



Bright Horizons

Rev. Bruce Hitchcock, Executive Director

Angie Brown, Newsletter Editor

The Mind of Christ

On a number of occasions I have been challenged about giving food, shelter and clothing to people in need. Most of the challenges fall into one of two categories. First, there are those who simply cannot see the logic of giving something to someone who ought to be responsible for themselves. In the case of children, the elderly or the disabled, families should provide for them. It is the parable of the ants and the grasshopper. The ants labor and eat, the grasshoppers play and starve. The second category of questioners involves Christians who quote the Bible saying, "If a man will not work he shall not eat." The first is rather shallow in logic and the second is shallow in biblical understanding. Both probably have a good deal of greed and fear as foundations for thought.

Another challenge has come that requires a more specific answer. The challenge was answered with the usual stories out of Luke. That did not satisfy the challenger. I then answered with using the lectionary teachings for Lent concerning prayer, fasting, Bible study and giving alms to the poor. Not good enough. The last attempt to explain why Christians give food, clothing and shelter to those in need centered on both Paul's teaching in Philippians and Wesley's emphasis on the "Mind of Christ."

The teaching is fairly simple. Paul taught the Philippians to witness, suffer and trust God the way Jesus did, the way Paul was experiencing life in Christ, and the way they (the Philippians), were accustomed to doing. Sharing in the suffering of Christ means sharing in the glorious resurrection of Christ. Wesley continually taught that the Christian life is characterized by happiness and holiness. In fact, Wesley believed that you could not experience joy, unless you lived holiness. Paul wrote, "Only live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ..." Philippians 1:27a.

The one who challenged giving to the poor was not greedy. He was not willing to accept teaching from Luke, nor was he willing to accept the lectionary teaching for Lent. He wanted to know why we Christians emphasize giving to and serving the poor. The only acceptable answer to him was stating that Christians were attempting to live out the life Christ lived out. He understood having the mind of Christ. He understood that we give and serve because there is a living connection between Christ and His disciples. He understood that Christians view giving, serving and suffering as living the life of Jesus Christ.

The final piece to all of this fell into place when he said to me, "So Christians trust that Jesus showed them that giving, serving and suffering is ok." I said, "Not only is it ok, but it is a life that leads to joy." The challenger pushed me hard. He helped me articulate the living bond we have with Jesus Christ in all our work. He helped me see again that essential understanding of the Church as a body of people living the life of Jesus Christ. Having the mind of Christ is more than following the teachings, having the values or imitating the actions of Jesus Christ. The mind of Christ is sharing and living the life of Christ. It is that wonderful mystery of union between the human and the divine.

Peace, Pastor Bruce

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Coat Giveaway

Oct. 19, 20, 21

**9:00-12:00 &
1:00-3:00**

**UM Warehouse
311 North 6th Street
Steubenville, Ohio**

 **Our Annual Coat Giveaway is just around the corner. Do-**

nations of good condition coats for men, women and children welcomed.

Please bring coats to the Warehouse Ministry Center at 311 North 6th Street, by October 9.

Thanksgiving Challenge



The last item of our challenge is **yellow cake mix** (1,200 boxes).

Helping Those Who Help Us

"Every day I remind myself that my inner and outer life are based on the labors of other men, living and dead, and that I must exert myself in order to give in the same measure as I have received and am still receiving" ~ Albert Einstein

Many of you may have heard of America's Second Harvest. In September 2008, Second Harvest changed its name to Feeding America. Feeding America is the nation's leading domestic hunger-relief charity. Their mission is to feed America's hungry through a nationwide network of member food banks and engage our country in the fight to end hunger.

Each year, the Feeding America network provides food assistance to more than 25 million low-income people facing hunger in the United States, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. The Feeding America network secures and distributes more than 2 billion pounds of donated food and grocery products annually.

The Feeding America network supports approximately 63,000 local charitable agencies that distribute food directly to Americans in need. Working with Mid-Ohio Foodbank in Columbus, OH, Urban Mission is one of the charitable agencies on the receiving end of the services of Feeding America.

On September 13, Macy's launched "Come Together", an innovative community-centered campaign, to raise 10 million meals nationally for Feeding America and its network of food banks. The campaign rallies the public to host special dinner parties in their homes and ask their guests to pledge a donation to Feeding America in lieu of bringing a host gift. Macy's will match donations dollar for dollar until the goal of 10 million meals is reached. There are three ways to help.

Host: Macy's customers can host a dinner party and donate the money raised online on the Come Together website at www.macys.com/cometogether.

Give: Customers can also give \$1 at the register at all Macy's stores. Every \$1 donated equals 7 meals.

Shop: Customers can also *Shop for a Cause* on October 17 in Macy's stores and on www.macys.com.

To celebrate and kick-off this effort, our Steubenville Macy's hosted the "World's Largest Dinner Party" with a first course served at the store on Tuesday, September 15. Watch for the star-studded TV commercials and support the cause. Your support will help Urban Mission and agencies across the land work together to end hunger.

~Linda L. Smith, Program Director

Thanksgiving Sharing

Thanksgiving is quickly approaching. Plans are in progress for the big Distribution set for November 18-20. On Tuesday, November 17, 2009 we will be packing 1,200 Thanksgiving Baskets for the families registered in our Food Program. These families are verified as living at our below poverty level.

Each Basket will include all the fixings for a traditional Thanksgiving Dinner including sweet potatoes, chicken noodle soup, cranberry sauce, pumpkin pie, a meat certificate and more. Each basket costs approx. \$35 to make. There are several ways you can help with this program.

1. Help with packing on Nov. 17 at 9 AM.
2. Help with Distribution on Nov. 18, 19 and/or 20.
3. Contribute to the program in the enclosed envelope.
(Please RSVP to Linda at 740-282-2911 if planning to help with packing. Lunch will be provided.)

Christmas Programs Registration

It's time again for our families to register for our Christmas Programs. All families with children 18 years old and under will be signing up for the Christmas Kid's Program (0-12) and/or the Teen Stocking Program (13-18). Parents registering for Christmas Kid's are asked to come prepared with three gift ideas for their children and their clothing sizes.

All Registrations will take place:
October 19, 20 and 21 only!
9:00-12:00 and 1:00-3:00

Mt. Carmel Baptist Church
708 North 5th Street
Steubenville, Ohio

You must be registered and participating in our monthly Food Distribution program in order to register for our Christmas Programs.



All of the following info is needed to register:

- A form of identification
- Written verification of address (utility bill, rent receipt, etc.)
- You **MUST HAVE** the small yellow card you bring with you to the Food Distribution. This card will show is your file number and family size.

For more information or questions about registering, please call Linda Smith at 740-282-2911.

October is Lupus Awareness Month



Lupus Talk Show "After the Diagnoses"

Thursday, October 15, 2009
6:00-8:00 PM
Martin Luther King Center



Join us for the **Annual Lupus Talk Show** at the Martin Luther King Center, 905 Market Street in Steubenville.

This will be an evening of education and entertainment, with storyteller Sara Malcolm, a local comedian and musical selections by Malayne Wares of Weirton, WV. Door prizes and refreshments provided by Unison Health Care. It's going to be a joyful and exciting evening. Event is free and open to the public.

Funded by Ohio Commission on Minority Health

Match Received

GOOD NEWS! Thanks to the many donations from individuals, churches and groups, we have received enough funds for the match. For those who were aware of this program, a generous local donor pledged \$50,000 to Urban Mission, providing we were able to raise an additional \$50,000. This donation will go toward easing the financial crises and help sustain the Mission during these tough economic times where the need is skyrocketing.

Thank you to this fine businessman (you know who you are) and to all those who helped to make this project a success!



Flu Shots Available Locally

Flu Shots available during the month of October at:
Steubenville City Health Department
312 Market Street, Steubenville

Jefferson County Health Department
500 Market Street, Steubenville, 7th Floor, Room 704

Every Tuesday and Thursday
9:00-11:00 AM and 1:00-3:00 PM

Cost: \$20.00 (Accepts Medicare, Medicaid and all insurances)



Parish Nurse News: Protect Yourself from the Flu

This year we need to protect ourselves against both the seasonal flu and the Swine flu (H1N1). Some organizations have begun to administer the seasonal flu shot and others will be scheduling clinics in the weeks to come. The swine flu shot is in the testing phase and will be available in the near future. While you are waiting for your shot(s) to protect you, here are measures that you can use to protect yourself from the flu.



The flu is spread by droplets, which are those little drops of moisture that come out when people cough or sneeze. The viruses that cause the flu can be spread by breathing in the droplets or may be spread by touching objects that are contaminated with the droplets. If you touch a contaminated object and then rub your eyes or nose, you can infect yourself. Remember to catch all your coughs and sneezes in disposable tissues and wash your hands after you dispose of the tissues.



Here are some tips to help you stay healthy during the fall and winter months. Remember to get enough sleep and rest. Eat well-balanced meals, which contain fruits and vegetables. Drink plenty of fluids including water. Wash your hands frequently, especially if you have been around someone who has been coughing or sneezing. If you are not close to a sink, you can use an antibacterial hand wash or towelettes to clean your hands. Then wash your hands as soon as you can. If you feel that you are getting sick, stay home and take care of yourself. Get plenty of rest and drink lots of fluids. Contact your doctor or another health care professional for treatments. Do not take any medications (including herbal remedies) without first checking with a health care professional.

The recommendations for seasonal flu shots have not changed, but the recommendations for the H1N1 flu shots are updated as the epidemic continues. Check with your doctor or other health care professional for the latest information about the flu shots and remember to take measures to protect yourself and your loved ones.

~Michalene A. King, PhD, RN



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Upcoming Events in October 2009

1	Greater Steubenville Community Development Corporation Meeting	5:00 PM
3, 10, 17, 24 & 31	Mission Rejoice Service (Saturday's)	6:00-8:00 PM
5, 12, 19, & 26	Parish Nurse (Monday's)	11:00 AM
6	God's Pantry Hunger Committee Meeting	10:00 AM
7	Program/Evaluation Committee Meeting	2:00 PM
13	Packing for Food Distribution	9:00 AM
14, 15, 16	God's Pantry Food Distribution	9-12; 1-3
15	Lupus Talk Show at Martin Luther King Center (See page 3 for details)	6:00 PM
19, 20, 21	Christmas Programs Registration (NOTE: If you are currently registered in the Food Distribution program, you are already registered for the Thanksgiving Distribution.) Annual Coat Giveaway: Warehouse, 311 North 6th, Street	9-12; 1-3 9-12; 1-3
21	Neighborhood Community Development Center Meeting at Jefferson Community College	4:00 PM
22	UM Board of Directors Meeting	4:30 PM
27	CSFP Senior Food Program	1:00 PM
29	UM Newsletter Folding	9:00 AM