



BRIGHT HORIZONS

Rev. Bruce Hitchcock, Executive Director

Angie Brown, Newsletter Editor

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Signs of the Resurrection

I asked many people a simple Easter question. "What signs of resurrection do you see?" The answers varied and they were inspiring. One person answered by speaking of an encounter with a dying friend. The woman, although in great pain, smiled most beautifully when she realized her friend came to visit. In the midst of sorrow and death, we find faith. Isn't that a sign of the resurrection? Oh yes!

We were in need of 800 bags of jelly beans. Students at Franciscan University and residents of a local nursing center made bags of candy and eggs filled with treats for children this Easter. Can jelly beans and chocolate be signs of resurrection? Oh yes!

On Saturday nights, we celebrate Mission Rejoice through worship. We have more "Praises" than "Requests" on a regular basis. One responder said, "When you look at people with love, you can see how beautiful their faces are". Another responder is amazed at the high level of generosity in the midst of economic distress. These too are signs of resurrection.

One responder celebrates the resurrection by sharing over eight months of

sobriety. "Surely it is a sign of new life when I am living it! Praise be to Jesus Christ!" Another person asked about signs of the resurrection finds the renewed commitment of volunteers staggering. "People will help when asked and they will be transformed by their service." Is transformation a sign of resurrection? Oh yes!

All the Mission saw a sign of resurrection when a former client and volunteer stopped by for a visit. This person is working well. This person is making it in life. They had stopped for some spiritual counsel. This person now has questions of faith in God. What a sign of resurrection for us all!

Hope abounds all around for those with eyes to see and ears to hear! CNN wasn't there. Major news commentators missed the opportunity to spin the story. Democratic and Republican candidates can't use and abuse the resurrection with sound bites. General Conference will not discuss or debate the resurrection. Yet, the tomb was empty. Jesus is alive and the signs of resurrection are everywhere.

-Love, Pastor Bruce



Garage Sale

Urban Mission Warehouse
May 3, 4, and 5
9-12; 1-3

There will be toys, household goods, paint and wall paper, furniture and lots of odds and ends. All items priced to sell!



Annual Shoe Giveaway

The Urban Mission's Annual Shoe Giveaway will be held on May 3, 4, and 5, 2004 at the Warehouse.

Urban Mission Warehouse
311 North 6th Street
Steubenville, OH 43952
9-12; 1-3



Annual Ham Loaf Dinner

(Meal Includes: Ham Loaf, Potato Surprise, Corn or Green Beans, Applesauce, Roll, Pie and a Beverage)

**May 7, 2003
4-7 PM**

Wintersville UMC
702 Main Street, Wintersville, OH 43953

Adults \$6 Children \$3

Tickets can be purchased in advance by calling 282-8010 or at the door. Carry-outs Available

This is the only Fundraiser for our K-KID'S (Keeping Kid's Involved During Summer) Program.

Wishes Do Come True

It has often been said to be careful of what you wish for because you just might get it! Well, I wished, I prayed and I got exactly what I asked for! But, not only did I get what I asked for, I got more than I needed!!

I challenged everyone to help provide 800 bags of jelly-beans for the Easter Bunny to give to the families participating in our food distributions. You all worked together to provide **853** bags of jellybeans!

As we close this Easter season, it is with heartfelt thanks to everyone who worked on this project. Heartfelt thanks also goes to Franciscan University...Catherine Heck and her group of students who put together beautiful Easter gift bags...and Maria and her group who worked with the residents of LaBelle Nursing Home to put together plastic Easter eggs with surprises in them. Catherine also brought in students who packed the treat bags prior to the distributions.

If it were not for friends such as you, Urban Mission would not be able to provide this Easter surprise for our friends in Ohio and West Virginia. You can be proud of your accomplishment!!!! God Bless each of you for your continued support.

-Linda L. Poe, Program Director

Feinstein a Success!

Urban Mission would like to thank all the churches groups, schools, organizations and individuals who gave donations toward the Feinstein matching funds Hunger challenge. The Mission will receive it's portion of the monies in the near future. We appreciate all of your efforts to help feed your friends and neighbors in need within the Upper Ohio Valley.

NCDC News

Minority Health Month a Success!

"*Good Health, Your Real Wealth*", was the theme for the 2004 Minority Health Month. I am so pleased to report that each of the events were well attended and the participant response was great! The Health Luncheon and the Family Fun Night were both in the format of a talk show. It worked so well that we are going to use it again. Thanks to all the volunteers and especially to "Basic Circle", a community group of young men and women. We could not have done it without their help and support.

Math Excellence



The Math Excellence Program for the 2003-2004 school year held its last class on Tuesday, April 27, 2004. A special thank you to the students from Franciscan University and Jefferson Community College and NCDC Volunteers for making a difference at Garfield Elementary School.

-Sharon Kirtdoll, Community Developer

Summer Program

The Urban Mission's Summer Program is right around the corner! This years program will be a collaborative effort between First Westminster Church, Calvary Fifth UMC, Quinn Memorial AME Church and the Urban Mission.

Our Summer Director, Jacky Hines and Summer Coordinator, Cory Taylor will be returning for another year. They have been business making plans for tutoring activities, Bible lessons, field trips and other exciting events. The program will be held from June 29-August 6, 2004. Sign-ups will begin in early June. Mark your calendars now and plan to let your children be involved in this wonderful, fun and educational program.

Building God's Plan

It is about that time again! JOSHUA is getting underway, preparing for the 2004 season. Last year's Director Lou Petrozzi will not be returning this summer. Our new director for this summer will be Jim Sloan. He is a native of Toronto, but has only recently returned to this area after a long stay in California. Mr. Sloan has extensive experience in carpentry and plans to use his knowledge to fulfill his Christian duty. All 3-site supervisors are returning for another summer. Shannan Farmer will be working through her 4th summer. She plans on staying in the area where she can teach, and have her summers for JOSHUA. Jared Schmidt will be returning for his 3rd summer. Jared will be graduating from college in May, with a degree in the Math & Science field. Becky Parill will be coming back for her 2nd summer. She is now a junior at Akron State, working on her degree in education.

Everyone involved in the JOSHUA project is looking forward to another great summer. We have a lot of projects to work on, and plenty of willing volunteers to get in done. Our theme for this summer comes from Ephesians 2:22. It was chosen because of its story of how God is building us as temples for his world. All volunteers will be giving their time to help build up a person in the community. The work they do is secondary to the fellowship and meaningful moments shared with the homeowners. The great thing about this project is that God has already built them up inside in order to let God's light shine.

GBOM "Mission Guest"

Rev. Eddie Lopez Jr., Executive Director of Community Ministries/Development of the General Board of Global Ministries will visit Urban Mission on Wednesday, May 12, 2004 to observe the Community Developers Program. He will meet with Rev. Bruce Hitchcock and Sharon Kirtdoll and also tour the Mission. At 4:30 p.m. he will meet with the Advisory Committee of the Community Developers Program.

Parish Nurse Absent

The Mission's Parish Nurse, Barb Cameron will be out of the office on Monday, May 3-May 17. She will return on May 24, 2004.



Parish Nurse News: Hepatitis A

During the Fall of 2003, there was an outbreak of Hepatitis A in Pennsylvania. The outbreak was linked to a Chi Chi's Restaurant and green onions from Mexico. What do you know about Hepatitis A? Is there a vaccine to prevent this disease? What measures can be done to prevent the spread of this disease?

Hepatitis A is usually spread through infected stools, either through ingestion of infected food or water or through person-to-person contact. Children are often sources of infection because they remain both asymptomatic (without symptoms) and infectious for 45 months after acquiring HAV. Hepatitis A is seen frequently in places where young children are together for long periods of time such as day care centers.

Hepatitis A is the most common type of hepatitis reported in the United States. Persons with Hepatitis A can have symptoms or may be without symptoms. The average length of time from infection to development of symptoms is 28 days. The symptoms of Hepatitis A can include jaundice (yellow discoloration of the skin and sclera of the eyes), weakness, fatigue, anorexia, nausea, abdominal pain, fever, and/or dark brown urine. In children under 6 years of age, 70% of infections are without symptoms and jaundice rarely appears. Older children and adults usually have symptoms. 75% of infected adults have symptoms.

The likelihood of symptoms increases with age and many adults exhibit jaundice.

Hepatitis A can only be differentiated from other types of Hepatitis by blood tests. There is no specific treatment for Hepatitis A. Supportive care is provided.

There is a vaccine for prevention of Hepatitis A. The vaccine is recommended for the following groups:

- Children ages 2+ living in areas with high rates of Hepatitis A
- Those traveling to areas with high rates of Hepatitis
- Men who have sex with men
- Injecting and non-injecting drug users
- Individuals with clotting-factor disorders such as hemophilia
- Persons with chronic liver disease

In summary, Hepatitis A is usually a self-limiting disease. Hepatitis A can be prevented by vaccination, good hand-washing, and proper food-handling techniques. Hepatitis A is one type of hepatitis. Immunization against Hepatitis A will not protect you from contracting other types of hepatitis. For more information about the different types of hepatitis, contact your health department or visit the CDC website at www.cdc.gov.

-Michalene A. King, RN, MSED, MSN

May 2004

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Upcoming Events in May 2004

1	Mission Rejoice	6:00 p.m.
4	Hunger Committee Meeting	10:00 a.m.
5	Program/Evaluation Committee Meeting	2:00 p.m.
7	Annual Ham Loaf Dinner-Wintersville UMC	4-7 p.m.
8	Mission Rejoice	6:00 p.m.
11	Finance Committee Meeting	6:00 p.m.
13	Ministries Council	5:00 p.m.
15	Mission Rejoice	6:00 p.m.
17	Parish Nurse	11:00 a.m.
18	Packing Day for Food Distribution	9:00 a.m.
20	Ohio Food Distribution	9-12; 1-3
22	Mission Rejoice	6:00 p.m.
24	Parish Nurse	11:00 a.m.
25	CSFP Senior Food Program	1:00 p.m.
26	Lupus Meeting	6-8 p.m.
27	West Virginia Food Distribution Board of Directors Meeting	9-12 4:30 p.m.
29 -31	Closed for Memorial Day Holiday (No Mission Rejoice)	

New Site for WV Distribution



Effective immediately, the West Virginia Food Distribution will now be held on the corner of Kessel Street and Weir Avenue. This is one block from the old site.

Hope Box



Our Needs are:

- Working Refrigerators for Hutton House
- Volunteers for Unity Kitchen
- Cleaning Products
- Paper Products such as Napkins, Paper towels, plates, cups, etc.