



Bright Horizons



Rev. Bruce Hitchcock, Executive Director Deborah Schaffer, Associate Director, Angie Brown, Editor

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Good News for Hutton House!

The Hutton House Homeless Shelter is back to full capacity with 14 units operating! We have rented a three story apartment building across from the Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center. This has been an issue for many months. We have worked hard to find a place with no luck. Suddenly, God dropped this building into our laps. Sometimes it pays to wait patiently. Thank you for your prayers and work as we rehabilitated the 7th Street Shelters. That work is now complete. In preparation for the families, Hutton House is in need of several items, including Complete Single Beds, Sofa Beds, Refrigerators, Stoves, Complete Kitchen sets (Tables and Chairs), Curtains & Hooks, Cleaning Supplies, Mops Dust Pans, Dish Drainers and Cleaning Supplies. If you can donate any of these items, contact Debra at 740-282-8903.

Generosity Among Poverty

In the past few years the Upper Ohio Valley has had an obsession with economic news. In particular the steel mill saga of job loss, pay cuts and benefit loss has dominated the news of the valley. We have gained some business and this too is a major focus. Some how, any economic news is soon turned into bad news. After all the new jobs are not the same as the jobs we lost. It is almost as if we crave bad economic news. Perhaps we are addicted to the bad news?

The sad thing about this unhealthy focus on economics is that it dominates all other aspects of life. There is good news out there. It is all around us. At the Urban Mission we focus our work on meeting the needs of the impoverished. Poverty is growing, and so is the generosity to meet the need. That calls for praising God!

There is another kind of poverty that stalks our land. It is hidden behind a façade of success, wealth and materialism. Spiritual and moral poverty is rampant. In our mind's eye we can see the images of children dying of malnutrition, bellies extended, bones prominent, flies everywhere, and death just around the corner. I wonder what a person who is spiritually malnourished, looks like? I suppose that person does not look any different than you and me.

We crave success to the point that we consider sports teams who finish second losers. The desire for money drives many people to do crazy things. We spend the children's milk and bread money on the lotto because we just know we are going to hit the big one. We often define ourselves by the vehicle we drive, the cost of our home, and kind of clothes we wear. The desire for success,

money and material things is the very focus that leaves us spiritually bankrupt.

This nation by far is the greatest wealth producing country in the history of the world. Our morals are so messed up that we cannot prevent homelessness and hunger, nor can we provide healthcare and a decent education for our children. The wealth is easily available to us to achieve a basic standard of living second to none, but we lack the will to share. Christianity calls us to focus on the spiritual riches of Jesus Christ. Christ centered lives are powerful and simple. In the Christ centered life we pray, read the Bible, give of our time, talent and money, and we serve others. We build relationships of love through these simple activities. We share the love God has for us with others. The wonderful thing about God's love is that there are no qualifications for receiving this love, nor are there qualifications for giving this love to others.

Peace, hope, love, kindness, compassion, strength, faith, a clear heart and mind are the fruit of prayer, giving and serving. Pursuing success, money and stuff will never lead to the qualities that make us whole and complete people. While we suffer through economic difficulties the place of prayer, giving and serving still provides wealth beyond measure. Our issues in the valley are spiritual, moral and grace based. Pursue God through prayer. Look for Jesus deep in your heart. The journey within is truly the undiscovered country where God will meet you. Give to the poor. Serve the needy. These are the activities of Jesus Christ. These are the activities that will make you wealthy.

Love, Pastor Bruce

Mission's Angels

There is a song that a lot of us are very familiar with. Some of the words to this song are as follows: "Count your blessings, name them one by one. Count your blessings, and see what God has done."

As we begin to close the door on one year and open another door to a new year, it is time for each of us to count those blessings. We should look back during the year and look at our times of troubles and struggles. And then compare the troubles and struggles to each time we were blessed with something good. I'm sure the later will outweigh the other.

It has been another successful year in the programming of Urban Mission. And the success can be attributed to the planning, preparing and patience of the committees who work together with the staff to make these programs work.

There are many folks working behind the staff to assist in providing these programs. In fact, there are so many of these folks, I could not begin to mention everyone's name.

Without these friends, our work could not be done. These friends are indeed another great blessing to Urban Mission.

But the largest attribute goes to the folks whom we as the staff of Urban Mission are privileged to serve. Working together to meet the needs of our friends coming to us for help and being able to provide this help is a great blessing to each of us.

Perhaps what we should do as we start a new year is to take one day at a time and count our blessings. At the end of each day, make a list of all the blessings we were given during the day. I wonder how many pieces of paper we would have at the end of the year!

Thank you to everyone (our Angels) who came to assist the staff in helping our friends in need during 2003. Please continue to support us with your time and your prayers in 2004. God bless each of you.

-Linda Poe, Program Director

NCDC News

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebrations

Musical Concert

Saturday, January 17, 2004, 7:00 PM: Musical Concert honoring the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Featuring the Martin Luther King Memorial Mass Choir under the direction of Mrs. Delores Wiggins. Mt. Zion Baptist Church, 221 North 7th Street, Steubenville, OH.

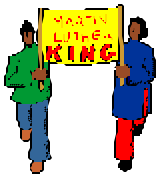


28th Annual Martin Luther King Memorial Service

Sunday, January 18, 2004, 6:00 PM: Guest Speakers include Rev. Neriah Edwards, Canton District Superintendent of the United Methodist Church, Dr. Patricia Fletcher, National President of Colored Women Federated Clubs, Michael Herman, City Councilman At-Large, Ruel Mitchell, NAACP President and Delores Wiggins, Ohio Valley Black Caucus President.

Memorial March

Monday, January 19, 2004, 10:00 AM: Memorial March from Martin Luther King Center to Steubenville High School. March will be followed by a special program at Steubenville High School at 10:30 AM. All children and youth are asked to attend this Monday Celebration.



Parish Nurse News

Peripheral vascular disease is the name given to diseases of the arteries and veins that occurs primarily in the arms and legs. Arteries carry blood with oxygen to all parts of the body. Lack of oxygen will initially cause pain. Decreased oxygen can eventually lead to tissue death.

Arterial peripheral vascular disease is caused by atherosclerosis. When arteriosclerosis happens, blood flow is decreased. The person develops symptoms of peripheral vascular disease. Early arterial peripheral vascular disease of the legs is called intermittent claudication, cramplike pains in the calves caused by poor circulation of blood to the leg muscles. Intermittent claudication occurs when the person exercises his/her legs. When we exercise the blood flow increases to areas of our body. This increased blood flow brings oxygen to the tissues. When the blood flow is decreased due to arteriosclerosis, the tissues of the legs do not receive enough blood and oxygen. The result is intermittent claudication. If the condition is not treated, the blood flow will continue to decrease. The person will eventually develop symptoms of arterial peripheral vascular disease. Treatment of arterial peripheral vascular disease can include medications or surgery. Medications can include cholesterol-lowering drugs and/or medications that increase the blood flow. Bypass surgery can be done to improve the blood flow. Arterial peripheral vascular disease can be treated, but the best treatment is prevention.

-Micahlene King, RN, MsEd, MSN

ANNUAL ROBERT E. HUTTON SCHOLARSHIP DINNER

On **Saturday, February 21, 2004**, the Mission will be having its **Annual 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 **dinner will begin at 6:00 PM** and conclude 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 or money order. **Tickets are \$17 per person. Deadline for the tickets will be February 16, 2004.**

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. We 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 SCHOLARSHIP DINNER FEBRUARY 21, 2004

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 **self addressed, stamped envelope**.

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

RESERVATION DEADLINE: February 16, 2004

Mail to:
Annual Scholarship Dinner 2004
Urban Mission
301 North Fifth Street
Steubenville, OH 43952

January 2004

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

Phone: 740-282-8010

Fax: 740-282-8514

**E-mail: mail@urbanmission.org
www.urbanmission.org**

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Upcoming Events in January 2004

1-2	Happy New Year: Urban Mission Closed	
3	NO MISSION REJOICE	
5	Parish Nurse	11:00 AM
6	Hunger Committee Meeting	10:00 AM
7	Program/Evaluation Committee Meeting	2:00 PM
8	Ministries Council	5:00 PM
10	Mission Rejoice	6:00 PM
12	Parish Nurse	11:00 AM
13	Packing of Food Distribution Bags	9:00 AM
13	Finance Committee Meeting	6:00 PM
15	God's Pantry: Ohio Food Distribution	9-12; 1-3
17	Mission Rejoice	6:00 PM
19	Martin Luther King Jr. Day: Mission Closed	
22	God's Pantry: WV Food Distribution	9-12
22	Board of Directors Meeting	4:30 PM
24	Mission Rejoice	6:00 PM
26	Parish Nurse	11:00 AM
27	CSFP Senior Food Distribution	1:00 PM
28	Lupus Support Group Meeting	6:00 PM

Lupus Support News

We now have two Lupus Support Groups! Walter and Pat Howard will again be conducting a support group meeting in addition to the one conducted by Janis Russell. Lupus patients may attend either meeting. Both meetings are held at Trinity Medical Center East. Please call me at 740-282-8010 for additional information regarding dates and times.

**-Sharon Kirtdoll
Community Developer**