

**TLCC** The Ladder Community Center  
Knowing Neighbors, Serving Together  
ΚΝΩΜΙΝΑ ΝΕΙΓΜΕΝΟΙΣ, ΣΕΙΛΙΝΑ ΤΟΔΕΡΤΕΙ  
ΤΗΕ ΓΑΓΓΕΙ ΣΩΜΜΑΝΙΡΑ ΣΕΥΤΕΙ

**THE IMPORTANCE OF PLACE**

“God has his eye on this place.” When a volunteer shared this simple insight we were encouraged and thrilled. You see, long before The Ladder Community Center existed, God had his eye on this building that sits in our village, in our county, and in our region. This ministry is the realization of a vision that God had and continues to have for our community.

“I saw a wall of fire moving from one end of our region to the other. The fire of God. People coming to know the peace, joy, hope, and freedom of our Lord.” When a neighbor shared this, we were moved and excited. God is at work not just here at The Ladder, but throughout the region.

We get to be a part of this movement. A reconciliation from old to new, death to life, out of darkness and into light. A holistic transformation of our community into something better.



We have said before that we have only just begun. It is true we are in our infancy and growing into maturity. This takes time and hard work but the amazing thing about growth is that it is tangible. We experience growth every day: when a new program starts, a middle school kid visits for the first time, or when we come to a deeper understanding of the work God is asking us to accomplish through this place.

Here, lives are transformed. Here, people encounter our God. Here, we see the kingdom of God realized.

Brian Beckman & Philip Santellan

**Our Vision**

To be a friendly, intergenerational, and ethnically diverse center aimed at uniting our community, knowing our neighbors, serving people, and transforming lives by following the example set by Jesus.

# †LCC The Ladder Community Center

Knowing Neighbors, Serving Together



ΚΝΩΜΙΝΑ ΝΕΙΓΜΕΝΟΙΣ ΖΕΙΝΟΝ ΤΟΔΕΤΕΡ

†LCC THE LADDER COMMUNITY CENTER

## Dare by Shawn Wallace



Ricky and Dare were married almost 43 years. “He made me strong, and that gave me a better outlook on life, Dare said. “I learned about hugging from

his family and it was wonderful; I blossomed. Before Ricky became sick, I had a full life.”

Dare informed me that she enjoyed many hobbies: stained glass, quilling and quilting were but a few. As Ricky’s illness progressed, Dare put outside life on hold to care for him full-time. After Ricky’s death, Dare spent 30 dark days in bed curled into a fetal position. “It was all I could do to exist,” Dare said.

On the 30th day, she heard Ricky say, “Dare, you know better.” That is when she realized that she needed an outlet.

Something that would be beneficial to her well-being.

She tried a few places, but what she needed was not there. Then she went to The Ladder. Dare explained, “Brian and Phil took me under

their wings. They offered emotional support and made sure I was eating healthy, which was something I had not been doing. One day I was non-stop grieving with tears and Brian put me in the office and let me be. It felt right to be there. They are very sensitive to people.”

I asked Dare in what ways she found support at The Ladder. “Brian, Phil and Charles are like big brothers looking out for me. They are supportive when I am down by including me in games, or involving me in activities like puzzles, cards, and crafts. That includes computer access because Phil helps me with email. I also participated in grief counseling classes. This place has made a big difference in my life. It feels like family here, and I feel valuable. I did not feel that way at home during the dark days. Brian and Phil take the time to check on me to see how I am doing.” Dare said they made her feel aware of her self-worth when they discovered what her gifts are, and that Brian and Phil have a way of drawing the good

out of a person.

Through their guidance and care, Dare gained confidence that she could keep putting one foot in front of the other on

her walk to healing.

“Brian and Phil polished off my outlook on

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*“This place has made a big difference in my life. It feels like family here, and I feel valuable.”*

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## Our Mission

For the youth and young at heart (older adults), The Ladder is a place to be yourself, have fun, interact with neighbors, experience opportunities for personal growth and be surrounded with compassion, care and support.

life,” Dare said. Emptiness had taken over her life, but she felt fulfilled as she became involved. Dare shared, “Brian and Phil have even called me at home to check if I am okay. That makes me feel self-worth, and that I matter. At The Ladder, I have made such an impression on people that they smile when they see me. My friends here, like Holly, are good to me.”

When you are visiting The Ladder and hear someone gleefully say, “The last two are mine!” It means that Dare has laid down the left and right bowers and laid claim to another euchre victory. Dare said “What I was looking for a few months back was closeness; I needed to belong and be accepted as I am. I needed someone to do things with me, like to put a puzzle together. I needed a reason to get up every day and a purpose to go on. The Ladder filled the void.”

### ***Did you know?***

The Ladder Community Center is an Age-Well Services congregated meal site. In the month of April alone, we served an average of 138 meals a week to seniors in our community.

There is a meal choice from three menus each day which offer a variety of tasty and healthy hot meals, sandwiches and



salads.

The cost is reasonable. If you are under 60, each meal is \$6.00. If you are 60 or older, it is suggested you give a donation between \$2.50 and \$6.00 per meal.

We are thrilled and grateful that we are able to offer the space for such a program to exist right here in Shelby. If you are interested in participating, please call or visit us for more information.

### ***National Day of Prayer***

On Thursday May 4, 2017, our nation came together in unity to pray. Here in Shelby we had three opportunities to pray. Thank you to the 61 individuals that joined us. There was an overwhelming feeling of unity and hope for our community and nation. We spent time in quiet

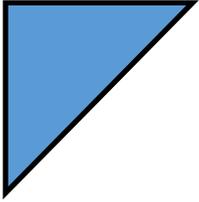
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*“If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.”*  
2 Chronicles 7:14 (NIV)

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prayer, group prayer, intercessory prayer, recited the Lord's prayer, read scripture, and worshiped our Lord together. Thank you to Wally Carrier, Chaplain of the American Legion, Father Tom Bolster of St. Gregory's & Our Lady of Fatima Parish and Reverend Sue Beckman for guiding us.

The Ladder Community Center is supported by prayer. We invite you to pray specifically for this community center. That God would watch over us and that He would continue to form and mold this place into His design.



**Meet Up and Eat Up**

Summer is on its way and here at The Ladder we are excited for what is to come. Once again we have the privilege of opening our doors to the Meet Up and

Eat Up summer feeding program. Beginning Monday, June 12, we will offer lunch Monday through Friday: 12:30 pm—1:30 pm. We request youth 5th grade and under be accompanied by a parent, grandparent, or adult. Youth eat free and adults pay \$2.00. Thank you to Shelby Public Schools for bringing Meet Up and Eat Up to our area through their Summer Food Service Program for Children.

**Summer Hours  
 To begin Monday, June 12**

**Young at Heart (55+)**

Monday thru Friday: 9 am - 3 pm  
 Tuesday & Thursday: (Exercise) 7 am — 9 am  
 Tuesday & Thursday: 5:30 pm — 8 pm

**Youth (6th thru 8th grade)**

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: 3 pm - 5:30 pm

**Youth (9th thru 12th grade)**

Tuesday & Thursday: 3 pm — 8 pm  
 Wednesday: 3 pm—5:30 pm

**Adults (18+)**

Monday Thru Friday: 9 am — 3 pm  
 Tuesday & Thursday: (Exercise) 7 am — 9 am  
 Tuesday & Thursday: 5:30 pm — 8 pm

**Take Action**

**Pray**

Join us in prayer for our community and the work that God is doing here! Call, email, or visit our website if you are interested in joining our Prayer Team or Prayer Partners.

**Volunteer**

Are you interested in serving at The Ladder Community Center? We would be thrilled to have you join our team. Call, email, or visit our website for more information.

*“As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God’s varied grace.”*

*1 Peter 4:10*

**Give**

- I have enclosed my donation of \$\_\_\_\_\_
- I pledge to give \$\_\_\_\_\_ monthly.
- I request to be added to The Ladder news and events email list.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City, ST, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send to:  
 The Ladder Community Center  
 67 N State Street  
 Shelby, MI 49455