

*Urban Mission
September
2006*



Bright Horizons

Rev. Bruce Hitchcock, Executive Director Angie Brown, Newsletter Editor

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Annual Coat Giveaway

October 23, 24 & 25.



We are collecting good used coats for our Annual Coat Giveaway. We are 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 16, 2006.

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

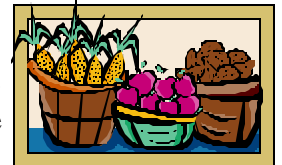
Fast Facts:



In 2005, Urban Mission distributed over **2,000** winter coats and accessories in just three short days.

A Time of Harvest

The Harvest time approaches. In biblical terms, this is the time Jesus used to teach about God. Images of harvest, gracious payment, judgment and feasting are a part of the parables and disciple training. This time of joy and plenty is the setting for justice, poverty and following God. The ancient harvest celebrations are still reflected by us in our County Fairs. We also work on back to school preparations. The two are combined at the Urban Mission by the generous donations of many who want to see children return to school with all the supplies needed. Last year you gave generously. Over 500 kids were supplied through the Mission. It was a harvest of love. I am watching the workers gather, sort and prepare for distribution a small mountain of school supplies. Another harvest of love is underway!



The annual picnic and the carnival have come and gone. The picnic at Jefferson State Park brought a record number of attendees and a playful spirit. The change in location had a profound impact on hardened kids. We watched them become children again while playing in the lake. Manfred's Catering provided food and service as a gift to the people. What joy there is in such generous gifts. The carnival was wonderful. The group of people who came together was diverse. We had church groups, community groups, friends from the Unity Kitchen, volunteers, local teenagers, the Urban Mission Staff, workers from EOCC, and a Jr. High Girls Volleyball team. Everyone wanted the children to have fun. One teen volunteered to be the person dunked in the dunk tank. So many parents made a point of saying, "Thank you for entertaining my children." Several kids said that we, "made their summer vacation."

The Joshua Program is winding down now. There was one of the best years on record for the visits and projects completed. We already have groups scheduled for the majority of the dates next summer. Many groups are on standby status. One senior citizen was so grateful for the work of the group. She was crying and said no one loved her anymore. Jim, the Joshua Director replied, "What are you talking about? Jesus loves you. And we love you." Jim backed it up with a great group that worked wonders in her home. The woman's faith was renewed by some paint, some carpentry and some kind love from strangers.

Love, faith, generosity and a little effort have gone a long way for the Kingdom of God these past few weeks. It seems like we are situated to see the handiwork of God. The Spirit is rich around the Mission. In every direction God is prospering the work for the good of the poor. I invite you to join us in serving God. Pray for the Urban Mission. Volunteer at the Mission. Give a gift to God through the Mission. Come and see the power of God's Grace at work!

Love, Pastor Bruce

Holiday Activities Schedule

REGISTRATION FOR THANKSGIVING CHRISTMAS KIDS & COAT DISTRIBUTION

October 23, 24 and 25, 2006

9:00 – 12:00 & 1:00 – 3:00

PACKING BAGS FOR THANKSGIVING

Tuesday, November 14, 2006

Beginning at 9:00 AM
(Lunch will be 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

CHRISTMAS TOY DISTRIBUTION

December 14 & 15, 2006

9:00 – 12:00 & 1:00 – 3:00

SANTA'S RECYCLE SHOP

December 20 & 21, 2006

9:00 – 12 & 1:00 – 3:00

The following information is needed for registration:

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

Holiday Helper's Needed



Listed above are the upcoming holiday activities at Urban Mission. It is a very busy time and lots of help is needed. Please mark the dates for the upcoming programs. You can participate with the programs and/or you can come in and help. Invite your friends and family to participate and/or help also. Give me a call and I will place you on our "Helpers" list. You can reach me at 740-282-2911.

P.S. Don't forget this month's **Thanksgiving Challenge** item, **Vanilla Frosting** (1200 cans).

- Linda Smith, Program Director

Donations Via the Web

Over the past year, many folks have inquired about making donations via the internet. We have good news! Urban Mission is now set up to receive donations to any of our programs via our website through Pay Pal.



Please visit our site at www.urbanmission.org for all the latest news and happenings at the Mission and if you would like to make a donation online.

Remembering the works of Urban Mission

One of the ways Urban Mission has been blessed is by people donating through wills and life insurance. Recently, a woman left part of her estate to the Mission. The gift will grow our endowment and provide funding from now on. It is the gift that keeps on giving. This kind of donation enables the Mission to have a stable financial base from which to operate. It is harder and harder to raise all the money needed for daily operations. Our economy and aging population base means that there is less money available.

At one time, the Mission operated on large numbers of people making donations of \$25-\$50 a year. Many of those people can no longer afford to support the Mission. They are forced to choose between medication, gasoline and food. Some of those same folks now stand in our lines to receive food.

Another lady is relocating out of the area and has graciously donated her property to the Mission. The house and lot will benefit the Mission by providing money to operate and grow our endowment. This again, is a gift that will continue to grow and give from now on. Over time, we hope to build a large endowment that will fund Urban Mission operations. We are a long way from that goal. These, however, are the first steps in the direction of growing an endowment.

Will you consider including Urban Mission in your will? Will you consider the gift of property, insurance, stocks and trusts? All of these donations create tax advantages for the giver. Sometimes the gifts simply offset taxes and do not change the amount of money received by the giver or the givers family.

Remember the works of the Mission: 600,000 lbs of food distributed a year, 19,000+ hot meals served, 101+ homeless families housed, 800+ children and teens receiving Christmas, 30+ homes rehabilitated for low income homeowners, a Health Care Center . . . and many more ministries made possible by you! Thank you for considering Urban Mission.

- Rev. Bruce Hitchcock, Executive Director

Festival of Caring

Urban Mission will be one of many participants at the **Festival of Caring on Saturday, September 16, 2006**. The Festival will be held at the Fairgrounds in Mansfield, OH.

Urban Mission will be closed on Monday, September 4, 2006 for the Labor Day Holiday. Have a happy and safe holiday!



Fundraiser to Benefit Urban Mission

Urban Mission invites you to
Macy's Department Store
Shop for a Cause Day
Saturday, September 16, 2006
(formerly Kaufman's at the Ft. Steuben Mall)

Macy's is celebrating its launch as America's national department store. They are giving Urban Mission an opportunity to raise much needed funds as part of a special celebration in their store in honor of local Charities.



Here's how it works: For \$5, you can purchase a shopping pass ticket for discounts at *Shop for a Cause*. The shopping pass is good for savings throughout the day. **Urban Mission retains all proceeds from our ticket sales** and will receive a share of the money raised by in-store ticket sales. With your support, we can raise much needed funds.

Everyone who buys a \$5 pass receives:

- 20% off fashion accessory items.
- 10% off furniture and home store items.
- A coupon for \$10 off any one purchase.
- An opportunity to register to win a \$500 Macy's shopping spree.

To purchase your \$5 shopping pass, please contact **Heather Macre at 740-282-8010 by September 12, 2006**. Thank you for your support!

Summer 2006 Highlights

Another busy summer at the Mission has just wrapped up. Several programs were in process during the summer months. Our **Children's Summer Program** ran during June and July. The children enjoyed games, tutoring, music, Bible lessons and various other activities. The end of the program was marked by our **Annual Street Carnival**, held on Saturday, August 12, in the parking lot of Urban Mission. Over 1,200 children and adults attended this day of free fun, games, crafts, food and entertainment.

On August 25, our **Back to School Supplies** Distribution was held. 280 bags of supplies were given to area students in need.

Our **Joshua Work Mission** program was held from May through August. Groups from Illinois, Indiana, Delaware, Minnesota, Iowa, New York and Ohio completed an 71 work projects! Fourteen groups (268 people) gave an amazing 8,820 hours of volunteer work during the Joshua program.

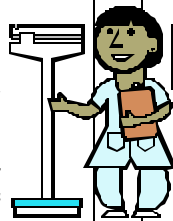
This summer has truly been an amazing one. All of these activities took many hours of planning and preparation. We were blessed with many, many volunteers for all of our summer ministries. Thank you to all of you who helped. Special thanks to the our seasonal staff members, Anthony and Sesalie Grimes, Summer Program Director and Coordinator; Angela Suggs, Carnival Director; Jim Sloane, Joshua Director; Doug Devor, Adam Shelton and Sarah Thomas, Joshua Site Supervisors and Jalil Harvey, Alou-vise Harris and Brianna Cash, CAC Summer Youth Workers. Thank you to every person who donated time, funds, finances and prayers to the Mission. We appreciate all that you did to make this an outstanding summer.

Parish Nurse News: Women's Health Month

September is Women's Health Month. The focus is on health promotion and disease prevention for women. Let's look at some screening tests for women.

There are some health screenings for women only. Examples of these screenings are a pap smear to detect cervical cancer and a mammogram to detect breast cancer. There are guidelines established by medical experts about how often a woman should have these screenings performed. If the woman cannot afford to have these procedures done, there are organizations that offer these screenings at reduced costs or free. Both of these screenings are extremely important, because both cervical and breast cancer are highly treatable if caught early.

In addition to the specific tests for women, there are tests that should be done if the woman has a family history of certain diseases. If there is a family history of diabetes, she should have her blood sugar checked. If there is a



history of hypertension and/or heart disease, or if the woman is at risk for these diseases, she should have her blood pressure monitored and have her blood cholesterol checked. Additional tests may also be ordered such as an EKG and a stress test for heart disease. Vision and hearing screenings should be done, especially if she has noticed any changes. When a woman reaches the age of 50, or if there is some concern before she reaches that age, then she should have a screening for colorectal cancer. Other screenings may be appropriate depending upon her place of employment, such as a tuberculosis skin test if she works in a health care setting.

During the month of September, remind the women in your life to take care of their health. One way is to have screening tests done. Check with your family doctor or parish nurse about what screenings are needed and don't hesitate to have them done.

Michalene King, RN, MS, Ed, MEd

September 2006

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Upcoming Events in September 2006

2-4	Closed for the Labor Day Holiday. No Mission Rejoice on Saturday, September 2, 2006	Closed
6	Lupus Support Group Meeting: Trinity Medical Center East	6:00 PM
7	Neighborhood Community Development Center (NCDC) Greater Steubenville Community Development Corporation	4:00 PM 5:00 PM
9, 16, 23, 30	Mission Rejoice (Saturday's from 6 PM—8PM)	6:00 PM
11, 18, 25	Parish Nurse (Monday's)	11:00 AM
12	God's Pantry Hunger Committee Meeting Finance Committee Meeting	10:00 AM 6:00 PM
13	Program/Evaluation Committee Meeting	2:00 PM
16	Shop for a Cause at Macy's (see insert for more details)	All Day
18	Lupus Support Group Meeting: Martin Luther King Center	6:00 PM
19	Packing for Food Distribution	9:00 AM
21	God's Pantry Food Distribution	9-12; 1-3
26	CSFP Senior Food Program	1:00 PM
28	Newsletter Folding Board of Directors Meeting	9:00 AM 4:30 PM

Hope Box
Our Needs are:



- Alarm Clocks
- Single Mattresses and Box Springs (good condition)
- Meat Cutter/Slicer (for Unity Kitchen)
- Cleaning Supplies
- Light Bulbs
- Laundry Baskets
- Towels and Washcloths
- Garbage Cans
- Pots and Pans