



Bright Horizons

Urban Mission
January 2003

Rev. Bruce Hitchcock, Executive Director Deborah Schaffer, Associate Director

Angie Brown, Editor

Steubenville's Wiseman

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Human Relations Day Sunday, January 19

This is the first of the special day offerings set aside in the United Methodist Church. This special offering supports the work of the Community Developer Program, Social Justice Program, and Youth Non-Violence Offenders Program. This national program reaches the Steubenville District through the work of Sharon Kirtdoll, Community Developer, here at the Mission. You may receive additional information concerning this program by contacting her at 740-282-8010. She is available for speaking engagements throughout the year. To order resources for your congregations' Human Relations Day observance call 1-888-UMC-3242.

Epiphany is the forgotten child of Christmas taken over by marketing in America. It is funny how we want to take down the tree, put away the decorations and get back to "normal life" immediately following January 1. I suppose that the mid-October beginning of Christmas does make all of us weary of the theme. It is unfortunate that we do not celebrate a more sedate Advent/Christmas/Epiphany six-week holiday.

Did you know that we are just now getting to the Magi/Kings/Wise men visit? We know the story quite well and I won't repeat it. But I will tell you about a modern day wise man. This man, who works in a hot dirty mill decided that he wanted to see Jesus. He could not go on a long journey away from work, home and family as did the Wiseman so his search for Jesus begins and ends right here in Steubenville.

This modern day Wiseman is a good man. He

attends church and supports the church with his time, talent and finances. He prays, cares, gives, and serves. This man sees Jesus in his activities, relationships and devotions. But there was something different about this whole

"When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy . . . and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense and myrrh." — Matthew 2:10, 11

search for Jesus. Through the Bible, faith, the Spirit, and his Pastor the man came to realize that seeing Jesus for who He really is requires a sacrifice of self. So in addition to all that he does that is conventional religious practice, he decided that the best way to see Jesus is to give his lunch money to the poor through the Urban Mission.

Faithfully each month he shows up at the Mission

and leaves a jar full of change and one dollar bills. Like the Three Kings of old, this man brings his best gift to Jesus. His gift may not be frankincense, myrrh or gold, but the sacrifice has a pleasing aroma to the Lord, and the anointing is of the Holy Spirit, and surely this giving is more precious than Gold!

We are privileged to live in a time when we can see the Birth of Christ being played out. We are even more privileged to realize that the unique mystery of Faith invites us to participate in seeking out the Christ Child in our lives. During Epiphany celebrate the Light of the world in everything you do and say. Dare to take up the journey of faith and see where it leads. Through strange paths expect to find yourselves kneeling before the Christ Child offering your best and counting it a privilege and honor to be there!

Love,

Pastor Bruce

Calling all Churches

As we come to the end of another year we think back on all of the wonderful memories this year has provided. Some of those memories have been our Mission Rejoice services. Most of you were part of that and for those who have not we would like you to become a part of it.

For those not familiar with Mission Rejoice it is a service we hold on Saturday evenings. A host church will come and preach and prepare a meal for after the service. Some times a church chooses to do only one of those. This is a community effort for all denominations to come and minister to the poor and homeless in our valley. This is a place where many have given their lives

to Christ and where the hopeless can find hope. We very much want all of the local churches involved. We are now scheduling for next year. Please consider making this an annual event for you and your church. Perhaps you would like to have your youth group or Sunday School class come and prepare and serve the meal. All are welcomed. We have been very blessed by those who have come in the past and shared with us. If you would like to be a part of this awesome ministry, give Deborah a call at 740-282-8010.



One of our Mission Rejoice children enjoying dinner prepared by a host church.

An Overwhelmed Heart at Christmas

As I write my last article for the year 2002, I can really relate to Santa Claus. I have made my lists and checked them twice. And some of them have been checked more than that!! Next week will be one of the most heart-rending weeks of the whole year. By the time Thursday rolls around, Santa will have delivered lots of presents to be placed under many Christmas trees. Gifts will have been provided for 600 children and more than 150 teens.

And as I watch all of this come together, I can only imagine the feelings that are in Santa's heart at the end of Christmas Eve. There are so many emotions that are felt at this time of the year. And to know that we have helped Santa with some of his children, these emotions are also felt here. There are so many to

thank for bringing Christmas to Urban Mission in order to provide for the community. I could never begin to mention all of you. But you know who you are. And I truly thank you from the depths of my heart.

I have a bookmark on my computer that reads: "Friends are the flowers of life." This year has been such a bouquet for me. And as we bring another year to a close, I can only tell you that I look forward to working with all of you again in 2003. God bless each of you and your families with a wonderful, safe, healthy and happy holiday season.

Linda Poe, Program Director

Parish Nurse News: Winter Safety Tips

Now that winter has arrived, we need to review some safety tips for handling the cold weather.

- Wear protective clothing such as coats and hats.
- Wear warm socks with your shoes or boots and gloves on hands to prevent frostbite.
- Wear a scarf to cover your nose to prevent breathing cold air.
- After precipitation, check surfaces to see if they are slippery. (Never walk on icy surfaces)
- Be careful when removing ice and snow from sidewalks. (Do not over due it)
- Protect delicate skin during winter months with sun block. (Apply lotions/creams as needed)
- Use chapstick or special preparations on your dry lips.

Winter weather can be dangerous if you are not prepared. If you believe frostbite has occurred, seek medical attention immediately. Never rub the skin as it may lead to skin damage. Remember to take these steps to protect yourself during these cold winter months. It is better to be cautious and protect yourself to prevent injuries and illness.

**Michalene A. King, RN, Msed, MSN,
Associate Professor of Nursing, West Liberty College**

The Hutton House is in need of 2003 Calendars. If you can help, call Debra at 740-282-8903.

Martin Luther King Jr. Community Celebration

Saturday, Jan. 18: Kickoff Community Celebration: 7 p.m. at Mt. Zion Baptist Church, 221 N. 7th St. Presentations will be given and there will be singing by the MLK memorial mass choir.

Sunday, Jan. 19, 6 p.m.: Community Ecumenical Service: Quinn AME Church, 515 North Street. 27th Anniversary service by the Martin Luther King Association. Speaker: Dr. J. Alfred Winsett of Pittsburgh.

Monday, Jan. 20, 10:00 a.m.: Commemorative March

Monday, Jan. 20, 11:30 a.m.: Community Celebration at Steubenville High School with the MLK Memorial Mass Choir and Youth Choir under the direction of Dolores Wiggins; choirs, essays, and readings from area high schools students.

(All events are free and open to the public. Sponsored by Jefferson Community College and The Martin Luther King Association and Sky Bank)

"Home" for Christmas

Christmas at Hutton House was truly special this year. Thanks to the help of Salem UMC and other special donors, children and adults alike had a "little something" special under their tree this year. Even though these families will only call the Hutton House "home" for a short time, it is wonderful to be able to celebrate Christmas at "home" with not only natural gifts but the gift of love from those in the community, willing to share of themselves. Christmas was indeed wonderful for our families because of the love that each of you has shown by supporting the Urban Mission Ministries.

Debra Bryant, Hutton House Director

ANNUAL MEETING AND SCHOLARSHIP DINNER

On **Saturday, February 22, 2003**, the Mission will be having its **Annual Meeting and Scholarship Dinner** at Calvary Pentecostal Church, 255 North Fifth Street, Steubenville. It will be an evening full of food, fellowship, and inspiration that you will not want to miss. The **business meeting will begin at 5:00 PM, followed by the dinner at 6:00 PM**, and concluding with a **special service at 7:00 PM**. We invite you to be a part of this important evening. You will find a reservation form below. Please fill it out and return it with a check - **tickets are \$17** per person. **Deadline for the tickets will be February 14, 2003.**

Please consider donating extra monies directly to the Hutton Memorial Scholarship Fund. The Scholarship Dinner is the vehicle through which we endeavor to raise funds necessary to provide low income persons an opportunity for further education. We are again offering four \$650 scholarships. Your donations are needed as they will make a difference in the lives of needy youth. Hope to see you at the Dinner. It will be a wonderful evening. If you have any questions about purchasing tickets, or making a contribution to the Scholarship Fund call Deborah at 740-282-8010. **Again, we would like to remind you this is a FUNDRAISER for the Scholarships. Part of the dinner tickets goes to the Scholarship Fund.**

If you know anyone who would benefit from a Hutton Memorial Scholarship, please call Deborah for an application or send a self addressed stamped envelope and one will be sent.

RESERVATION FORM URBAN MISSION ANNUAL MEETING & SCHOLARSHIP DINNER FEBRUARY 22, 2003

Church/ Organization/ Individual _____

Contact Person _____ Phone _____

TICKETS MUST BE PREPAID

Number of Dinner Reservations _____ Amount Enclosed (\$17 each) _____

*Tickets to be picked up _____ Name of Person picking up Tickets _____

I have tickets (Please write in the number on the tickets) _____

If you would like your tickets mailed, please enclose a **stamped, self addressed envelope**.

Robert E. Hutton Scholarship Fund Contribution \$ _____ enclosed.

RESERVATION DEADLINE: February 14, 2003

Mail to: Annual Dinner 2003
 Urban Mission
 301 North Fifth Street
 Steubenville, OH 43952

January 2003

**Urban Mission Ministries, Inc.
301 North Fifth Street
Steubenville, OH 43952**


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U.S. Postage
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Upcoming Events in January 2003

1	New Years Day-Mission Closed	
4	Mission Rejoice	6:00 PM
6	Parish Nurse	11:00 AM
7	God's Panty Hunger Committee Meeting	10:00 AM
10	Program Committee	9:30 AM
11	Mission Rejoice	6:00 PM
13	Parish Nurse	11:00 AM
14	Packing of OH Distribution Bags	9:00 AM
14	Finance Committee Meeting	6:00 PM
16	God's Pantry-OH Food Distribution	9-12; 1-3
18	Mission Rejoice	6:00 PM
19	Human Relations Day	
20	Martin Luther King Jr. Day-Mission Closed	
21	Packing of WV Food Distribution Bags	9:00 AM
23	God's Pantry-WV Food Distribution	9-12
25	Mission Rejoice	6:00 PM
27	Parish Nurse	11:00 AM
29	Lupus Meeting-Trinity East	6-8 PM
	<i>Bible Study every Friday at the Mission by Min. Toni Hubbard</i>	4-6 PM



The Hope Box
Our needs are:

- Electric Palette
- Three (3) gifts of \$5000 *(warehouse mortgage)*

Annual Volunteer Luncheon
The year 2002 is now gone, but what a record left behind by the volunteers who came to the Urban Mission! It is now our time to serve you, just as you have served others. If you have volunteered any time at the Mission in 2002, we invite you to share in this time of fun, food and tons of fellowship. This is our way of saying, "Thank You". More information to come later.
**Please RSVP by February 7, 2003.
Please call 282-2911 or 282-8010**