

A Day in the Sozo Health Ministry *by Amy Rich*

Imagine that you have a medical procedure scheduled—a colonoscopy. Your doctor says it's important, and you believe him and start making arrangements so you can make it to your appointment.

You don't own a car, and neither do your good friends—the ones who would drop anything to help you out whenever you needed it. There does happen to be one person you can call who has a car, but she's not a close friend and it's a little bit of an imposition.

She agrees to take you, but the day before your appointment she changes her mind. Maybe she decided it will take too much gas, or maybe something else came up. Luckily she let you know before you began to prep yourself! You have to cancel your appointment.

The next day, you stop in at Patchwork, and you happen to talk to that guy who runs the Health Ministry there. Yes! If you can get another colonoscopy scheduled, he will drive you to it. So you do.

On the day of your procedure, he's there on time. During the car ride, you mention that you're afraid. Yesterday you felt a lump on your body. Is it cancer? He is reassuring and makes plans for you to come to Patchwork tomorrow where you can use the phone (yours isn't working), and he will help you figure out whom to call.

With the health ministry guy driving, you arrive for your colonoscopy on time and at the right office. You check in, and your driver is told he must stay until the procedure is over, something that neither of you expected. He assures you that all will be well, and he's not angry at having to wait.

You go back for the procedure, and the doctor realizes that you haven't been prepping for it for long enough. You knew you needed to start drinking the medicine last night, but the pharmacy is too far away for you to walk to get it. This morning was the soonest you could get someone with a car to bring you the medicine you needed, so you'd decided that would have to be good enough.

Your doctor decides that he can still do the colonoscopy today—but he will have to keep you till last. That adds three hours to your appointment. Your driver, the health ministry guy, will have to wait that extra time. But it's OK. He's willing, and he's here for support.

After the procedure is over, he takes you home and helps you understand what the follow up will be like. His presence made a difference, and you are grateful. You're not quite sure whether he's a nurse or a doctor or something else, but you're glad that your visit to Patchwork got you connected with him.



Thank You For Celebrating With Us!

We were overwhelmed by the support we felt during our celebration of Patchwork Central's 40th anniversary and Alan Winslow's 95th birthday. On July 14, Patchwork's commons room was packed with friends new and old, friends from Canada and friends from Texas, friends from Oregon and friends from Florida. The first couple to be married in a Patchwork ceremony was here as were four of Patchwork's six founders. Adults who attended the Arts & Smarts program as children brought their own children, as did past Mennonite Voluntary Service Workers who had taught in the Arts & Smarts program.

We are thankful for the memories shared, the connections strengthened, and new friendships built. We are grateful for the opportunity to pause and to celebrate, to see old friends and to reflect on the changes and struggles that 40 years have brought, to recognize the impact all of Patchwork's programming has had on the city of Evansville, and to appreciate all the people responsible for Patchwork's continued presence today.

We are also grateful for the outpouring of financial gifts to Patchwork in honor of our 40th and Alan's 95th. They will help us as we look toward the future and whatever the next 40 years bring!



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Eric Lester

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Helen Templeton
Sandhya Jha, grateful for John, Amy, & alternative
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Karen Lemond in honor of Joyse Rivers
Donald Carrell in memory of Judy Carrell
St. Paul's Lutheran Church in honor of Pastor Karen Husby
Laura Weaver in memory of Shamoo
Thomas Loesch Jr & William Hedel in honor of Tobi Loesch

*This list includes gifts received between 10/1/16 and 9/30/17.
We are very grateful for every donation we receive. While we
have worked to assure that this list is correct, we apologize for
any errors we may have made.*

Patchwork's Back to School Sale

It was Saturday, July 29, and children across Evansville were preparing to go back to school. Everyone remarked about how strange it felt to be preparing for a new school year in July. The day was gorgeous and unseasonably cool, which was perfect for the families lined up outside Patchwork's front door—some with lawn chairs, some with strollers, all waiting patiently for the doors to open.

We greeted families we knew, introduced ourselves to families who were new, and distributed information about our after school children's program. Once inside, the line snaked around the commons room, collecting generous bags of school supplies prepared for grades K-5, then a week's worth of new socks and underwear, and finally past tables of assorted school supplies to round out any requirements from the school.

Parents paid only a portion of the true value of the supplies they received. It was a way to help parents afford the sizeable expense of preparing for school while leaving room for them to make an investment in their children's education.

Alan asked one mother how she found out about the Sale. "I saw the big sign out front," she responded. "And I went here when I was a kid."

We've already begun shopping for next year's sale while school supplies are on clearance. We would welcome donations to Patchwork to help us cover the cost of these items. Please contact us if you or a group you know would be interested in helping!

By the numbers:

- 180 school kits distributed for grades K-5
- 3600 #2 pencils distributed in kits
- 1.5 hours: the amount of time it took for almost all the kits to be claimed
- 1520 boxes of crayons distributed in kits
- 1040 glue sticks distributed in kits
- 400 pairs of new underwear distributed
- 300 pairs of new socks distributed

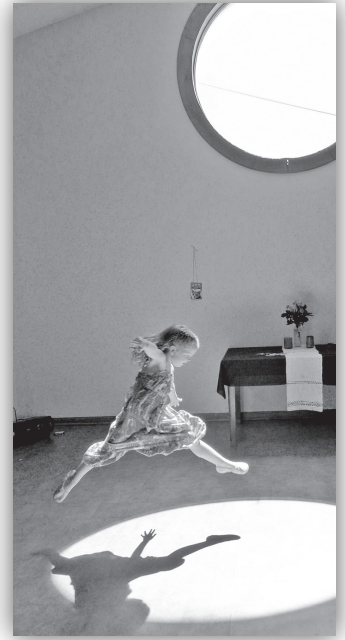


Summer at Patchwork

We had another fantastic summer in the Arts & Smarts Program and have launched into a new school year!

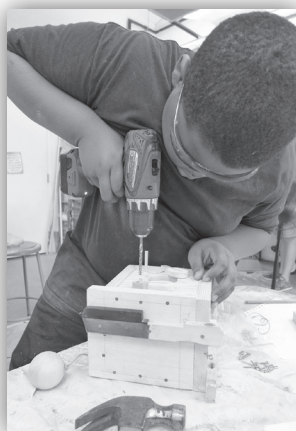
Highlights from the summer included:

- Telling the stories of Patchwork's founding and the creation of Welcome Matt with Susan Fowler.
- Planting and harvesting in Patchwork's garden with Pat Marienau and Bill Hemminger.
- Turning garden produce into healthy snacks for everyone in Patchwork's kitchen with help from Lisa Stephens and Laura Garrett.
- Creating quirky and beautiful ceramic mushrooms with Karley in Patchwork's studio.
- Constructing unique bird/fairy houses during two Sculpture Weeks with visiting artist Christian Smith.
- Finding joy in movement and dance during Dance Week with Sadia Brimm from the Children's Center for Dance Education.



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Summer at Patchwork (con't)



E-Newsletter

More Stories! More Photos! More News!

Sign up for our bi-weekly e-newsletter! You will receive email updates highlighting the most recent happenings at Patchwork.

Simply visit our website, www.Patchwork.org, and click the "join our mailing list" link!

Bequests

The next time you update your will, please consider adding Patchwork Central, Inc. as a beneficiary. As a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, Patchwork is eligible to receive donations from bequests. Any size of gift makes a big difference in providing for our programming and contributing to our long-term stability.

Sunday Worship

The Patchwork Community meets for worship every Sunday 5:15 p.m. at the Meetinghouse, 100 Washington Avenue, followed by a covered dish supper.

All are welcome!

Patchwork Central, Inc.

100 Washington Ave.

Evansville, IN 47713-1521

(812) 424-2735

www.patchwork.org

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Please be generous as you consider sending your cash contribution in the envelope provided for your convenience. Your generosity will help us continue the Patchwork tradition of providing these many creative programs.

PATCHWORK'S MISSION STATEMENT

Based in Evansville, Indiana, Patchwork Central, Inc creates community and encourages spiritual and social growth

by offering hospitality,
by providing opportunities for learning,
by fostering creativity and involvement in the arts, and
by working toward a more peaceful and just world.





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Updated photos, useful information, newsletters, online giving, and more!



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- Back To School Sale
- Thank You Donors!
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