose to be near to the brokenhearted.

***Here are some ways we were able to draw near to these people:***

- At the request of the visitor who passed away and her daughter, we were able to assist in planning her funeral. Staff members of The Bridge played key roles at the funeral, and volunteers who knew this lady from sewing and craft classes also attended the funeral. As a staff team, we have continued to pray for the family she left behind.
- The long-time volunteer who lost his girlfriend is in his 80s. He is currently sick in the hospital and taking the loss very hard. With no family to support him, two staff members came alongside him outside of regular working hours as he looked into moving into assisted living, selling vehicles, and reaching out to family members in other provinces.
- We had an opportunity to have a meaningful conversation with the visitor who was resuscitated after the drug overdose. He described his experience of waking up from resuscitation as similar to when he got baptized. He had previously walked away from his faith, but as the conversation progressed, he recommitted his life to Jesus. Hallelujah!
- While driving a man in critical condition to the emergency room, a staff member presented the gospel to this man. The sickness made this man know how desperate he was for Jesus and he received salvation on the spot!

As we come alongside people, our ongoing prayer is to be led by God's Spirit. The needs are great, but with God's help, we pray that we will continue to be led with compassion and wisdom to care for those the Lord has entrusted to us.



## 25th Anniversary Celebration



The Bridge will be 25 years old in March 2024. We are so thankful for God's faithfulness throughout the years! We will be hosting an anniversary banquet at Prairieland Park Hall B on Friday, March 22, 2024. Less than 2 months away! There will be delicious food, a worship time, and testimonies.

If you have not had time to purchase your ticket, please click the button below to get your ticket(s) or call Prairieland Park at 306.931.7149. Seats are limited.

[Get your tickets!](#)



## Current Opportunities

Volunteer opportunity: Our youth group needs meal groups. Meal groups are an essential part of our Friday night youth group. If you are interested or have questions please email our volunteer coordinator at [volunteer@thebridgesaskatoon.com](mailto:volunteer@thebridgesaskatoon.com)

Staff position: We have a Youth Assistant/Floor Minister position available. We are looking for someone who feels called to minister to the inner-city community of Saskatoon, with a focus on children and youth.

If you are interested or know someone who might be interested, please email Ryan Falk at [ryan@thebridgesaskatoon.com](mailto:ryan@thebridgesaskatoon.com). For more details on the position, you can check our website.



## Our Needs

**Coffee whitener**

**35" x 50" garbage bag**

**Men's & women's underwear**

**Men's & women's pants**

**L-XL nitrile gloves**

**Mitts**



## Finances

**As our team and facilities have grown, our financial needs have increased as well. We would like to invite you to prayerfully consider, or even increase, monthly or one-time giving to The Bridge.**

**Please note, when giving through our website, fees are deducted from your gift. But when you give by e-Transfer, we receive your whole gift.**

**Thank you for your partnership!**

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**DONATE**

**PRAYER TEAM**

*"The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit!"*  
**Psalm 34:18 (NIV)**

