

Solid Ground

Helping Families Build Strong Foundations

DECEMBER 2023

Wishing you the happiest of holidays from our family to yours!



Solid Ground families got in the holiday spirit thanks to a lot of help from **Redeemer Lutheran Church in White Bear Lake** and many amazing volunteers! They provided delicious food, activities, helped with transportation, and much more. We took holiday portraits, decorated cookies, made ornaments, enjoyed festive movies and music, and even Santa made an appearance!

Solid Ground

Holiday Express



And that's a wrap!

Deliveries are in!

Wrapped gifts are filling up all our extra spaces here at East Metro Place.

Thank you to the over 40 individuals, faith communities, families, and business groups who supported this year's Holiday Express.

Because of your generosity, over 60 families will receive gifts this week. That's 226 individuals who will have an even brighter and merrier holiday this year!

Thank you to Donors:

BC Davenport; Courage Kenny Physical Therapy - White Bear Lake; EcoWater Systems; Enterra Medical; Fitness Focus; Lux Family Chiropractic; Mahtomedi Book Club; Redeemer Lutheran Church; The Ryan Family; Target HQ - Media & Channels; Tenet; and White Bear Lake United Methodist Church

Thank you to Volunteers:

Jessica Walton, Katie Macke, James Knudson, Mark Solfest, Kevin Robb, Bill Conlin, Greg Moore, Al Kruger, Laura & Chad Heitman, Grace & Dawn Gunderson, Kristine Santi, Andy Drummond, Nancy Stutzman & Darrell Thorstenson, Victoria Lang, Laurie Hodges, Julie Soderlund-Ahn, Lori Rathburn, Megan Wilson, Sarah Johnson, Allyson Buck, and Lindsey Urbina



We appreciate our Amazing **Solid Ground Staff!**

The Board of Directors treated Solid Ground staff to a delicious holiday lunch and party at [Tria Restaurant, Bar & Event Center!](#)





Tutoring starts up January 8!

Welcome, Nicole!

Nicole Westlund is our new Tutor Program Coordinator & Family Educator. Originally from Bloomington Minnesota, she started working with youth through Americorps in Washington state in their virtual distance learning program. She is excited to be back home and hit the ground running!

Solid Ground's Tutoring Program is an afterschool program where students work one-on-one with volunteer tutors to continue academic learning, build positive relationships with peers, adults, and staff, as well as build confidence in themselves.

We are still looking for tutors Mondays through Thursdays, 2:30 - 3:30 pm, 3:30 - 4:30 pm, and 4:30 - 5:30 pm.

Last year's Tutoring Stats:

- 17 students completed the program
- 100% improved in reading & math (Average reading improvement was 3 levels)
- 23 tutors volunteered a total of 314 hours

Make Your Year-End Gift Now!



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