



Bright Horizons

Rev. Bruce Hitchcock, Executive Director

Angie Brown, Newsletter Editor

Inside this issue:

Thanksgiving Schedule	2
Lupus Awareness Month a Success!	2
Handwashing and Infection Control	2
Holiday Events at Urban Mission	3
UMM Calendar	4

Thanksgiving Drive Update:

Thanksgiving is just a few weeks away! Registrations are in process, food ordered, and with your help we will be able to provide all the ingredients for a Traditional Thanksgiving Dinner for 1,200 families.



Each basket costs \$35 to put together and will be distributed to low income families throughout the Ohio Valley. Your help with this project is greatly needed to achieve our goal of \$42,000. As of this printing (October 23, 2006), we have received \$19,685 toward our goal.

Contributions can be sent to the Mission marked "Thanksgiving" or you can donate via paypal through our website at www.urbanmission.org.

"Thanksgiving-A Way of Life"

Thanksgiving is an American Holiday celebrating survival in a harsh environment. Thanksgiving is also a Christian way of life. We live always in gratitude to the rich grace and love of God. As an American Holiday, many in our nation are again celebrating survival in a harsh climate. The statistics are numbing. For Jefferson County 11,000+ people are living in poverty. Children make up the largest demographic of the 11,000+.

Just over 4,000 kids in Jefferson County live in poverty. When we count the numbers nationally they increase to the millions. The same is true of health care. Thousands are without health care. These are often people with jobs. Those folks who do have health care find the benefits decreasing and the costs increasing.

Large companies are cutting what they call "legacy costs." What this means is that retirees who have worked for pensions and health care are finding themselves without the promised benefits. It is a strange situation. The older people are being cut-off from earned benefits. Not much is being said about this. Since the courts legalized this bit of robbery, nobody seems inclined to get excited about it. In the Bible there is a verse that applies directly to this. It is Exodus 20:12 "Honor your mother and father so that your days may long in the land the Lord has given you." This commandment was given that Israel would remember to care for the old and infirm.

I know that companies need to be competitive, healthy and well in order to have

good jobs for today's workers. I know that food, health care and good schools cost lots of money for children. But are we so impoverished in our thinking that we are willing to let the children and senior citizens suffer the most? Have we become so driven for profit and so greedy, that we are willing to let the most vulnerable among us hang in the wind? As a nation, we are making very bad choices. Are the profits of shareholders more important than people? Fortunately, our nation is wealthy enough for good profits and good care for our people. We simply lack the will to make this so.



Thanksgiving is a way of life for Christians. We know that wealth is not what we earn, save and invest. Wealth is what God gives us in mercy and loving kindness. This wealth never runs out. We know that having all the money in the world will leave one empty and cold. But sharing our money, praising God and thanking God for salvation will leave us filled with fellowship and a heart on fire in Christ. Wesley knew this truth when he said, "Earn all you can, save all you can, and give all you can." This Thanksgiving, let us praise and thank God for not only our survival, but also for our Salvation in Christ. Let us also give to those who have survived, but are cold, hungry, empty, addicted and broken. Our abundance, however large or small, is enough to meet the needs around us. Jesus fed 5,000 with a few loaves of bread and two fish; all because He lifted up to God and gave thanks.

-Love, Pastor Bruce

Thanksgiving Schedule



PACKING BAGS FOR THANKSGIVING

Tuesday, November 14, 2006

Beginning at 9:00 AM

(Lunch provided for volunteers.)

THANKSGIVING DISTRIBUTION

Wednesday, November 15, 2006

9:00 – 12:00 & 1:00 – 3:00

Thursday, November 16, 2006

9:00 – 12:00 *only*

Lupus Awareness Month a Success!



October was Lupus Awareness Month. Several activities were held during the month to raise awareness of the disease Lupus, which affects millions of Americans.

Two Healthy Lifestyles fairs were held at African American Churches in Belmont and Harrison Counties. A Lupus Talk Show was the highlight of the months activities. Professor, Dr. Rex Crawley of Robert Morris University was the special guest host for the evening. Two young women living with Lupus were interviewed. The Lupus Support Group Coordinators, Walter and Pat Howard and Patti West were on hand to share the importance of a good support network for families and friends of persons living with Lupus. Angela Suggs of Jefferson Community College was the event coordinator. Comedic entertainment for the evening was provided by Rhonda Parrish.

Funding for the months events was provided by the Ohio Commission on Minority Health.

- Sharon Kirtzell, Community Developer

A Warm Fall and Winter



Thanks to many churches, groups and individuals a warm winter will be had by many. As this newsletter is being prepared, the coat giveaway is in progress. Special thanks to the group who purchased new coats. You know who you are! Thanks also to Two Brothers Dry Cleaning for donating gift certificates for use by individuals receiving a coat that may need cleaning.

Thanks to Patti West for once again organizing this massive project and to all of her volunteers for their efforts in helping their neighbors have a warm winter.

Parish Nurse News: Handwashing and Infection Control

What is the most effective way of preventing the spread of infection? The answer is handwashing. Although there have been many advances in health care practices during the years, handwashing is still the most effective way of preventing the spread of infection. Many studies have been done about the handwashing practices of health care personnel, which have been compiled by the CDC and used to make recommendations for handwashing practices for health care personnel. Handwashing is not only essential for health care personnel but for all of us as a means to prevent the spread of infection.

Handwashing is an important practice. This simple practice that was taught to you by your mother and reinforced by your teachers, is still your best protection from catching an infectious disease. Let's take a few minutes and review handwashing practices.

Hands should be washed at the following times: when visibly soiled, after using the bathroom, before preparing and eating foods, after touching an unknown substance, and whenever you think it would be a good idea. Studies have shown that many viruses live for a period of time on

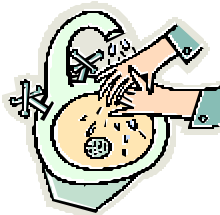
inanimate objects, so if you think that you have touched something that could be contaminated, wash your hands.

How should you wash your hands? Ideally hands should be washed with running water and liquid soap. First wet your hands with water, then apply the liquid soap. Make a lot of suds and wash all parts of your hands, including between the fingers. Rinse your hands well to remove all of the soap. Wipe your hands with a clean towel or paper towel.

If you are unable to wash your hands with soap and water, it is acceptable to use one of the antibacterial handwashing liquids or gels. Most of these cleaners contain alcohol, which is drying to the skin. Only use these cleaners when you cannot use soap and water. Wash your hands with soap and water as soon as possible.

The cold and flu season is coming. Handwashing is one good measure to prevent the transmission of these viruses. Don't forget to wash those hands and drown those germs.

- Michalene A. King, RN, MSEd, MSN



Holiday Events at Urban Mission

Christmas Kids Program



The holidays are in full swing at Urban Mission. Registrations are in progress as we prepare this newsletter. This is the time we will be getting the names together for our Christmas Kids program. This program will provide Christmas gifts for children ages 12 and under.

In order for this program to work, it takes the help of many friends, such as you. We hope that anyone who has adopted names in the past will call and ask for names again this year.

This is a wonderful project for school groups, church groups, Sunday school classes, families, businesses and individuals to participate in. It is a wonderful feeling to know you are helping to place Christmas gifts under a tree (if there is a tree) where there might have been nothing.

There is a lot of room for anyone who would like to help. Just give me a call at 740-282-2911 and let me know how many names you would like. As soon as the lists are prepared, I will get the names to you so that you can begin to shop! Please have all gifts to the Mission by **Friday, December 8, 2006**.

-Linda Smith, Program Director

Mitten Tree



Soon we will be decorating for Christmas and setting up the Mitten Tree in the mail office. We will "decorate" the tree with mittens, socks and hats. We will also have t-shirts and underwear for the parents to take with them when they pick up their gifts for Christmas Kids.

Last year, we had dozens of boxes and most of the items were given away the first day of the distribution! When we help provide toys for 600 children that means a need for lots of hats, gloves, mittens, socks and underwear.

Anyone wishing to help with this project can bring the items to the Warehouse by **December 8, 2006**.

Candlelight Service



Mark your calendar now for the Candlelight Mission service set for **Saturday, December 16, 2006 at 6:00 pm**. Plan to join us for a night of inspiration as we celebrate the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ!

Santa's Recycle Shop



Each year we have several families who do not make the deadline for registering their children in our Christmas Kids Program. In order to help these families have toys for their children, we will have "Santa's Recycle Shop" on **December 20 and 21 from 9:00 – 12:00 and 1:00 – 3:00**.

If you have any new or used toys, games, etc. please consider donating them for this program. We ask that these items be in very good condition (toys in good working order, puzzles without missing pieces, books not colored or written in, etc.). Please deliver your donations to the warehouse located at 311 North 6th Street in Steubenville, OH.

Operation Christmas Stocking!

The list is now ready to add the names of those who want to participate with this program. This project involves filling a Christmas stocking or holiday gift bag with toiletries for a teen female or male. Items that can be included in the stockings are:



Soap/Body Wash	Comb & Brush
Toothbrush & Toothpaste	Deodorant
Shampoo & Conditioner	Lotion
Cologne/Aftershave	Jewelry
Lip Gloss/ Lip Stick	Hair Spray
Hair Combs/Accessories	Nail Polish
Q-tips/Cotton Balls	Restaurant Gift Cards

Please have the stockings to the Mission by **December 8**.

Christmas at Hutton House Homeless Shelter



Can you believe there are less than two months until Christmas?! For many families, the holiday season brings a lot of stress. Children are asking for everything they see and hear about for Christmas. Parents are worrying over not being able to provide what their children have asked for.

Would you consider adopting one of our families and providing gifts at Christmas? Perhaps you would like to make a donation to the Hutton House to purchase gifts. If you are interested in donating to the Hutton House or information about how you can help spread Christmas joy to our families at the Shelter, give me a call at 282-8903 and I'll be happy to speak with you about the Hutton House.

-Debbie Bryan, Shelter Director

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Upcoming Events in November 2006

1	Lupus Support Group Meeting-Trinity East Medical Cntr.	6-8 PM
2	Neighborhood Community Development Center Mtg. Greater Steubenville Community Dvlpmnt. Corp. Mtg.	4:00 PM 5:00 PM
4, 11, 18	Mission Rejoice (Saturday Evenings)	6:00 PM
6, 13, 20, 27	Parish Nurse (Every Monday)	11:00 AM
7	God's Pantry Hunger Committee Meeting	10:00 AM
8	Program/Evaluation Committee	2:00 PM
13	Lupus Support Group Meeting at MLK Center	6-8 PM
14	Packing for Thanksgiving Distribution Finance Committee Meeting	9:00 AM 6:00 PM
15	Thanksgiving Distribution	9-12; 1-3
16	Thanksgiving Distribution	9-12 only
21	CSFP Senior Food Distribution	1:00 PM
22	Unity Kitchen Thanksgiving Dinner (Closed at 1PM)	12:00 PM
23-25	Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday (No Mission Rejoice)	Closed
30	Newsletter Folding at Urban Mission	9:00 AM

Thanksgiving Closing

Urban Mission will be closed for Thanksgiving on **Wednesday, November 23 at 1 PM and will reopen on Monday, November 27 at 8:00 AM.** There will be no Mission Rejoice on Saturday, November 25.

**Have a Happy
Thanksgiving!**

