



BRIGHT HORIZONS

September 2003

Here Am I

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Thanks a Million!

Thanks to all of you who donated funds for Back to School supplies. Thanks to each of you that brought school supplies to the Mission. Thanks to the volunteers who came in to pack bags and distribute them on Friday, August 22, 2003. We were able to give supplies to 350 students from Steubenville City School and 280 to students from other area schools. It was a great day and thanks goes to all of you!

**-Sharon Kirtdoll
Community
Developer**

It is common for people all over the world to desire clarity, have clear boundaries, and to know the difference between right and wrong. The reason we desire clarity, boundaries and a clear moral compass is that life is filled with ambiguity, blurred boundaries and the lack of knowing right from wrong. Any given situation, no matter what the behavior, can be understood, explained, and melt right and wrong into a goo of helplessness and the avoidance of consequences for one's behavior. And that is not always a thing to be avoided. Sometimes grace looks like this.

Clarity, boundaries and ethics are the tools we employ to navigate life. They are guides that help us choose the best course of action in any given situation. They are the collective wisdom of many cultures and many centuries. Religion is often the guardian of the guides. Religious institutions play the role of maintaining clarity of thought and practice, maintaining appropriate boundaries and behaviors between individuals, and determining right from wrong. All of these things seem to be under attack in our society. Rather than any kind of attack folks are choosing new tools and guides. Don't worry! Those folks will be back to the old guides and tools very soon. They are old because they work! And like the now cancelled TV show, "Spin City", new tools and guides will soon reveal their weaknesses and fade away. Truth is always superior to half-truths and lies.

Religion is complex, but Isaiah 58: 6-10 makes it very clear. "Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen: to loose the chains of injustice and untie the cords of the yoke, to set the oppressed free and break every yoke? Is it not to share your food with the hungry and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter- when you see the naked, to clothe him, and not to turn away from your own flesh and blood? Then your light will break forth like the dawn, and your healing will quickly appear; then your righteousness will go before you, and the glory of the LORD will be your rear guard. Then you

will call, and the LORD will answer; you will cry for help, and he will say: Here am I. If you do away with the yoke of oppression, with the pointing finger and malicious talk, and if you spend yourselves in behalf of the hungry and satisfy the needs of the oppressed, then your light will rise in the darkness, and your night will become like the noonday."

Injustice, Oppression, Poverty, Abuse and the like are all around us. Basic needs go unmet in our community. It is easy for the Urban Mission to point out hunger, homelessness and poverty, but what about the retirees in our nation and our area. Social Security does not keep up with inflation. Health costs are simply ungodly. Now it is apparently legal to stop paying retiree health benefits, life insurance and pensions. The media clearly announced the legality of taking earned and paid for benefits from older folks. Some Federal Court, with lots of laws and no justice, said the actions are legal. The Bible teaches that we are to..."honor your father and mother." Most of us use this verse to teach our children to obey us, but the context of the verse is to care for our elderly parents. We are not supposed to throw away our parents because of the cost of caring for them. The Industry calls these individuals, "legacy costs." Current workers go along with this over fear of losing jobs. Who gets thrown out next?

Children make up the largest population of poor people in America. Feeding the poor and clothing the naked and sheltering the homeless means children and senior citizens more than ever before. Isaiah calls for people to "spend themselves" on behalf of the hungry, the oppressed, and the poverty stricken. Soon the darkness will turn to noonday bright. Sooner or later it comes down to loving people. Life is not about profit, worthiness, guilt or any other excuse we make to avoid caring for others. Life is always about God freely loving us, and us living life to the fullest by loving others.

-Love, Pastor Bruce

JOSHUA UPDATE

It is the end of the summer and time has flown by. It has been a spectacular summer and a wonderful blessing. Most of the groups have been spending a lot of their time in the Hutton Houses. They have completed things there such as dry walling, insulating, painting, plumbing, tiling and hanging cabinets.

The groups have scraped, primed and painted. Most of the houses have also needed other types of TLC. We have fixed porches, repaired ceilings, fixed faucets, cleaned gutters, reattached fences, and any number of other small carpentry projects.

The groups that have come are primarily Youth. Our youngest was 10 and our oldest 87! It always amazes me how these different ages and denominations can get together and do the work God has for them. I can say with 100% certainty that I am

truly blessed to have been given this opportunity to fellowship and work alongside some of God's servants.

Fast Facts:

Joshua Teams 2003 completed the following:

- Built 3 ramps
- Built 1 set of stairs
- Painted 10 houses
- Repaired 6 porches
- Completed extensive work on the Hutton House Homeless Shelters.

Most importantly, Joshua 2003 showed the love of Christ to a community in need.

Our theme this summer came from Matthew 20:26. "If you want to be great, you must be a servant of others . . ." This verse fits because people have come from all over to be God's servants. They have given of their time and money to work as God's representatives. Showing people in need, that they too are worthy of God's love and compassion.

-Shannan Farmer

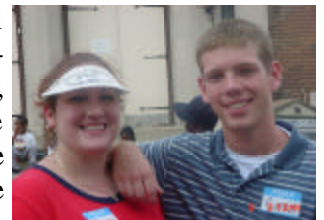
Third-year Joshua Site Supervisor

Urban Mission would like to thank Lou Petrozzi, Joshua Director and our site supervisors Shannan Farmer, Jared Schmidt and Rebecca Parrill for a job well done! May you continue to use your gifts to show the love of Christ to those in need.

"Blasting off with Jesus" Summer Program a Success!

The summer program began on Tuesday July 8, 2003 and ended on Friday, August 8. The program ran on Tuesday through Friday of each week from 10:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. The children were taken on field trips primarily on Friday's of each week. We went to a Pittsburgh Pirates game, Faith Ranch, and Oglebay Good Zoo and Carnegie Science Center. We also walked to the Steubenville Municipal Building and visited the Franciscan University computer lab. An entire week was spent for Vacation Bible School conducted by Quinn AME Church with the help of our volunteers. During the last week of the program, we went swimming at Belleview pool, had a closing ceremony and a pizza party. During the closing ceremony, we gave the children participation certificates, medals with the program name engraved on the back, McDonalds gift certificates and school supplies. At the pizza party, the children received small bags that contained a cross necklace, bracelets and hand stamps. They also took home bags that were filled with treats from the Urban Mission Warehouse. The finale came on Saturday, Au-

gust 9. That was our Annual Street Carnival. At the carnival, everything was free-food, games and entertainment. We also had favorable coverage in the Herald Star for the Summer Program and the carnival as well. This years Summer Program and Street Carnival was not only a blessing to the Children of this community but to the staff and volunteers of the Mission as well.



Jacky & Cory posing for a picture at the Annual Street Carnival.

-Jacky Hines, Summer Director & Cory Taylor, Coordinator

Urban Mission would like to congratulate Jacky and Cory for the beautiful job they did with the children during the Summer Program and at the Carnival. May you both continue to prosper and make a difference in the lives of our "little friends and neighbors" in the Ohio Valley.

Coat Giveaway

Our Annual Coat Giveaway is coming up soon. This years giveaway will be on October 20, 21, 22, 23, and 24 at the Warehouse. We need coats of all sizes for men, women and children. Please bring your coats to the Warehouse (in good condition) 311 North 6th Street by October 3, 2003. Help us make this winter a warm one for our low income friends and neighbors in need.



Many Thanks!

We thank you for your generous donation of clothing items to our Ministry in the past. Unfortunately, due to limited storage space at our warehouse, we are unable to accept clothing donations at the time. Your consideration to donate to the Mission is greatly appreciated. Please consider donating these items to Goodwill (740-264-6000), the Samaritan House (740-282-0563) or the City Rescue Mission (740-283-1621).

THE HOLIDAY'S ARE COMING!

It's time to think about Thanksgiving and Christmas Distributions already! We are moving into our busy time of the year. There will be lots of activity and we need many hands to move it along smoothly. Would you like to come in and help? Listed to the right is the holiday activities scheduled for 2003. Please check over the list and mark your calendar as to the times you would like to help during this busy time. Please let us know as soon as possible when you would like to come in so that we can be wise stewards of your time and abilities.

Our "Stocking for Teens" Program continues to grow. Of course, that means we are going to do it again this year. To those of you who have helped in the past and to those who want to know more about this program, we are waiting for your call. We'll help you and/or your group to get started with this project. Now is also the time to decide if you would like to help with the Christmas Kids project. We will probably have another year of more than 500 children who would like to be adopted. We will assist you with whatever number of names you, your family or group would like to adopt. By participating in this program, you will be putting gifts under Christmas trees where there may not have been any. However you decide to help during the holidays, give Linda a call at 282-2911. She will be glad to add your name(s) to her "Holiday Helper" list.

For those of you who are having fun with the Thanksgiving Challenge...the items for the month of September are CANNED PEACHES OR PEARS. And again, thank you to all of you who are participating. It is wonderful to see the items coming in.

-Linda L. Poe, Program Director

REGISTRATION FOR THANKSGIVING CHRISTMAS KIDS

COAT DISTRIBUTION
October 20, 21, 22, 23, 24
9:00 – 12:00 & 1:00 – 3:00

PACKING BAGS FOR THANKSGIVING

West Virginia – November 11

Beginning at 10:00 AM

Ohio – November 18

Beginning at 10:00 AM

(Lunch will be provided for volunteers)

WV THANKSGIVING DISTRIBUTION

November 14

9:00 – 12:00

OHIO THANKSGIVING DISTRIBUTION

November 19

9:00 – 12:00 & 1:00 – 3:00

November 20

9:00 – 12:00

CHRISTMAS TOY DISTRIBUTION

West Virginia – December 11

9:00 – 12:00

Ohio – December 18 & 19

9:00 – 12:00 & 1:00 – 3:00

MISSION REJOICE CANDLELIGHT

SERVICE

December 20

6:00 – 8:00

PARISH NURSE NEWS: BEWARE OF LICE

School is in session. Children are studying together and playing together. They are engaged in sports activities and slumber parties. They are exchanging caps, combs, and hair ribbons. While engaging in these seemingly innocent activities, they can also be spreading head lice. Let's take a few minutes to learn some facts about head lice.

Anyone who comes in close contact with someone who already has head lice, or that person's contaminated clothing or belongings is at risk for getting head lice. Preschool and elementary school children and their families are infested most often. Girls and women get head lice more often than boys and men. As many as 6-12 million people worldwide get head lice every year.

Head lice can be found in 3 forms: the nit, the nymph, and the adult louse. Nits are head lice eggs, which are firmly attached to the hair shaft. They are oval and yellow or white in color. They are hard to see and can be confused for dandruff or hair products. A nit takes about 1 week to hatch into a baby louse, which is called a nymph. Nymphs look like adult lice, but are much smaller. Nymphs mature in about 7 days and must feed on blood. An adult louse is about the size of a sesame seed, has 6 legs, and is tan to grayish-white in color. Female lice are larger and lay nits. Adult lice live up to 30 days on a person's head and need

to feed on blood. If a louse falls off a person, it dies within 2 days. Head lice are commonly found on the scalp behind the ears and near the neckline at the back of the neck. They hold on to hair with hook-like claws found at the end of each of their 6 legs. Head lice infestation is diagnosed by closely looking through the hair and scalp for nits, nymphs, or adult lice. Nymphs and adult lice move quickly and may be difficult to find. Nits are only found within ¼ inch of the scalp. If you are not sure if a person has head lice, the diagnosis should be made by a health care professional, such as the school nurse or your family physician. Head lice are treated using either prescription or over-the-counter medications.

In summary, head lice are common in school age children. Lice infestation is diagnosed by observation of nits, nymphs, or adult lice on the scalp. Lice infestation is treated with either prescription or over-the-counter medication. Follow the medication directions exactly. Treat the environment to prevent re-infestation. Teach your children to avoid activities that will put them at risk for becoming infested with head lice. Additional information about head lice infestation can be obtained from the Centers for Disease Control Website, www.cdc.gov under the section entitled "Health Topics A-Z". -*Michalene A. King, RN, MSEd, MSN*

SEPTEMBER 2003

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Upcoming Events in September 2003

1	LABOR DAY HOLIDAY: MISSION CLOSED	
2	Hunger Committee Meeting	10:00 AM
3	Program/Evaluation Committee	2:00 PM
6	Mission Rejoice: Lakemore UMC	6:00 PM
8	Parish Nurse	11:00 AM
9	Finance Committee Meeting	6:00 PM
13	Mission Rejoice: Mt Pleasant Friends	6:00 PM
15	Parish Nurse	11:00 AM
16	Packing of Food Distribution Bags	9:00 AM
18	God's Pantry Ohio Food Distribution	9-12; 1-3
20	Mission Rejoice: Jeff & Pam Cox	6:00 PM
22	Parish Nurse	11:00 AM
24	Lupus Meeting	6-8 PM
25	God's Pantry West Virginia Food Distribution	9-12
25	Board of Directors Meeting	4:30 PM
27	Mission Rejoice: Winsom Class (Finley UMC) Speaker: Molly Buccafurni	6:00 PM
29	Parish Nurse	11:00 AM
30	CSFP Seniors Food Distribution	9:00 AM
	<i>Bible Study every Friday at the Mission by Min. Toni Hubbard</i>	4-6 PM

Hope Box:

Our needs are:

- Canned Foods
- Volunteers
- Color Laser Printer



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