

"How precious is Your steadfast love, O God!" -Psalm 36: 7

February 2014

Bright Horizons



A Word from our Director

As the cold weather continues to wreak havoc on our community I give God thanks for the warm home and the resources to continue living as if it's a balmy 70 degrees.

Many of those I encounter at the Urban Mission, however, are not as fortunate. In the past few weeks a number of our friends have found themselves with busted water pipes, no heat or electricity, and oftentimes having to sleep in their car or at the home of a friend. These days it is very typical to learn of a family who is relying on their stove or kerosene heater to keep their family warm.

Just today I heard of a family who has been without heat, and now food, for several days. With school having been closed, their three children were unable to receive breakfast or lunch. Thankfully our Unity Kitchen was open and they were able to get a warm meal... as well as second and third helpings.

Stories like this keep me up at night.

If you live in the Ohio Valley, you might agree that the problem of poverty & homelessness is not as obvious as in other larger cities. Typically you won't see someone sleeping on the streets or keeping warm near a fire at night.

Thankfully there is a support net in our community to aid those who are threatened by homelessness - shelters, warming centers, and home heat assistance programs to name a few. Sadly, because of the increased need this net is wearing thin.

For example, did you know that our Hutton House homeless shelter has been full since the summer? We have a waiting list that has over ten families on it at present. By God's grace, we are working hard to open a second shelter for families. In the coming month we hope to share the good news that Hutton House Two is open and ready to serve.

As we prepare to take this step of faith, will you keep our homeless families as well as the Mission in your prayers?

If you would like to offer your assistance, we welcome all household items as well as financial support. A list of needs is currently on our website.

As the temperatures continue to hover around freezing, know that your support warms our hearts.

God bless you,

Rev. Ashley

Rev. Ashley

Did you know?

The Urban Mission Hutton House Homeless Shelter® exclusively serves families. Single parent or two parent families are eligible for shelter in the Hutton House.

In 2013, 55 children and 45 adults were housed.

Each family is housed in their own apartment for up to 90 days. We strongly believe it is important to keep the family unit intact.

As shelter staff works with families, parents are required to job search each week if not employed and also to seek permanent housing resources. Children are required to attend school.

Shelter staff also works with families on resume writing and other resources that will help enable their success after leaving the Shelter.

In 2013, 126 life skills classes were presented to parents ranging from topics on budgeting to parenting.

"Listening With Compassion; Serving With Love"



Applications Available

Robert E. Hutton Memorial Scholarship

Applications are available to low-income students of any age pursuing higher education. Proof of income and letters of acceptance and reference are required in order to be eligible for a scholarship. Other evaluation criteria will be community and church involvement.

For an application, stop by Urban Mission or call us at 740- 282-8010 and an application can be mailed or emailed to you. The deadline for applications to be submitted is **Tuesday, April 1, 2014.**

JOSHUA Home Repair

Applications are available to area low-income homeowners in need of minor home repairs. The program does not replace roofs, furnaces or windows.

In order to be eligible, you must own your home and provide proof of income and ownership. Please be aware that JOSHUA projects are not completed on a first come, first served basis, but rather by the abilities of the work groups and repairs needed. Stop in or call us for an application by mail or email.

The deadline to submit all applications is **Tuesday, April 15, 2014.**



Jellybean Challenge Time!

While cupid is flying through the air shooting arrows of love, we at the Mission are planning our next big holiday event, Easter.

At our April food distribution, each family will receive an Easter treat bag filled with lots of goodies including jellybeans. We are in need of your assistance again this year. The jellybean challenge issued by the Mission has become popular with Sunday school Classes, youth groups and more. Jellybeans are very portable and usually can be found for around a \$1.00.

Will you help Mr. Easter Bunny this year? We need 1,200 bags. You can issue a challenge among your friend and neighbors or between Sunday school classes or different departments in your office building. Have fun with it, all the while helping the community.

The jellybeans will be distributed on April 16 & 17. Please have the jellybeans to the Mission by **Monday, April 12, 2014.** Thank you for helping Mr. Easter Bunny!

~Linda L. Smith, Program Director

Volunteer Luncheon



Our Annual Volunteer Luncheon will be held on Friday, April 11, 2014. **What a wonderful year the Urban Mission had thanks to all of our donors and volunteers!**

In 2013, over 5,000 children and adults were fed each month through Unity Kitchen and our Food Distributions; 100 children and adults had shelter; dozens of health screening were provided by our Parish Nurse team (all volunteers)... and so much more because of your help.

If you have volunteered at any time with the Mission in 2013, we want to celebrate the gift you are us and to our community. Please make plans to join us!

The luncheon will be held at Wintersville UMC. Please call 740-282-2911 to RSVP. Watch our upcoming issues for more information.

~Linda Smith, Program Director



4-H Club Open to Area Youth



The Ohio State University Extension office has started a new **4-H Club** in downtown Steubenville. The afterschool club is open to ages 9 (3rd grade) through High School.

4-H, which stands for, "Head, Hearts, Hands and Health", is a free afterschool program where youth work to complete fun and educational projects. Projects can include model rocketry, cooking and gardening classes, physical fitness and more.

Club meetings are held afterschool and snacks are provided. For more information or to enroll your child, please contact Janine Yeske at 740-264-2212.

Vision Assistance



Through a partnership with Prevent Blindness Ohio, the Mission is once again able to help those in need of an eye exam and/or eye glasses. The program is available to patients who have no vision care insurance and meet other eligibility requirements.

Please contact Lisa at 740-282-8010 for an application or more information.

Clip and save!



Please Note:

Our April Distribution will be held on Wednesday and Thursday, April 16 & 17 ONLY.

We will be closed on Good Friday, April 18.

Parish Nurse News

Which of the following is the most effective way to prevent the spread of an infection?

- a. Antibiotics
- b. Immunizations
- c. Handwashing
- d. Disinfectants



What was your answer? If you answered "C" you are correct!

Although there have been many advances in health care practices, handwashing is still the most effective way to prevent the spread of infections. Many studies have been done about the handwashing practices of health care personnel. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have compiled those studies and have developed recommendations for handwashing practices for health care personnel. The CDC also has information about handwashing that is appropriate for our everyday use. Let's review this simple procedure that was taught to us by our mothers and is still effective in preventing the spread of infections.

Hands should be washed at the following times: when visibly soiled, after using the bathroom, before preparing and eating food, after touching an unknown substance, and whenever you think it is a good idea. Studies have shown that viruses, such as those that cause colds and flu, can live for a period of time on inanimate objects.

How should you wash your hands? Ideally, hands should be washed with running water and liquid soap. First wet your hands with warm (not hot) water, then apply the liquid soap. Make a lot of suds and wash all parts of your hands including the area between your fingers. Wash for a minimum of 15 seconds. Rinse your hands well to remove all of the soap. Wipe your hands with a clean towel (at home) or paper towels. Turn off the faucet with the paper towel. Many public restrooms now have faucets that turn on when you place your hands under them and soap dispensers that dispense soap in that manner. There may also be hand driers available for your use. These help to prevent the spread of infections.

If you are unable to wash your hands with soap and water, it is acceptable to use one of the antibacterial handwashing liquids or gels. Many of these cleaners contain alcohol, which is drying to the skin. Some recent studies have shown that these cleaners may not be as effective as originally thought. Only use these cleaners when you cannot use soap and water. For more information on handwashing, go to the CDC website at www.cdc.gov.

-Michalene A. King, PhD, RN, CNE

Used Vehicles Accepted

Do you have a used vehicle you would like to donate to Charity? Hutton House is accepting vehicle donations for our homeless families. By donating a vehicle, you can receive the full "Fair Market Value" tax-deduction.

We will provide your vehicle to a family with an adult licensed driver, free of charge. Vehicles will be used by these families to assist them in their transportation needs and help them to continue to work and become self-sufficient, productive members of our community. If you are interested in donating your used vehicle, please call Debra 740-282-8903.

Only vehicles that are in working order can be accepted.

NCDC News

Community Developer Named



The Urban Mission is delighted to welcome Ms. Cynthia Smith to the Urban Mission staff as our new Community Developer. Ms. Cynthia is a native of Steubenville and a graduate of The Ohio State University with a degree in African American & African Studies. She is a woman of many talents but her passions lie in working with youth, music & singing. As Ms. Cynthia begins her work with the Neighborhood Community Development Center and Urban Mission, please lift her up in prayer. Welcome to the team Ms. Cynthia!

"Free to Be" Program Closes

The "Free to Be" Young Adult Weight Loss Program will be ending this month. Over the last several months, participants have been working to learn better eating habits, how to prepare healthy food and snacks, how to exercise properly as well as other ways to improve their physical and mental health.

Graduating from the program will be: Arian Jones, Destiny Lawrence, Nala Colliers, and Charis Taylor.

We are very proud of the young ladies who have completed the program. We are also confident the tools they have learned will help them to be successful in other areas of their lives.

Special thanks to the "Free to Be" staff and volunteers. Job well done!

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

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

Email: mail@urbanmission.org

Non-Profit Org.
 U.S. Postage
 PAID
 Steubenville, OH 43952
 Permit No. 103

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

LABEL

February 2014 Calendar of Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2  Groundhog Day	3 Lupus Support Group 6pm	4	5	6	7	8 Mission Rejoice 6pm
9	10 Lupus Line Dancing 6pm	11	12	13	14 Happy Valentine's Day 	15 Mission Rejoice 6pm
16	17 Lupus Line Dancing 6pm President's Day	18 Food Distribution Packing 9am	19 Food Distribution 9-12; 1-3	20 Food Distribution 9-12; 1-3	21 Food Distribution 9-12; 1-3	22 Mission Rejoice 6pm
23	24	25 CSFP Senior Food Dist. 1:00 pm	26	27	28	