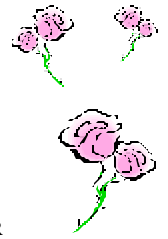




BRIGHT HORIZONS



REV. BRUCE HITCHCOCK, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

ANGIE BROWN, NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Our Limited Lives/God's Unlimited Love

Recently, I participated in a large group lecture that divided into small groups to brainstorm ideas to end poverty in the State of Ohio. The lecture was good. The instructions were clear. The questions was, "How do we tackle the roost causes of poverty?". The small group discussion went through a period of time determining who the "leaders" were going to be. Then, we started a series of observations and questions that led us away from our appointed task. Soon, we were in discussions about how to improve social service agencies, provide more funding to the agencies and designing job descriptions for the new staff we would hire. When the process was complete, we had not addressed the main issue at hand. This was very disappointing. A Pastor spoke out about how useless the conversation had been. I asked why we had never discussed the people living in poverty. Another asked why we refused to discuss poverty.

Congregations play this game too. We are called to a life of devotion to Jesus Christ and service in the Kingdom of God. We ask questions about discipleship. We observe the complexity of our lives. We turn worship into an exercise that holds God at arms length. We want to be close enough to God to see what is going on, but not close enough to be transformed. We are like the man

who asked Jesus, "Who is my neighbor?". Or, we are like the man who couldn't let go of his possessions to follow Jesus.

Our reluctance has many sources. We fear abandoning ourselves to God. That means dethroning ourselves as god of our lives. We would rather be masters of our tiny hovels/prisons, rather than be free children of God. We fear living without the creature comforts, goods and riches of this world. Greed is a powerful draw. We tend to hear sermons, read the Bible and be led by others down the path of discipleship for awhile. Then, we run back to where we were. Even the slaves of Egypt wanted to go back rather that live free and rely upon God. A big reason we have trouble following God is not simply the complexities of this life, but a failure of our imaginations when it comes to how capable, wonderful, willing, eager and how beautiful God is. We are terribly limited human beings, while God's love is without end.

Wouldn't it be great if all of us could abandon ourselves for the mercy of God and the fre of God within us? The flame of God burns in us all. Fanning it to a great roaring inferno is our task. Great God of all that is, burn within your people, burn within us.

~Love, Pastor Bruce

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School Supplies Giveaway

**Friday, August 22
9-12 and 1-3**

Urban Mission
301 North 5th Street
Stuebenville, OH 43952



Supplies for K-12

**Students must
be present.**

**Supplies will be given
directly to Students.**

Parents will not be
given bags.

Annual Street Carnival

Saturday, August 9, 2008

12:00 - 4:00 PM



If you would like to volunteer or make a donation toward this event, please call 740-282-8010.

FREE! Open to Everyone!

Volunteer Opportunity: Doll Doctor Needed



The Urban Mission Warehouse is home to a big crowd of previously loved dolls. Most of them need cleaning, clothing, hairstyles and repairs of various kinds. Please consider making the doll project a personal or group mission effort. One person could wash, scrub, and clean the dolls. Another could take care of any needed repairs. Yes, we even have a collection of spare parts! Someone else could style the hair. Still others could use their designing and sewing skills to make the dolls beautiful again. We can supply fabric, trims, and clothing patterns of various sizes for anyone who is willing to sew doll dresses. Finally, the dolls need to be wrapped to keep them clean until Christmas. This project can be continued year round or only during certain months.

We will gladly accept any gently used baby dolls and stuffed animals in good condition that no longer have playmates. The stuffed animals are also easily cleaned, brushed, and made to look new again. Some of the stuffed animals become prizes at the summer carnival. Restored dolls and stuffed animals are favorites at Santa's Recycle Shop.

This is a wonderful way to make Christmas a happy occasion for many children who happen to belong to low-income families. If interested, please call Sandra at 740-282-2911.

UM Awards Scholarships

Recently, Executive Director, Rev. Bruce Hitchcock, along with the Urban Mission Scholarship Committee presented the 2008 Robert E. Hutton Memorial Scholarships. Four \$750 scholarships were awarded to local students to assist in furthering their education.

About the Winners:



Alexander Clark-Stubbs: Alexander is a 2008 graduate of Brooke High School. He will be attending Bethany College in Bethany, WV in the fall. He plans to major in Business. After completing his education, Alexander plans to pursue employment in the field of business.

Bradley J. Miller: Brad is a 2008 graduate of Toronto High School. He will be attending the University of Akron in Akron, Ohio and majoring in Chemical Engineering. After completing his education, Brad plans to obtain full-time employment and to one day support a family.



Kayla K. Smith: Kayla is a 2008 graduate of Buckeye Local High School. She will be attending Howard University in Washington, DC and majoring in Psychology. After completing her education, Kayla plans to become a Psychiatrist.



Kenna Taylor: Kenna is a 2008 graduate of Edison High School. In the fall, she will be attending Kent State University in Kent, Ohio and majoring in Psychology. After completing her education, Kenna plans to become a Child Psychologist, working in clinics helping children and youth recover from extreme tragedies.

Congratulations to these deserving students. We pray God's blessings upon each of them as they continue on to greater things!

Thanksgiving Challenge

We're getting closer to our big Thanksgiving Basket distribution. It's time to collect: **Sweet Potatoes (18-20 oz can/1200 cans)** for this month's challenge. If you'd like more information about this, give Linda a call at 740-282-2911.

Back To School "Supplies & Funds Needed"



In a few short weeks, our children will be headed back to School. There are many low-income children whose Parents do not have the means to purchase all the needed school supplies.

In an effort to assist these children, the Mission will hold our Annual School Supplies Giveaway on **Friday, August 22, 2008** at Urban Mission, 301 North 5th Street. We are in need of the following items for the giveaway:

Crayons	Glue Sticks
Pencil Boxes	Scissors
Erasers	Notebooks
Markers	Colored Pencils
Folders	Filler Paper
Pens	Pencils

Please bring them to the Mission by **August 15**. You may also send in a monetary donation in the enclosed envelope. We appreciate your support!!

Local Conversations: Health Disparities in the African American Community

Neighborhood Community Development Center (NCDC) will host a Local Conversations Seminar on Friday, September 29, 2008 from 9:00 AM-3:00 PM at the Mt. Carmel Community Baptist Church, 708 North 5th Street, Steubenville. Dr. Betty Yung, Associate Professor at Wright State University will be the guest speaker for the morning planetary session.

Health care professionals and persons from the African American Community are invited to participate to provide information on the disparities in health care in the African American Communities of Jefferson, Belmont and Harrison counties. The information gathered will be compiled and a report will be sent to the Ohio Commission on Minority Health to be compared with the needs from other counties throughout the state. For additional information, please call Sharon Kirtdoll at 740-282-8010.

*Event sponsored by the Ohio Commission on Minority Health
Cheryl Boyce, Executive Director*

Parish Nurse News: School Safety

When people think about Back to School safety, they think only about elementary/middle school students. All students, teachers, and parents/guardians need to be considered when giving back to school safety tips. A few tips for elementary/middle school students, high school students, college students, teachers, and parents/guardians are given below. Some of the tips will overlap into other groups.

Elementary/Middle School students

- ? Practice bicycle and walking safety rules if you ride your bike or walk to school.
- ? Listen to your bus drivers and teachers about rules to keep you safe.
- ? Eat a good breakfast every day, either at home or school.



High School students

- ? If you drive, don't forget the speed limit around schools.
- ? Eat a variety of foods during lunch and avoid excessive amounts of junk food.
- ? Make sure you have time to study and still get enough sleep to do well in school.

College students

- ? Don't walk around campus alone after dark (this is important for both males and females).
- ? Keep dormitory doors locked, even if you are inside the room.
- ? Find a campus organization that you have common interests in to join, such as a religious group or group within your major.

Teachers

- ? Be aware of school and district rules to teach them to students.
- ? Practice and reteach safety rules with students if they are not following them.
- ? Practice and reteach playground rules after the winter months.

Parents/Guardians

- ? Check your children's lunch menu.
- ? Make sure your children are dressed appropriately for the weather.
- ? Make sure your children get enough sleep.

*This months article was written by Michalene's daughter,
Lisa King, who is an elementary school teacher.*



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Upcoming Events in August 2008

2, 16 & 23	Mission Rejoice Service	6:00 PM
4, 11, 18 & 25	Parish Nurse (Monday's)	11:00 AM
5	God's Pantry Hunger Committee Meeting	10:00 AM
6	Program/Evaluation Committee Meeting	2:00 PM
7	Neighborhood Community Development Cntr. Mtg. Greater Steubenville Community Dev. Corp. Mtg.	4:00 PM 5:00 PM
9	Annual Street Carnival (See pg. 2)	12:00-4:00 PM
12	Finance Committee Meeting	6:00 PM
19	Packing for Food Distribution	9:00 AM
20	Back to School Rally: Harding Middle School	6:00 PM
21	God's Pantry Food Distribution	9-12; 1-3
22	Urban Mission School Supplies Distribution	9-12; 1-3
26	CSFP Senior Food Program	1:00 PM
28	Urban Mission Newsletter Folding UM Board of Directors Meeting	9:00 AM 4:30 PM
30	No Mission Rejoice (Holiday Weekend)	Closed

Welcome
JOSHUA Work Teams

August 3-8, 2008
St. James Youth Group
North Salem, NY
Host Church: Richmond UMC

August 17-22, 2008
St. Timothy Lutheran
Bemus Point, NY
Host Church: Grace Lutheran

