



Diocese of Davenport

WALKING TOGETHER IN FAITH

News

For Immediate Release

DATE: November 29, 2004
TO: Media
FROM: Deacon David Montgomery
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RE: "Café on Vine" (formerly John Lewis Café) Grand Opening

Merton House, Inc., a faith-based not-for-profit local organization founded by Monsignor Marvin Mottet, is pleased to announce the grand opening of a critical inner city meal site for homeless and low income individuals and families.

A community open house is planned for Monday, December 3rd at 10:00 a.m. to celebrate and be thankful for all the help from the community that made this possible. The Café on Vine is located on the corner of west 6th Street and Vine in Davenport. There will be a brief dedication and an opportunity for members of the media to learn about the Café.

When the John Lewis Café closed in August of this year our community lost an essential service program. Since that time many volunteers and several organizations have been working to fill this void. These include Saint Anthony's Catholic Church under the leadership of Father Jack Gallagher and the King's Harvest organization, a faith based evangelical group in Davenport.

Despite these valiant efforts, many people recognized the need to restore the charitable work provided by the John Lewis Café that had served an average of 150 people per day. Monsignor Mottet, Sister Bea Snyder of the Sisters of Humility, Nora Dvorak, a Social Action Volunteer Leader with the Diocese of Davenport and a number of other community leaders worked together with the Board of John Lewis Community Services to make this possible. After many hours of hard work by many community volunteers and the help of a number of contractors, along with an Emergency Grant from United Way of the Quad Cities Area, the Café on Vine is now open for business serving approximately 100 people per day. The Café is seeking volunteers to assist in serving meals, donations of food, and financial support to cover the costs of providing this essential service.

For more information or to help, please call the Café on Vine at 324-4472.