

June 2012



URBAN  
MISSION

"Listening With Compassion,  
Serving With Love"

# BRIGHT HORIZONS

A Newsletter Ministry of Urban Mission

Rev. Ashley A. Steele, Executive Director

Angie Brown, Newsletter Editor

## ***A message from Rev. Ashley***

A little over a year ago a book titled, *"When Helping Hurts"* caught my attention. Written by co-authors, Steven Corbett, a relief and development worker, and Brian Fikkert, a college professor, this book provides a framework for churches and individuals to better serve the economic and spiritual needs of low-income people. In the book, the authors argue that, although North American Christians do attempt to alleviate poverty, the methods used often do considerable harm to both the materially poor and the materially non-poor.

"Now to him who is able to  
do immeasurably more than  
all we ask or imagine..."

– Ephesians 3:20

This was a shocking revelation to me! Could this be true? Have my efforts in the past, and even today, be a hindrance for those seeking to advance their spiritual and economic well-being?

This is a question we wrestle with at the Urban Mission as well. With every ministry, every project, every program we offer, we ask the question, *"Are we helping, or hurting those we serve?"* And even though we are still seeking the answers to that question, there are a number of initiatives at the Mission which, we believe, are making a difference in the lives of who come through our doors each day.

For example:

- At our **Hutton House**, Ms. Debra Bryan offers residents the opportunity to serve as Resident Managers. In this position, residents learn office skills, housekeeping, maintenance, and ultimately, a sense of dignity.
- At our **Unity Kitchen**, Rev. Toni invites those who eat, to serve as well. Opportunities for service include: food preparation, serving, wrapping silverware, and dishwashing.
- At **God's Pantry**, clients will soon have the option to choose which foods they would like to receive. Bud, Ms. Linda and Ms. Patti are working hard to create a Client Choice Pantry – a new system intended to eliminate waste, encourage healthy choices, and engage clients in their own decision making. A series of classes on nutrition, budgeting, couponing, and cooking will be offered to assist our clients in making wise decisions with their health, their finances and well-being.
- Our **Neighborhood Community Developer**, Ms. Sharon, strives to empower the African American community through Minority Health events, trainings, and local conversations.

We are only just beginning, and with your help, we can continue to "help" those we serve!

God's blessings,

*Rev. Ashley*

Rev. Ashley

## *Ministry Opportunities*

Urban Mission offers several programs where volunteers are needed. Lately, you have seen our request for folks to come forward and serve on our committees. Many are probably a little concerned as to what would be involved serving in this capacity. I thought I would use this space to clear up some of those concerns.

Thought #1: Committees can be very effective ways to organize projects. They allow us to tap into the many diverse skills and talents of our friends and neighbors, producing a result superior to what any one individual would be capable.

Committees are particularly useful when a complex problem needs to be solved and innovation and creativity are required. Using a group process also creates an investment in the outcome and a sense of ownership of the project by committee members. People are committed to what they have created.

Thought #2: Committees provide opportunities for individuals to develop knowledge and skills in areas to which they may not normally be exposed.

If you are sitting back wondering what it would take for you to be an effective committee member, here are some thoughts:

- Approach your appointment to a committee with a positive attitude.
- Be familiar with the purpose of the committee.
- Be clear about the fact that you represent more than just yourself on a committee.
- Attend meetings regularly and be on time.
- If you are unable to attend a meeting, find out what is expected.
- Willingly volunteer to complete assignments between meetings.
- Be responsible in meeting deadlines for assignments accepted.
- Pair up with someone who has a skill you would like to develop.
- Volunteer for roles you do not normally take.
- Speak up and give your thoughtful opinions about matters being discussed.
- Be respectful when other committee members are speaking.

Now, this doesn't sound too bad after all, does it? Give us a call and tell us you are now ready to serve on one of our committees. We would love to say... "Welcome Aboard"!!

-Linda L. Smith, Program Director/Volunteer Coordinator

## *Food Re-Registration*

Each year participants in our Food Program must re-register to confirm eligibility to receive food assistance. New families are also welcome to register. Food Registration will take place:

**June 25, 26 & 27, 2012**

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

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

If you have some free time and would like to help register our families, we could use your help!

We currently have 1700+ families to be re-registered. The more volunteers we have, the faster the registration process will go.

I will have two training sessions for the volunteers. They will be held at the Warehouse, 311 North 6th Street in Steubenville. The dates and times will be June 18 (Monday) at 10:00 am and June 19 (Tuesday) at 1:00 PM.

If you would like to come in and help, give me a call. If you would like more information before making a decision, give me a call at 740-282-2911.

-Linda Smith, Program Director/Volunteer Coordinator

## *Shoe Distribution Successful*

Our **Biennial Shoe Giveaway was held May 21, 22 and 23**. The free event that was open to the public was held at our Warehouse Ministry Center. Lines began forming for the event as much as forty-five minutes before the scheduled start time.

**During the three-day event, 228 people visited the Warehouse and a total of 965 pairs of shoes were given to those in need.** This year we were blessed to be able to provide many children's shoes.

A special "Thank You!" to all of the groups, Churches and individuals who donated shoes for this event. Thank you also to those who helped sort and organize the items for the Giveaway. You are appreciated!

~Sharon Kirtdoll, Community Developer

## *Order of Elders Visit the Mission*

During the month of May, the Order of Elders of the East Ohio Conference of the United Methodist Church visited Steubenville to help out with our JOSHUA Program. This



two-day opportunity allowed clergy to experience our various mission centers with the possibility of bringing members of their congregations to do work at a later date.



The Elders scraped and painted walls and helped repair flooring and more. Thank you to these hard workers who took time out of their schedules to help families in need. God bless you all!

## Parish Nurse News: Foodborne Illnesses

Now that spring is here and summer is fast approaching, we will be attending picnics and parties where food will be available for long periods of time. Those foods need to be properly handled so that they do not become contaminated. Let's take a few minutes and review information about foodborne illnesses and the measures to prevent the spread of foodborne illnesses.



These foodborne illnesses are caused by infectious organisms including bacteria, viruses, and parasites. Infectious foodborne illnesses are spread in several ways including: contaminated food, contaminated drinking water, contaminated swimming water, and from toddler to toddler at day care centers. Some of the most common foodborne infections are caused by *Campylobacter*, *Salmonella*, *E. coli* 0157:H7 and a group of viruses.

Foodborne infections are linked to certain foods. These foods include: raw meat and poultry, raw eggs, unpasteurized milk, and raw shellfish. Foods that mingle the products of many individualized animals, such as bulk raw milk, pooled raw eggs, or ground beef are particularly hazardous because a pathogen present in one animal may contaminate the whole batch. Fruits and vegetables consumed raw are a particular concern as washing may decrease but not eliminate contamination. Outbreaks have also been linked to fresh fruits and vegetables that were processed under less than sanitary conditions.

Foodborne infectious illnesses are caused by different organisms and are spread in several ways. Take the necessary precautions to ensure that you will be safe and seek medical assistance if you believe you have contacted a foodborne illness.

~Michalene A. King, PhD, RN, CNE

Many foodborne illnesses are caused by consuming contaminated foods and beverages.

Protect Yourself from foodborne infections by following these precautions:

- Cook meat, poultry and eggs thoroughly. Ground beef should be cooked to an internal temperature of 160 F and eggs should be cooked until the yolk is firm.
- Avoid cross-contaminating foods by washing hands, utensils, and cutting boards after they have been in contact with raw meat or poultry and before they touch another food. Put cooked meat on a clean platter, rather than back on the one that held the raw meat.
- Refrigerate leftovers promptly as bacteria can grow quickly at room temperature. Any leftover foods that cannot be eaten within 4 hours must be refrigerated. Divide large volumes of food into smaller containers so they will cool more quickly.
- Wash produce under running water to remove visible dirt and grime. Remove and discard outer leaves of lettuce and cabbage. Be careful not to contaminate fruit and vegetables while slicing them on a cutting board and avoid leaving cut produce at room temperature for many hours. Wash hands with soap and water before preparing food and avoid preparing food for others if you have a diarrheal illness.
- Report suspected foodborne illnesses to your local health department and cooperate with any investigation.

## JOSHUA Home Repair Program to Begin

Our JOSHUA Program Director, Ron Snyder, and his Office Assistant, Sara Green, have been busy organizing and planning for the arrival of the Work Mission Teams to Steubenville. **Our first official group of the season is set to arrive on Sunday, June 3, 2012.**



The JOSHUA (Journeys of Service Helping Upper Appalachia) Program matches up work teams from all over the Eastern United States and Ohio with low-income homeowners in need of home repairs. Groups provide a labor of love by coming to Steubenville, often travelling hundreds of miles, just to be a blessing to those less fortunate. Typical projects work groups complete are porch repairs, building ramps for handicapped individuals, interior and exterior painting and landscaping.

Urban Mission is proud to welcome the following work groups to Steubenville:

**June 3-June 8, 2012**

***Sacred Heart Griffin, Springfield, IL***

**Host Church: Second Baptist Church, Steubenville**

**June 10-15, 2012**

***Peace UMC, Brookfield, WI***

**Host Church: Richmond UMC, Richmond, OH**

**June 17-22, 2012**

***Trumbull County Youth, Warren, OH***

**Host Church: (Open-to serve call 282-8010)**

**June 24-June 29, 2012**

***Canal Fulton UMC, Canal Fulton, OH***

**Host Church: (Open)**

We are excited and anxious to see how God will use the group's efforts to transform the homes of those in need while also transforming the lives of group members.

### Connect With Us

Keep up-to-date with the Mission's happenings by visiting us online at [www.urbanmission.org](http://www.urbanmission.org). Don't forget to like us on Facebook. Just search for Urban Mission of Steubenville, OH. The Mission is on the move. Keep connected!

### Mission Needs

- ◇ Vacuum (for the Warehouse)
- ◇ Large circle fan (for the Warehouse)
- ◇ Weedwacker (for the Warehouse)
- ◇ Water hose (for the church)
- ◇ Gas cards for Mission vehicles
- ◇ Plastic Grocery Bags

There will be no **Hunger Committee, Program/Evaluation or Board of Directors Meetings** for the month of June. Enjoy your month off!

### NCDC News

A new program year for the **Lupus Optimum Health Program** will begin soon. Check out our first video on YouTube by visiting: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IGC0o8Uss9E>

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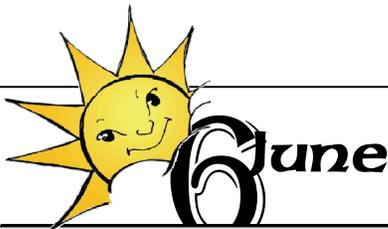
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*What's Happening in June 2012?*

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> Mission Rejoice 6pm
<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Parish Nurse 11am Lupus Mtg. 6pm	<b>5</b> No Hunger Committee Mtg.	<b>6</b> No Program/ Evaluation Mtg.	<b>7</b> NCDC Meeting 4:00pm	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> Mission Rejoice 6pm
<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Parish Nurse 11am	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> Mission Rejoice 6pm
<b>17</b> <i>Father's Day</i>	<b>18</b> Parish Nurse 11am	<b>19</b> Packing for Food Distribution 9am	<b>20</b> Food Distribution 9-12; 1-3	<b>21</b> Food Distribution 9-12; 1-3	<b>22</b> Food Distribution 9-12; 1-3	<b>23</b> Mission Rejoice 6pm
<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Parish Nurse 11am Food Registration 9-12; 1-3	<b>26</b> CSFP Senior Distribution 1pm Food Registration 9-12; 1-3	<b>27</b> Food Registration 9-12; 1-3	<b>28</b> NL Folding 9am No UM Board of Directors Meeting	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> Mission Rejoice 6pm