

Colleen's Contemplations – December 2011

It's not about the stuff.

This a phrase I've uttered and heard frequently over the years. Despite having a lot of stuff, needing a lot of space for the stuff, and giving out tons of stuff; it's still not about the stuff. No season reminds me of this more than Christmas. Every business is pushing the stuff. All the commercials are telling us about the stuff we need. At WNC we're rearranging the stuff, getting it ready for shopping days and the special events we host in December. There are hours of prep before any of our programs. Prior to the day, we figure out how to sort, package, and deliver the Christmas meal. Prior to kids shopping, we figure out how to collect, organize, and wrap all the gifts.

But it's still not about the stuff.

It's about caring for people who might not feel very cared for. It's about allowing people to retain a little pride in very humbling circumstances. It's about personally reaching out to neighbors and letting them know that someone else is aware of their struggle. It's about a hand up, not a hand out. Hands in hands, not stuff.

Sure, the stuff helps, but, it's so NOT about the stuff.

Thank you.

Colleen Woerner
WNC Store Manager