

Bright Horizons



Rev. Bruce Hitchcock, Executive Director

Angie Brown, Newsletter Editor

JULY 2004

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MATH EXCELLENCE WORKSHOP

Wednesday, July 21, 2004
9:00 AM - 12: 30 PM
Steubenville High School
420 North 4th Street
Steubenville, Ohio



Come and join us for a fun filled day designed to improve Math skills in Elementary School Students Grades 2-5. To register, please call Urban Mission at 740-282-8010.

A light breakfast and lunch will be provided.

Sponsored by: NCDC/Urban Mission, Jefferson Community College and Steubenville City Schools

JOSHUA: A Service of Love

Summer time means J.O.S.H.U.A. time! Journeys Of Service Helping Upper Appalachia exudes energy and joy. The missionaries are eager to work and fellowship with the families they serve. They are highly motivated to serve in the Unity Kitchen, pack and distribute groceries and have extreme amounts of fun! The spirit of service and joy is infectious. Church of the Lakes in Canton started us off with a huge project that required the volunteers to stretch themselves to the very limit. The brothers and sisters were challenged to rebuild the remains of a home lost to an electrical fire. The work involved burning and removing debris from the fire, the remains of the roof and second story and preparing the sight for building. Then the group put on the floor of the second story, rebuilt the outer walls and rebuilt the interior walls.

The extensive nature of the work made the project difficult. At one time four men over seventy were working on the house. It rained on and off the whole week. Many of the ladies worked at the building site. Some of the ladies volunteered at the Mission. Everybody in the group worked hard and slept well! This sacrificial effort won the hearts of everyone who witnessed the work. The Herald Star Newspaper blessed the effort with a two-page story. Praise God for Church of the Lakes UMC!

Other groups have arrived and are painting, cleaning, tearing down and building up! The process is both physical and spiri-

tual. Those receiving the work are amazed and blessed by those who love the Lord. Those working are amazed and blessed by God who calls them to ministry in the Kingdom of Grace. People are sometimes dumbfounded by the fact that God does indeed call and use them for good in our world. People feel good about new living conditions and people feel very good about serving God! Having fun is only one of the many blessings of J.O.S.H.U.A. in particular and serving God in general.

Ask yourselves what God wants you to do and be. There is no question of greater importance to Christians. Many look at summer time as a let down in work

time and an increase in leisure time. Perhaps our mindsets need to be expanded to consider summer time to be God's time. There are ministry opportunities all around you. There are children to love, house bound friends to care for and houses to rehab. In the midst of this activity God rehabs the heart and soul of all who serve and receive. If summer time is meant to renew, refresh, or restore us, there is no better way than serving others and being blessed by God through mission work. Renew your soul by serving someone, somewhere with no other motivation than loving and being loved. God provides a rich harvest of grace and fellowship for all who care for others.



-Love, Pastor Bruce

The Faces of Hunger

I recently received the June 2004 issue of the newsletter, Feeding the Mind. This is the newsletter issued by Mid-Ohio Foodbank. I found this article particularly interesting and would like to share it with you.

“Pantries Feed Kids and Grandparents”

“The comparisons vary some from region to region, especially from urban to rural areas, but a basic set of numbers sticks out: most food requests at pantries are for children or for senior citizens.

Food pantries file monthly reports showing how many households and how many individuals they serve. They also show us how many of the individuals fed at pantries are infants under one year old, how many are children one to 17 years old, how many are 18 to 59, and how many are 60 years of age or older. We are able to compare counts in counties, and in regions: urban, suburban, and rural.

Our analysis of these statistics produces some interesting information, especially when we compare statistics from Franklin County pantries to statistics from pantries in thirteen rural counties. In 2003, 44% of food requests at Franklin County pantries were for children; in 13 rural counties, only 35% were for children. This significant difference is offset by the fact that food requests for seniors are higher in the rural areas (9% in the city, 13% in rural areas).

When we look at all the statistics together—urban, suburban, and rural—we find that though there are differences from one region to another, the end result is the same. Though the age group 18 to 59 makes up well more than half the population, kids and grandparents make up more than half the individuals assisted by pantries. We should not be surprised, as government statistics consistently tell us that poverty is particularly prevalent among the very young and the very old.”

We don't track the ages of persons served at shelters and soup kitchens, so we can't make similar comparisons among the clients they serve. But we do see the real faces that hunger affects each month as they come to the Mission for help.

We are one of the pantries/soup kitchens that turn in these figures to the foodbank. And we are constantly telling everyone of the need that is in our area. This article helps to confirm this need. It also helps everyone to realize that the need is all over the State of Ohio. There is a need and we must continue to work to meet it.

Thank you to everyone for your continued support of Urban Mission. Without your support we could not continue to provide the programs that we do. Bless you for what you have done and will continue to do. *“The manner of giving is worth more than the gift.”* - PIERRE CORNEILLE

-Linda L. Poe, Program Director

The Joy of Servanthood

There is a lady who comes to the Mission. She is aging and limited in what she can do. Her involvement is limited to coming to lunch and Mission Rejoice once in a while. Today she discovered her ministry at the Mission. She loves to bake! We supply her with the ingredients and she bakes cakes for Unity Kitchen. The people love her fresh cakes for dessert.

I was captivated by the look on her face. Her expression of sheer joy and happiness while delivering the cakes radiated power and wholeness. She discovered her calling in Christ and was more than content. Light shined from within her soul for all to see on her face. All of her limitations were overcome by her willingness to love people.

The witness of serving God is wonderful to behold. It renews the joy of all who have the pleasure of seeing beauty and wholeness in service. May you have the joy of seeing a servant shine in service to people and God. Even more, may you experience the joy of communion with Jesus Christ in serving God's people.

Mission Rejoice Picnic

Another Summer is here and it's time for our Annual Mission Rejoice Picnic. It will be held at Belleview Park on Saturday, July 24, 2004 from 26 PM. Join us for swimming, bingo, food and fellowship.



Community Youth Program

The Community Summer Youth Program sponsored by Urban Mission, Quinn AME Church, Calvary Fifth UMC and First Westminster Church is underway! The program will run through August 6, 2004, Monday through Thursday from 12-4 p.m. Several field trips are planned and many activities designed to enrich the lives of the children in this community. Plans are also underway for the end of the year street Carnival. The Carnival, set for August 14, is a free day of fun, food, games and prizes for children and adults. Would you like to help with the Carnival by providing games, prizes, food, a donation or by volunteering? If so, give Jacky or Cory a call at 740-282-8010 and get involved in this awesome event!

Help Needed

Today I toured the warehouse. It was good to see the disciplined order of the food and the processes we use to manage the product. We are ready to begin packing for the next distribution. The Thanksgiving Basket products are already being gathered. The reclaimed floor is neat and up to date with sorting and labeling donated food. Everything looked good except for one detail, we do not have very much food on hand. Our distributions usually go down in the summer. They have gone down some as usual, however many new folks are signing up to receive food. The steel layoffs and the retired folk cut off from earned benefits are beginning to appear at the Mission.

I appeal to the good people who makeup Urban Mission Community to consider donations of food and money to purchase food. The need continues to grow while those who support us remains the same or are no longer able to support because of lost jobs and wages. If you are supporting us, praise God! If you are not supporting the hunger ministry, please consider the Mission. Call me or come visit. Let me show you what we do and who we serve.

-Pastor Bruce, Executive Director

Thanksgiving Challenge

It's a new month and time to collect a new item! How did everyone do with the chicken noodle soup? Well, it's time to move on and collect Cranberry Sauce (1200 cans). Your help with this project is greatly appreciated, as it helps to cut down our food costs. If you would like to be a part of this challenge, give Linda a call at 740-282-2911.

Back to School

Summer vacation is in full swing! However, we are already preparing for the Back to School giveaway. It's time to collect those school supplies for those in need in our community. Call us to see how you can help meet the need.

Parish Nurse News: West Nile Virus

For the past few summers, we have heard a lot about the West Nile Virus and infection. The weather is warm now and we are spending a lot of time outdoors. Let's take a minute to discuss West Nile Virus infection and tips to prevent the transmission of this infection.

West Nile Virus infection is primarily spread to people through the bite of an infected mosquito. West Nile Virus infection can also be transmitted through blood transfusions, organ transplants, breastfeeding or during pregnancy from the mother to the baby. People infected with the virus typically develop symptoms in 3 to 14 days after infection. The symptoms of an infection affect the central nervous system. There are three classifications of symptoms:

- No symptoms—80% of infected persons
- Mild symptoms including fever, headache, body aches, nausea, vomiting, and sometimes swollen lymph glands or a rash on the chest, stomach, and back—up to 20% of infected persons
- Serious illness including symptoms of high fever, headache, neck stiffness, stupor, disorientation, coma, tremors, convulsions, muscle weakness, vision loss, numbness, and paralysis.

There is no specific treatment for West Nile Virus infection. With mild infection, the symptoms are treated. Persons with more severe illness usually need to be hospitalized. To reduce your risk of infection, the Centers for Disease Control recommend the following measures, avoid mosquito bites, mosquito-proof your home, and help your community. To avoid your risk of mosquito bites,

you should apply an insect repellent containing DEET to exposed skin whenever you are outdoors, wear clothing that can reduce your risk for insect bites. This clothing includes long-sleeves, long pants, and socks when outdoors. Spray your clothing with a repellent containing permethrin or DEET to give you extra protection (**don't spray the permethrin directly on your skin**). Do not spray repellent containing DEET on the skin under your clothing—only spray DEET on exposed skin.

The second measure to reduce your risk of West Nile Virus infection is to mosquito-proof your home. You should drain any standing water around your home. Install or repair screens for windows and doors.

The third measure to reduce your risk of infection is to help your community. Clean up areas in your community in which mosquitoes may breed. This includes vacant lots, parks and any other areas where there is standing water. Another measure is to report dead birds to the proper local authorities.

In summary, we all like to spend time outdoors in the summer. One problem with spending time outdoors is insect bites, especially mosquitoes. Mosquitoes are known to carry the West Nile Virus. Most cases of West Nile are mild, but there is a chance that the infection can be serious or deadly. You can take measures to reduce your risk of contacting the infection. For more information about West Nile Virus infection, you can contact your local health department or visit the CDC website at www.cdc.gov.

-Michalene A. King, RN, MEd, MSN

July 2004

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Upcoming Events in July 2004

3	No Mission Rejoice (Independence Day Holiday)	
5	Mission Closed for Independence Day	
6	Hunger Committee Meeting	10:00 AM
7	Program/Evaluation Committee Meeting	2:00 PM
8	Ministries Council Meeting	5:00 PM
10	Mission Rejoice	6:00 PM
12	Parish Nurse	11:00 AM
13	Packing of Food Bags Finance Committee Meeting	9:00 AM 6:00 PM
15	Ohio Food Distribution	9-12; 1-3
17	Mission Rejoice	6:00 PM
19	Parish Nurse	11:00 AM
21	Math Excellence Workshop	9:00 AM
22	West Virginia Food Distribution Board of Directors Meeting	9-12 4:30 PM
24	Mission Rejoice Picnic (No Mission Rejoice Service)	2:00 PM
26	Parish Nurse	11:00 AM
28	Lupus Meeting	6:00 PM
31	Mission Rejoice	6:00 PM

Joshua Work Teams

7/4-7/9: UM of Green Trails; Chesterfield, MO

7/8-7/10: Touch the World Min.; Allendale, NJ

Host Church: Wintersville UMC

7/11-7/16: Christ UMC; Ashland, OH

Touch the World Min.; Allendale, NJ

Host Church: Grace Lutheran

7/18-7/23: Lewisburg, UM, Lewisburg, OH

Concord Liberty Presbyterian, Glen Mills, PA

Host Church: Toronto First Presbyterian

7/25-7/30: Community Presby. Clarendon, IL

Willoughby Hills UMC, Willoughby, OH

Host Church: Second Baptist Church

Hope Box

Our Needs for Hutton House are:



- Working refrigerators, gas/elec. stoves, washers and dryers.
- Dish drainers, mops, brooms, dust pans, buckets, kitchen garbage cans
- Towels, wash cloths, dish towels, dish cloths and throw rugs
- Coffee pots, can openers, toasters
- Curtains, curtain hooks and rods
- Cooking utensils, silverware, pots/pans and sets of dishes
- Sweepers
- Complete twin beds
- Small kitchen tables with chairs