

# BRIGHT HORIZONS

Rev. Bruce Hitchcock, Executive Director

Angie Brown, Newsletter Editor

## Inside this issue:

Thanksgiving Schedule	2
Ohio Registration	2
Bowling For a Good	3
Lupus Awareness Month	3
UMM Calendar	4

## OPERATION CHRISTMAS STOCKINGS



This fun project involves filling a Christmas stocking or Holiday gift bag with toiletries and other items for a teen female or male. The stockings (approximately 200-250) will then be presented to teens 13-18 years of age just before Christmas.

Suggested items to include are **soap, toothbrush, toothpaste, deodorant, comb/brush, shampoo, conditioner, cologne/aftershave, talc powder, lipstick/compact, hair spray, hair combs, barrettes, nail polish, cotton balls, Q-tips, jewelry, restaurant gift certificates (McDonalds, Burger King, etc.).**

If you would like to participate in this wonderful program please contact Linda at 740-282-2911 and sign up.

Please have the stockings back to the Mission by Friday, December 9, 2005.

## “Hope Amidst Disaster”

The terrible effects of Hurricane Katrina and the potential effects of Rita leave our nation stunned. People respond in a variety of ways to disasters. The majority of our citizens have chosen to be helpful. The dramatic footage of people risking life and limb for others trapped by the flooding was moving and inspiring. The funds donated to this effort through various national agencies, including our own UMCOR, is astounding. Ordinary Americans from all walks of life, all races and religions have responded with generosity. Praise God for the heart and soul of this nation!

Others have chosen to react to the crisis in a less than gracious manner. A very few chose to use the chaos to enrich themselves by looting for goods other than those necessary for survival. Oil companies also chose to use the crisis to cash in all over the country. The “looting” of America by big oil is shameful. Others have chosen to blame everything on George Bush. One writer even claimed that Katrina is the direct result of Bush's presidency. Making political hay out of this crisis, rather than helping the nation, lacks integrity.

In the face of the facts, some are turning this crisis into a racial issue. Katrina was and is a weather event. At most, we can say that the storm has revealed the creeping disaster of poverty in America. As a nation we have yet to face up to the economic conditions of the poor in America. We have yet to face the facts that far too many African Americans suffer. The storm reminds us of the urgent need to build a just, generous and prosperous America for all. We are capable of responding in a most generous manner. We have in fact done that. I am weary of those who are using this crisis to push the divisions wider. Why not use the great good and unity being demon-

strated daily to build up trust and positive relationships?

We are facing a creeping calamity. Our most precious resource is our human resources. Katrina has revealed the ugliness of poverty in New Orleans. Who, or what reveals the ugliness of poverty in the Upper Ohio Valley? Does it really take a major crisis like Katrina for us to see poverty in our communities? Over 4,000 children in Jefferson County live below the poverty line. Poverty means poor nutrition, substandard housing and substandard health care. Over 2,000 senior citizens are living below the poverty line in Jefferson County. Is this acceptable? I think not.

Last week the staff at Urban Mission engaged in a debate concerning Thanksgiving Baskets and Christmas gifts for children. The debate started because we see that previous efforts are not going to equal the need this year. We discussed asking some kids who have received Christmas Gifts in the past to sit out this year so that other kids can have an opportunity for presents. We know the need has increased sharply over last year. The answer of course is *not* to ask anyone to go without this year, but rather to make the need known and trust God to meet it through you. If you have never given to the effort for Thanksgiving and Christmas, please consider doing so. If you have helped in the past, thank you and God bless you! Remember the hungry and the children!

Your actions in the face of crisis are commendable. Remember that our nation only reflects what we choose to do. America can be a cold, lonely, hungry place. Or our nation can be a place of joy, contentment, generosity and peace.

**Love, Pastor Bruce**

## Thanksgiving Schedule

### REGISTRATION LOCATION

Urban Mission  
301 North Fifth Street  
Steubenville, OH 43952

**MONDAY – OCTOBER 24**

**TUESDAY – OCTOBER 25**

**WEDNESDAY – OCTOBER 26**

9:00 – 12:00 & 1:00 – 3:00

*(The coat giveaway will be held the same days as registration)*

### THANKSGIVING BAG PACKING

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15**

Starting at 9:00 AM  
*(Lunch will be served)*

**Please RSVP at 282-2911 If planning to help.**

### THANKSGIVING DISTRIBUTION

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16**

9:00 – 12:00 & 1:00 – 3:00

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17**

9:00 – 12:00

## Santa's Recycle Shop



Each year we have several families who do not make the deadline for getting their children registered 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 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.).

If it is possible for you to help provide items for this program, please deliver them to the warehouse located at 311 North 6<sup>th</sup> Street in Steubenville, OH.

## Registration Information

*The following information is necessary for registration for Thanksgiving Baskets and the Christmas Kids Program.*

- A form of identification
- Birth certificate, medical card or social security card showing the names of children in the household.
- You must know the source and the amount of gross income for anyone in the household having income.
- Written verification of address (utility bill, rent receipt, etc.).

If you have a family member, friend or neighbor you feel could benefit from our services, please share this information with them and encourage them to come see us. If they prefer privacy for the interview process, that can be arranged. If you have any questions concerning the registration process please contact Linda at 740-282-2911.

## Holiday Helpers



As you can imagine, it takes lots of willing hands to make all of our programs successful, especially during the Christmas season. Do you have a few hours or a day that you can help Urban Mission provide a Happy Holiday to those in need?

If you truly want to be blessed during the Holidays, this is where it can happen!! You will be moved in a magnificent way as you witness how the Lord provides. If you would like to volunteer during the holidays, or if you have a question about any of our Holiday programs, please give Linda a call at 740-282-2911. She will be glad to work with you and share the Spirit of the Season!

## Thanksgiving Challenge

In October, you can bring in any of the following items for the challenge: Chicken noodle soup, Sweet potatoes, Vanilla frosting or Yellow cake mix.

**Please Remember: God's Pantry Ohio and West Virginia Distributions are now both held on the same day at the Warehouse Ministry Center, 311 North 6th Street, Steubenville, OH 43952. Please see the calendar on page four for packing and distribution dates and times.**

## Hats and Mittens Needed



Each year we fill up a large Christmas tree with hats, mittens, gloves, socks and underwear for parents to take for their children when they pick up the gifts from our Christmas Kids Program.

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

Anyone wishing to help with this project can mail or bring the items to the main office located at 301 North 5<sup>th</sup> Street or to the warehouse located at 311 North 6<sup>th</sup> Street, both in Steubenville.

## Lupus Awareness Month

*“Someone you know has Lupus”*

In the month of October we will sponsor several events to highlight Lupus Awareness Month. Please read the insert in this months newsletter. Plan to attend the events and become a more understanding friend or family member to the person in your life living with Lupus. This program is made possible by a grant from the Ohio Commission on Minority Health.

## Bowling for a Good Cause



The **All American Lanes Bowling Alley** will host a Halloween Lunar Bowling Bash on **Wednesday and Thursday, October 28 & 29, 2005 from 6:00 PM—12:00 AM.**

The cost is \$12 per person for two hours of lunar bowling, which includes shoe rental **\$2 of every bowler in attendance will be donated directly to Urban Mission.**

**Children, Teens and Adults are all welcome! No registration is required.** All bowlers are asked to wear a costume, mask or have their faces painted for the event.

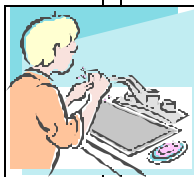


The event will be held at the **All American Lanes Bowling Alley, University Boulevard, Steubenville, OH.** Additional information concerning this event can be obtained by calling **Lisa Poole at 740-632-2123** or by visiting the All American Lanes website at **www.allamericanlanes.com**

Lace up those bowling shoes, grab your costume and join us for a fun filled evening of bowling for a good cause! See you there!

## PARISH NURSE NEWS: HAND WASHING

Do you know the most effective way to prevent the spread of infections? Did you answer antibiotics? Immunizations? Disinfectants? The answer is hand washing. Although there have been many advances in health care practices during the years, hand washing is still the most effective way to prevent the spread of infection. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) makes recommendations for health care workers for measures to prevent the spread of infection. Hand washing is not only essential for health care workers, but for all of us as a means to prevent the spread of infection. As we are entering the cold and flu season, let's review hand washing practices.



Hands should be washed at the following times: when visibly soiled, after using the bathroom, before preparing and eating food, 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 are washed with running water and liquid soap. First wet your hands with water, then apply the liquid soap. Make lots of suds and wash all parts of your hands, including between your fingers. Rinse you 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 hand cleaning liquids or gels. Most of these cleaners contain alcohol, which dries the skin. Only use these cleaners when you cannot use soap and water.

Remember that the cold and flu season is coming, so wash your hands to prevent the spread of infections.

*-Michalene A. King, RN, MEd, MSN, Assistant Professor of Nursing Kent State University Tuscarawas*

## OCTOBER 2005

**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**

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Steubenville, OH 43952  
Permit No. 103

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

LABEL

## OCTOBER IS LUPUS AWARENESS MONTH

### Upcoming Events in October 2005

3	Parish Nurse	11:00 AM
4	Hunger Committee Meeting	10:00 AM
5	Program/Evaluation Committee Meeting	2:00 PM
8	Mission Rejoice	6:00 PM
10	Parish Nurse	11:00 AM
11	Finance Committee Meeting	6:00 PM
13	NCDC Meeting at Urban Mission CDC Meeting at Urban Mission	400 PM 5:00 PM
15	Mission Rejoice	6:00 PM
17	Parish Nurse	11:00 AM
18	Packing For Food Distribution	9:00 AM
20	God's Pantry Food Distribution	9-12; 1-3
22	Mission Rejoice	6:00 PM
24	Parish Nurse	11:00 AM
24,25 & 26	God's Pantry Food Registration (Main Office) Annual Coat Giveaway (Warehouse)	9-12; 1-3 9-12; 1-3
25	CSFP Senior Food Distribution	1:00 PM
27	Board of Directors Meeting	4:30 PM
29	Mission Rejoice	6:00 PM
31	Parish Nurse	11:00 AM

### 22 Annual Coat

### Giveaway

**Urban Mission Warehouse,  
311 North 6th Street**

**October 24, 25 & 26**

**9-12; 1-3**



The Annual Coat Giveaway is just around the corner. We are still in need of coats of all sizes for men, women and children.

Please bring your coats (in good condition) to the Warehouse at 311 North 6th Street by **October 19, 2005**.

Please help us to make this winter a warmer one for our friends and neighbors in need.

**Fast Fact:** In 2004, Urban Mission distributed 2,366 winter coats and accessories to those in need.