

Bright Horizons servanthood

Rev. Ashley A. Steele, Executive Director
Angie Brown, Newsletter Editor

A Word from Our Director

Dear friends,

Sometimes it shocks me to realize that the Urban Mission has been in our community for over fifty years. Back in 1959, we were a single focused ministry in one location; today, we operate out of four locations each addressing a specific need in our community. We have become a part of the fabric of our city —caring for real people we love.

This year, we have a unique opportunity to show God's love once again. This month we launch our "Campaign for Good." It's a simple concept, but one with wide reaching effect.

Yes, we'll be raising money to expand our hunger, homeless, and health programs, but we'll also be spreading goodness in our community through random acts of kindness.

Simply, it is a campaign of both hands and hearts. Hands outstretched to give – hearts open to receive. By joining with us in this campaign, you have an opportunity to "spread goodness" to a community who so desperately needs to hear a good word or two.

But here's the twist... what we will be doing may not always go public. Our attempts to reach out to our community in love may never be known...at least not on this side of eternity.

As we've found, God changes the world not through fancy fundraising campaigns, flashy websites, or unique commercials, but through humility and service.

As we see in the Bible, God's decision again and again to give up His power – from when He came to earth in the form of a crying baby, to when he fasted in the desert, to when He allowed people to torture and execute Him – teaches us something very important: the world will not be changed when we ascend to power, only when we drop to our knees and symbolically (or in our case, literally) wash the feet of those around us.

This idea of servant-hood is a strange concept to most people these days, but it is highly effective. For these next few months, won't you join us in this "conspiracy of goodness?"

There are a number of ways to get involved – as you'll see in this newsletter. Whether it's donating to our hunger or homeless ministry, purchasing a "goodie box" for a community servant, or donating items for our foot washing event – your participation will make a difference "for good" in our community!

May God bless you as you prepare your hearts for Easter – the true essence of "Good News" to a hurting world!

You co-conspirator in doing good,

Rev. Ashley

Rev. Ashley

Monthly Ministry Highlights

- 995 families received food from our grocery distribution (2,415 individuals)
55,584 lbs. of food distributed
- 115 bags of emergency grocery assistance
2,300 lbs. of food distributed
- 200 senior food boxes through the Senior Food Program
6,200 lbs. of food distributed
- 1,420 hot Meals served at our Unity Kitchen
14 days of operation
- 23 free haircuts
- 57 health visits to our Parish Nurse Team
- 14 individuals received a free eye exam and glasses (*through a partnership with Prevent Blindness Ohio*)
- 9 adults and 13 children housed in our homeless shelter.
- 8 "life-skills" classes presented to shelter residents on budgeting, parenting, nutrition and conflict management.

(January 2013)



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www.urbanmission.org



“CAMPAIGN FOR GOOD”

The Urban Mission is proud to announce our “Campaign for Good”. This effort to “*spread the goodness*” was developed out of the hearts of individuals desiring to spread good to a hurting community through random acts of kindness. To the broken, we spread healing. To the disappointed, we spread hope. To the wounded, we spread love. To those in turmoil, we spread peace.

We invite you to “spread goodness” as well. The Mission has several ways you can spread goodness to the community. Some ways are:



Spread Goodness with a monetary donation to help feed the hungry and shelter the homeless.

- A \$25 donation will provide food for 2 families for March's food distribution.
- A \$50 donation will provide for 4 families
- A \$100 donation will help 8 families

You can send a donation in the envelope provided or donate online at www.urbanmission.org.

For a gift of \$20 or more, for an additional \$5, Mission staff will anonymously deliver a goodie box to a public servant or a complete stranger. Or you may pick up a goodie box and share it with a special person or friend.



We invite you to join us on Maundy Thursday, March 28 at Urban Mission from 10-2. You can participate in foot washing or collect soap, bath wash, towels, etc. to be distributed.

Throughout the months of March and April, host an event or fundraiser “for good”. All donations collected will be used toward your program of choice at the Urban Mission.



What goodness will *you* spread?



Campaign for Good

Yes, I would love to spread the goodness by:

____ Giving a donation to feed the hungry or provide shelter to a homeless family.
Enclosed is my donation of: \$25 \$50 \$75 \$100 Other: _____

____ I've enclosed an additional \$5. Please send a “goodie box” to a community servant. You may choose from the following:
 Local military personnel or veteran Teacher/Administrator Mail Carrier
 Firefighter/Police Officer Hospital/Nursing Home Patient Cashier
 Waiter/Waitress Custodian Pastor/Clergy Elected Official
 Complete Stranger

____ Join in with us as we become servants by to our neighbors by participating in a community foot washing service.

____ Host a “for good” fundraiser. All proceeds will go toward a program of your choice at the Urban Mission.

HUTTON HOUSE ITEMS NEEDED

Our Hutton House® shelter is in need of the following items:

Light Bulbs Mops Batteries (9 volt & AA) Microwaves

HELP CORNER



Did you know the Mission has many other programs besides our Hunger ministries? Yes, our hunger program is one of the largest in the Ohio Valley; however, there are other seasonal programs available as well. Have a need? Check out our “*Help Corner*” each month to see what assistance is available to you.

Vision Care

Are you in need of an eye exam or new glasses? Our Vision Care program can help qualified low-income individuals (children & adults) receive an exam and/or glasses free of charge. To qualify an applicant must be low-income and have no vision insurance. Medicare patients may also be eligible for free eyeglasses only with a valid prescription. Call Sara at 740-282-8010 or stop in and complete an application today!

Lupus Support Group

Do you or someone you love have Lupus? We invite you to join our Lupus Education and Support group meeting. Meetings are held every first Monday of the month here in Steubenville.

Support groups bring together people who have been through, or are going through a similar circumstance or illness. Other group members can do more than sympathize with you — they can relate to what you are going through and keep you from feeling like you are alone. Support groups can also be a great place to find practical tips and resources about coping mechanisms, medical treatments and more.

Guest speakers from the healthcare field and the community are often invited to present information on nutrition, exercise, proper rest and other information helpful to Lupus patients. If you are interested in learning more about our Support Group, or attending a meeting, call Sharon Kirtdoll at 740-282-8010.

Scholarship Program

Applications for the Robert E. Hutton Memorial Scholarship are available for low income students of any age pursuing higher education. Students must be currently enrolled in an accredited institution to be eligible. Other evaluation criteria include church and community involvement. Call us for an application or print a copy from our website. Applications are due by Tuesday, April 2, 2013.

JOSHUA Program

Applications for the JOSHUA Home Repair program are available to low-income homeowners. Projects that may be completed include minor home repairs, painting, yard work and building wheelchair ramps for the handicapped. The JOSHUA program does NOT repair/replace roofs, furnaces or windows. Applications are due by May 1.

For additional details about this program or to receive an application, call us or stop in to the Mission.

FEINSTEIN MATCHING FUNDS

Our Annual Feinstein matching funds program is underway. For the 16th year Rhode Island Philanthropist, Alan Shawn Feinstein has pledged to proportionately match monetary and non-perishable food item donations among agencies in the US fighting hunger. What a great opportunity. For each donation you make, Mr. Feinstein will add some of his money to it!

To learn more about this program, give us a call at 740-282-8010 or visit our website at www.urbanmission.org. If sending in a donation by mail, please mark "Feinstein" on your envelope. You can also learn about Mr. Feinstein and his effort to fight hunger by visiting www.feinsteinfoundation.org. Thank you for caring!

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION LUNCHEON

Plans are in the works for our **Annual Volunteer Luncheon**. This luncheon recognizes all the faithful volunteers who gave of their time and talents in 2012. A total of 43,515 hours of volunteer service was completed by hundreds of volunteers. What a testament of love and service to a community!



We invite all of you who've served in 2012 to a special celebration in your honor. The Volunteer Luncheon will be held on **Friday, April 26, 2013** at Noon at Wintersville United Methodist Church, 702 Main Street, Wintersville. Our theme is, **"Our volunteers help us to grow...growing hope, change and happiness"**.

This will be an afternoon of great fellowship and good food. We will be honoring our 2012 outstanding volunteers as well as remembering the faithful servants who have passed on in 2012.

To reserve your seat, call us at 740-282-2911 by Monday, April 15.



NCDC NEWS

Healthy-U Diabetes Classes

Classes are forming now for the April, May and June sessions of the Healthy-U Diabetes Classes. Classes meet one day a week for six weeks and teach participants how to manage diabetes through lifestyle changes. For more information or to register for a class, please call 740-282-8010.

Minority Health Month

April is Minority Health Month in Ohio. The purpose of Minority Healthy month is to raise awareness of health issues in the minority community with emphasis on prevention and early detection. Look for a list of activities and dates in next issue.

Minority Health Month programs are funded by the Ohio Commission on Minority Health.

VOLUNTEER TEACHERS WANTED

We are in need of volunteers to help with the children's ministry on Saturday evenings during our Mission Rejoice Services. Services are held each Saturday in our beautiful sanctuary from 6-7 p.m. followed by a meal in our fellowship hall.

If you are interested in volunteering for the children's ministry, please call us at 740-282-8010.

PARISH NURSE NEWS: POISON PREVENTION

During the month of March, we celebrate National Poison Prevention Week. This is a time to remind ourselves to look through our homes for substances that can potentially be poisonous. Let's review some precautions that we can take to prevent poisonings.



One on-going problem area is medications. Young children, especially toddlers, are very curious and may mistake a bottle of medication for candy. Although there are childproof lids, many of these lids are easier for children to open than adults. For those reasons, it is necessary to place all medications in an out-of-reach area, preferably a locked cabinet. Remember when visiting grandparents to remind them to put their medications away while the children are visiting.

Across the United States, around 800,000 kids are rushed to the emergency room each year because of accidental poisoning.

Vitamins and herbal supplements must also be treated as medications, especially vitamins made for children, which are usually flavored and may resemble candy. Children's medications may come flavored and in various forms, such as fizzy drinks and lollipops, so make sure that these medications are locked away and that you stress to the child he/she is receiving medication.

Another problem area is household chemicals especially cleaning products. All cleaning products must be placed out of the reach of children, preferably in a locked cabinet. Many cleaning products now have good fragrances, such as a fruit smell or another pleasant aroma. Make sure that you keep these products in their original containers and out of reach, so children do not accidentally drink these products.

Another product that can potentially poison the members of your family is mothballs. Prolonged contact with this product can lead to anemia from destruction of red blood cells. If you have been using mothballs, make sure that the mothballs and clothing are in sealed containers. When you remove the clothes from the containers, air out the container and clean the clothes to remove the moth repellent before wearing the clothing.

Around 100,000 children end up in the E.R. each year after ingesting medication belonging to grandparents, and such cases of exposure to medicine through grandparents account for as many as 10-20% of all accidental medication poisonings.

If you suspect that someone has ingested a poisonous substance, call 911 or seek emergency treatment immediately. If there is a container from the product, take the container to the emergency room as well. The sooner the product can be identified, the sooner that treatment can begin.

Remember to check your home during the month of March for products that can be potentially poisonous to any members of your family. Store these products safely and use them cautiously. Accidental poisonings can happen fast, but can have prolonged consequences, so take the time to prevent accidental poisonings.

Michalene A. King, PhD, RN, CNE

Urban Mission Ministries, Inc.
 301 North 5th Street
 Steubenville, OH 43952

Phone: 740-282-8010
 Fax: 740-282-8514

Email: mail@urbanmission.org
www.urbanmission.org

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

LABEL

MARCH 2013						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 Mission Rejoice 6pm
3	4 Team Mtg. 10am Parish Nurse 11am	5	6 Bible Study w/ Rev. Toni 10am	7 NCDC Mtg. 4pm	8 Mid Ohio Delivery	9 Mission Rejoice 6pm
10 <i>Daylight Savings Begins</i>	11 Parish Nurse 11am	12 AIM Center Banquet	13 Bible Study w/ Rev. Toni 10am	14	15	16 Mission Rejoice 6pm
17 <i>St. Patrick's Day</i> 	18 Parish Nurse 11am <i>Peace Walk 5pm</i> 	19 Packing for Food Distribution 9am	20 Food Distribution 9-12; 1-3 Bible Study 10am Safety Council 12pm <i>NL Articles Due</i>	21 Food Distribution 9-12; 1-3	22 Food Distribution 9-12; 1-3	23 Mission Rejoice 6pm
24 <i>Palm Sunday</i> 	25 Staff Mtg. 10am Parish Nurse 11am	26 CSFP Senior Food 1pm	27 Bible Study w/ Rev. Toni 10am	28 Newsletter Folding 9am Footwashing Service 10am UM Board Mtg 4:30pm	29 <i>Good Friday</i> <i>Offices Closed</i> 	30 Mission Rejoice 6pm
31 <i>Easter Sunday</i> 						