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Rev. Ashley Steele, Executive Director

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November 2017

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN NOVEMBER?

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Food Pick-up Group A-E 8:00am-2:30pm Unity Kitchen open 12-1pm	2 Food Pick-up Group A-E 8:00am-2:30pm	3	4 Mission Rejoice 5-7 pm
5 Daylight Savings Ends Fall Back	6 Unity Kitchen open 12-1pm	7 Food Pick-up Group F-L 8:00am-2:30pm Unity Kitchen open 12-1pm	8 Food Pick-up Group F-L 8:00am-2:30pm Unity Kitchen open 12-1pm	9 Food Pick-up Group F-L 8:00am-2:30pm	10 Veterans Day Mission Rejoice 5-7 pm	11
12	13 Unity Kitchen open 12-1pm	14 Food Pick-up Groups M-R & S-Z 8:00am-2:30pm Unity Kitchen open 12-1pm	15 Food Pick-up Groups M-R & S-Z 8:00am-2:30pm Unity Kitchen open 12-1pm	16 Food Pick-up Groups M-R & S-Z 8:00am-2:30pm	17	18 Mission Rejoice 5-7 pm
19	20 Unity Kitchen open 12-1pm	21 Unity Kitchen open 12-1pm	22 No Produce Holiday Meal Offices Close at 12pm	23 Thanksgiving Offices Closed	24 Offices Closed for Thanksgiving	25 No Mission Rejoice (Holiday Weekend)
26	27 Unity Kitchen open 12-1pm	28 Unity Kitchen open 12-1pm Senior Food Boxes	29 Open Produce Unity Kitchen open 12-1pm	30 Newsletter Folding 9am-1pm		

Celebrating the good!

Dear friends,

We all love a good news story, don't we? But, if you're like me, I must admit, these days I find myself searching for good news anywhere I can find it!

Thankfully at the Urban Mission, I don't have to look too hard! Each day there are opportunities to see "the good" at work. From the smiling faces of our volunteers, to our ever so generous donors, to the hugs I get each time I serve at the Unity Kitchen or stop by the pantry, it is a feeling that can't be beat.

We celebrate "the good" often at the Urban Mission – really any chance we get!

Why? Because it is a gift from God, a reminder that God is still in control and desires only good things for our world, our communities, and our families.

This holiday season I once again invite you to "be the good." Whether it's giving to the Urban Mission in the special way God calls you, or simply "being the good" to those you encounter each day.

I think you'll enjoy this newsletter as it will give you a number of opportunities to do "good" this holiday season.

Rev. Ashley
Rev. Ashley
Executive Director



P.S. If you'd like to purchase your own "Be the Good Shirt," please call us at 740.282.8010 or email me at asteel@urbanmission.org

THANKSGIVING IS ALMOST HERE!

WE NEED YOU!

With a gift of \$35 or more, you can provide a family of four with a hearty Thanksgiving feast with plenty of leftovers!

Here's a sneak peak of some of the items that will be on our shelves this Thanksgiving, thanks to you!

- Mashed potatoes & Gravy
- Sweet Potatoes & Marshmallows
- Noodles
- Stuffing
- Macaroni & Cheese
- Corn & Peas
- Cranberry Sauce
- Cranberry Juice
- Cake Mix & Icing
- Jello
- Applesauce
- Mandarin Oranges
- Eggs
- Fresh Bread
- Fresh Produce
- Meat Gift Certificate
- & lots of love!

CHRISTMAS IS COMING SOON!

Turn the page to see how you can "be the good" this Christmas season.

Doing Good at Thanksgiving!

It's Thanksgiving all month long at the Urban Mission and we'd love for you to join us in the celebrations.

Here are ways you can "do good" this month:

- ⇒ **PRAY:** Pray for our families & the Mission. More than 1,000 families will be impacted by your generosity and prayers this holiday season.
- ⇒ **VOLUNTEER:** Volunteers are needed at our Client Choice food pantry and Unity Kitchen each week in November. To reserve your spot, call Cynthia Lytle at 740.282.8010.
- ⇒ **GIVE:** Every gift of \$35 provides a family of four a Thanksgiving feast with leftovers. Send your donation in the enclosed envelope or give online at www.urbanmission.org.
- ⇒ **BAKE A PIE:** Our hope is to give every family a pie to share during our Thanksgiving shared meal on November 22nd. If you enjoy baking, let us know and we'd love to give a family in need a special treat from you! All pies can be dropped off at the Urban Mission church the week of November 20th.
- ⇒ **DONATE:** We are in need of pot holders and plastic bags at our Unity Kitchen. If you have these items at home and would like to donate them, we would greatly appreciate it!

Now Booking Thom Turkey!



Thom Turkey is looking forward to visiting your church, business, school or event this Thanksgiving season to spread the word that "ending hunger is possible."

Call our Turkey Line at 740.282.8010 or send an email to Vanessa at vsappy@urbanmission.org to reserve your spot.

Each visit includes a special presentation geared for your group about ending hunger and a photo opportunity.

Community Thanksgiving Service

On Wednesday, November 22, at 7pm, area churches will come together to host an ecumenical Thanksgiving service for the entire community.

This Thanksgiving Eve Celebration service will be held at Word of Life Fellowship Church on Lovers Lane in Steubenville.

Please join us at this special event to give thanks to God for all the good happening in our community.

Jobs for Life

At the Urban Mission we believe that God has given every human being a unique set of gifts and abilities to be used for good. In light of this conviction, we are pursuing new ministry goals in 2018.

One of our goals is to launch our newly established **Jobs for Life Work Initiative!**

Jobs for Life is a tool used by churches and non-profits to help disciple men and women around the theology of work.

At the Urban Mission, we understand that many people face unique challenges when it comes to gaining and keeping meaningful employment. The Jobs for Life program is a Biblical approach to helping people find healing and transformation through work.

But, it's more than just an employment program! It's a life transformation ministry that helps people to embrace the God-given dignity.

Our staff and volunteers recently completed the initial Jobs for Life Training in October.



At the start of the new year, we'll be holding a few community meetings where you will be invited to learn more about the Jobs for Life program and what opportunities there will be to get involved. Communities grow when people come together.

Would you join us on this journey? Contact Kelly Jeffers at 740-282-8010

Christmas Giving Opportunities

This year, we are excited to offer a number of giving opportunities to bless someone this Christmas season. Once you have found your special project, please contact Ms. Cynthia Lytle who will be happy to answer any questions you might have. Ms. Cynthia can be reached at 740.282.8010 or clytle@urbanmission.org

ADOPT A CHILD & help provide new toys for our Christmas Shop. Begin shopping now for an age group of your choice. Be sure to call us for more details!



COLLECT NEW GLOVES, hats, & scarves for children and adults. These can be dropped off at the Urban Mission at any time!



SHOP FOR TEENS: This year we are in need of toiletries, candy & gift cards for teen boys & girls.



URGENT NEED: This year we will have more teens than ever before! We are in need of at least 280 gift bags for teens who have already registered.

DONATE GENTLY USED TOYS such as games and puzzles for our Santa's Recycle Shop. Please, no stuffed animals or broken toys. We are asking that all toys are clean and have all their working parts.



VOLUNTEER AT CHRISTMAS:

This year, every week in December leading up to Christmas will be jam packed full of volunteer opportunities for you to participate in. Please let us know if you'd like to help out with food or gifts and we'll get you connected to the right ministry! Call us at 740.282.8010 or email: clytle@urbanmission.org.

The Road to Resilience

On October 2nd, a group of Urban Mission staff hit the road headed for Detroit, Michigan to attend the CCDA (Christian Community Development Association) National Conference.



Each year, Christian Community Developers from across the nation and world come together for a week of workshops, ministry tours, plenary sessions and networking opportunities - all designed to inspire, train, and connect Christians who seek to reclaim and restore under-resourced communities for God's glory.

"Resilience", was the theme for the 2017 CCDA Conference, and Detroit was the perfect setting for our staff to see "resilience" at work.



During their week of training our staff had a chance to take part in a "Go & See" Ministry Tour to Flint, Michigan. There they met individuals, families, congregations, and a community who are resilient in their fight against a horrific water crisis, the burden of

urban poverty, and an ever-increasing crime rate. In the mist of despair, you can see glimmers of hope, revitalization, and reconciliation through ministries like Bethel UMC, Urban Renaissance Center, and Joy Tabernacle Church who currently serve as water and food distribution sites, and actively advocate for their neighbors suffering through the water crisis. Our staff described the ministry opportunity as an experience that has forever changed their lives.

In addition to receiving training, the CCDA National Conference is an opportunity for the Urban Mission's Community Development Program (NCCDC) to be represented on a national level.



Through networking and meet-and-greet sessions, the work of the Urban Mission has been shared with individuals from all across the country.

We look forward to seeing what our staff will do with the information gained at the conference as they continue to carry out the spirit of resilience in our own Ohio Valley!