

2010 NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER

TO EXPRESS THE LOVE OF GOD TO PEOPLE IN NEED THROUGH PRACTICAL ACTION IN THE GREATER GREENSBORO AREA.



Pictures courtesy of Jerry Wolford, Photography/Multimedia, News & Record

Libby Fortin with her daughter, Disa Fortin, 2, enjoy cream of mushroom soup.

19TH ANNUAL FEAST OF CARING

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2010

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, 1000 WEST FRIENDLY AVENUE

Greensboro Urban Ministry is often the last place people turn for help...

Finally, after the bitter cold of winter, Phil took the advice of a police officer and turned to Greensboro Urban Ministry (GUM) for assistance. He says that he was scared of the people that he would find here, but he knew that GUM was a ministry with good people that would help him. He says that he is "so thankful that [he] literally had a place to lie down and sleep at night." Read about Phil's life on page five, *Sharing God's Love*.



The Feast of Caring meal, in the soup kitchen tradition, kicks off our annual operating fund campaign. We are requesting your 2010-11 annual pledge or gift at this event. Individuals like you give over half of Urban Ministry's \$3 million budget. Since we are not a United Way agency we must raise all funds ourselves. Please be as generous as you can!

When you make a pledge or give a donation (\$20 minimum), you will receive a handcrafted pottery bowl donated by local or Seagrove potters or four honor cards. William Mangum's 2010 Honor Card titled "Everybody Needs Somebody" will be unveiled and made available at this event.

Drop in anytime between 5:00-7:00 p.m. for a simple meal of soup and bread. No reservations are necessary. Entertainment will be provided by the guitar-playing duo of Bobby Doolittle and Jim Carson. This will be a time for the community to come together to fellowship, to enjoy food and music, and to renew your commitment to the poor and homeless.

Please ask your congregation to donate five loaves of homemade bread or rolls for the Feast of Caring. We encourage local potters to donate one or more pieces of pottery. To respond, please call Gail Gore-Lewis, 271-5959 ext. 305.

Interested in Becoming an Honor Card Coordinator for Your Congregation or Business?

Greensboro Urban Ministry cordially invites you to the Honor Card Coordinators' Luncheon with Artist William Mangum

**NOVEMBER 4, 2010
11:30 TO 1:00 P.M.
CHRIST UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH
410 NORTH HOLDEN ROAD**

Respond to Crystal Mercer
271-5959 ext. 301
or mercerc@guministry.org
Respond by October 25

Drawing for a free limited edition Mangum print!



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Everybody Needs Somebody

2010 HONOR CARD STORY



By William Mangum

In the twenty-two year history of the Honor Card program I can't think of a title that more profoundly describes where we are today. These are unprecedented times.

Nothing is more disheartening than to be without a friend. There are a lot of self-made people who live by the mantra of picking themselves up by their boot straps. But what happens when things really go south? You lose your job and can't find another, an illness sets in and you are unable to work, you're involved in an accident, divorce rips your loved ones from you, or the tides simply wash away everything you possess?

I've been there — on what feels like a deserted island. I know the agonizing nausea of depression and the desperation for encouragement, a glimmer of hope, a hand up.

There is a passage from the book of Ecclesiastes that says it well. If one falls down, his friend can help him up. But pity the man who falls and has no one to help him up!

How many times has it been simply a listening ear, a pat on the back, a cup of coffee or ten minutes out of your day that turns life around for someone in need? This year, as I sought inspiration for the Honor Card, my prayers were not only answered but a clear demonstration of "Everybody Needs Somebody" was lived out before me. Hundreds of us have been privileged to assist the needy and homeless individuals all across the state. But, it's rare for a layman's heart to be

pricked and feel God has called them into action to help a specific individual. Such was the case when Randy served breakfast to a street person one Sunday morning. There in a breakfast line eyes connected and within a few minutes a conversation was struck about Howard's plight. Howard had a vision of getting off the streets and Randy felt compelled to answer the call to befriend, providing guidance and an opportunity for Howard to begin that new journey.

This year it was a privilege to use them as a living example of what God calls us to do. From the book of James: "What good is it, my brothers, if a man claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save him? Suppose a brother or sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to him, 'Go, I wish you well; keep warm and well fed,' but does nothing about his physical needs, what good is it? In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead."

Randy and Howard have become good friends, ministering to one another. Howard is off the streets, inspired by the guidance and assistance of a friend. At times the question may arise as to who really needs whom. Life really is a case of "Everybody Needs Somebody."

Wishing you a blessed Holiday season.

Bill

Beginning November 19, Honor Cards will be available at the following locations in Greensboro:

William Mangum Fine Art Gallery | 2166 Lawndale Drive

Greensboro Urban Ministry | 305 West Lee Street

Barnes & Noble Booksellers | Friendly Center

Leon's Style Salons

Scissor Talk | 2823-H Spring Garden Street

Various congregations throughout the city

Online on the Greensboro Urban Ministry website:
greensborourbanministry.org



FRONT



INSIDE

2010 CROP HUNGER WALK
Celebrates 30 Years

OF WORKING TOGETHER TO END HUNGER!

Celebrating 30 years of the Greater Greensboro Community Responding to Overcome Poverty, Greensboro once again showed their support for the CROP Hunger Walk by turning out en masse to walk to end hunger and poverty in our community and around the world. Lifted in spirit by the soulful music of Grace Reigns Down, motivated by the brothers of Kappa Alpha Psi, and led by the beat of Cakalak Thunder, walkers joyfully celebrated our successes while acknowledging that as long as there is hunger, there is still work to be done.

As the Walk wound through the streets of downtown Greensboro through the campus of Bennett College and past the IRC (Interactive Resource Center), walkers were provided with a glimpse of the varied communities in Greensboro and evidence of the continuing need for assistance. Greensboro has generously provided this assistance, having raised over \$4.25 million in the past 30 years. Walk organizers hope that this year will prove to be our most successful ever with donations streaming in, but final figures will not be available until the end of the year.



Christine Byrd, Director of Special Events

Special thanks to our 2010 CROP Hunger Walk Steering Committee:

| | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Ralph Wenger (Chairman) | Louise Lampron-Welker |
| John Aderholdt | Sherry Landon |
| Jill Alventosa-Brown | Crystal Mercer |
| Betty Brown | Megan Miller |
| Christine Byrd | Joe Moran |
| Lynn Carey | Stephanie Nickell |
| Tyra Clymer | Gary Owens |
| Steve Danford | Dona Pickett |
| John Dieterly | Susan Phillips |
| Annie Diles | Monie Plueger |
| Charlie Finch | Amy Schenck |
| Karen Hayes | Bob Scheppegeirell |
| Marlow Hinton | Irwin Smallwood |
| Robert Joyner | Cathy Watkins |
| Ken Keeton | Heather Wyrick |
| Gary Kellogg | |



Ralph Wenger and CROP mascot, Skippy

WINTER EMERGENCY SHELTERS (WE!)
TO OPEN DECEMBER 1ST

WE (Winter Emergency Shelters) needs your volunteer and financial support! Come to our WE Community Meeting, Tuesday, November 2, 7:00 p.m., Mullin Life Center, First Presbyterian Church, 617 North Elm Street. Find out how YOU can help WE provide emergency overflow shelter this winter. Each WE site will serve 10-20 homeless people every night from December through March. As of the writing of this article, the following churches have agreed to be WE sites: West Market Street United Methodist Church, Pleasant Garden

Baptist Church, First Presbyterian Church, First Baptist Church, Grace Community Church, and Mt. Zion Baptist Church. Sheron Sumner is once again serving as our WE coordinator.

The Great Recession continues; our Weaver House Night Shelter for single adults has been at capacity again all summer; the homeless are having a hard time finding jobs and services. WE must raise \$100,000 to operate this winter.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!



| EVENT | DAY | TIME | WHERE |
|---|-------------|----------|---|
| Winter Emergency (WE) Community Meeting | November 2 | 7:00 pm | First Presbyterian Church 617 N. Elm Street |
| William Mangum Honor Card Lunch | November 4 | 11:30 am | Christ UMC 410 N. Holden Road |
| Feast of Caring | November 18 | 5-7 pm | First Baptist Church 1000 West Friendly Avenue |
| Thanksgiving Day Meal | November 25 | 10:30 am | Potter's House Community Kitchen |

Welcome! CARLI GUANCIALE AND BETTY BROWN

Carli Guanciale was recently hired to become Urban Ministry's new Director of Human Resources, Programs and Property. Carli is a graduate of Saint Bonaventure University and has a Master's in Social Work from Ohio State University. She is a Senior Professional in Human Resources (SPHR) and is secretary and board member for the Human Resources Management Association of Greensboro. She is a member of St. Pius X Roman Catholic Church.

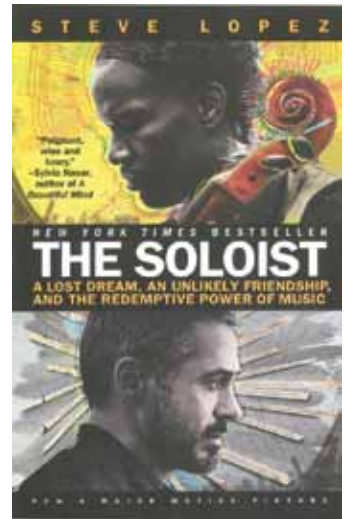


Betty Brown has been permanently hired as Urban Ministry's Director of Food Distribution. Betty is a graduate of the University of Richmond and has been an active volunteer with Urban Ministry for over twenty years. Most recently she has directed the Tuesday morning breakfast sponsored by area Episcopal churches. She served many years in the Guilford County School System, is Montessori certified, directed the food services at the Episcopal Conference Center at Browns Summit, and has operated her own catering business. She is an active member at St. Barnabas Episcopal Church where she plays the organ and leads music.



ONE CITY, ONE BOOK

What if everyone in Greensboro read the same book...and then set out to build a stronger community? Every other year, the Greensboro Public Library, along with many community partners, leads a city-wide reading of a selected title. Lively programs of discussion, films, theatrical productions, readings, and more are held to engage the entire community in the themes of the chosen work.



The book selection for 2010 is *The Soloist: A Lost Dream, an Unlikely Friendship, and the Redemptive Power of Music* by Los Angeles Times columnist Steve Lopez. *The Soloist* is a moving story of the remarkable bond between a journalist in search of a story and a homeless, classically trained musician.

To find out how you can get even more involved in the project, please contact coordinator Steve Sumerford at steve.sumerford@greensboro-nc.gov or 373-3636.

SHARING GOD'S LOVE



A Greensboro native, “Phil” says that he “knows the city like the back of his hand.” And having worked for the city for over 20 years in street and concrete maintenance, he likely knows more about the city than most of us. However, Phil recently became more familiar with the city than he would have liked.

Phil had a good life with many of the luxuries (and perhaps a few more) than many of us enjoy. He had a fine home on his family’s farm, a steady job, a wife of thirteen years, and two children. He even had a sports car. But life took a devastatingly unexpected turn for Phil when his sister-in-law introduced him to crack cocaine.

Phil lost everything – his job, his home, his wife, and most hurtful, he lost his children. With nowhere to turn, Phil isolated himself from society. Sneaking into the barn that he and his grandfather had built, he huddled in an area meant for animals; he would walk two miles to a neighborhood gas station just to brush his teeth and wash his face. Life looked dismal for Phil, who although now clean, was still ostracized by his family.

Eventually, feeling that his mere presence was unwelcome, Phil left the meager shelter of the barn and came into town to sleep anywhere he could find – streets, doorsteps, under bushes. Phil says that he was in “survival mode.” Dependent

on the generosity of strangers to provide food, Phil had to beg for money, something which he says he hated doing, but which showed him the generosity of others. “I was amazed that people who didn’t know me would give me money,” says Phil, who feels that God provided for him during his homelessness.

Finally, after the bitter cold of winter, Phil took the advice of a police officer and turned to Greensboro Urban Ministry (GUM) for assistance. He says that he is “so thankful that [I] literally had a place to lie down and sleep at night. That I had a place to shower and worship.” Phil credits GUM and HealthServe with saving his life from the deep depression he had fallen into.

Through GUM, Phil has received mental health assistance, medical care for skin cancer, and a referral to the Servant Center where he was able to receive a transitional housing placement to help him re-integrate into society. Phil hopes to go on disability, get an apartment, and then volunteer his time and talent with GUM to help others who might be going through situations similar to his. “God has opened my eyes to the ministry that [GUM] is,” says Phil.

We wish Phil the best and are glad that we were able to share God’s love with him when he needed it most.

WELCOME NEW CLASS OF 2013 GREENSBORO URBAN MINISTRY BOARD MEMBERS!



New members pictured at left join the following returning board members: Joe Allen, Louis Allen, Linwood Carver, Andrew Chamberlain, Bob Cone, Bill Conner, Bill Cooke, Mary Wood Copeland, Chris Couch, Awilda deJesus, Fanta Dorley, Neal Dorman, Kimberly Embry, Todd Herman, Bill Howard, John Knowles, Fritz Kreimer, Ed Lemons, Hugh Mann, Judy Newlin, Bonita Porter, Vincent Sims, Eric Sturdivant, Paul Wingate, and Charlie Zimmerman.

Photo: (Left to right) Tim McNeal, Craig Siler, Bob Scheppegegrell, Pete Salassi, Shane Carrico, Olga Perkins, Charles Broadway, Cynthia Bowen, Turner Battle, Dorothy Colson, and Don Cupit

Want to give a gift that keeps on giving?

Bequests, charitable trusts, gifts of life insurance and other planned gifts made to Greensboro Urban Ministry can support our mission and provide for your current needs at the same time. Consult with your financial advisor to learn what is best for you. Contact Rev. Mike Aiken, 271-5959 ext. 302 for more information on how you can leave a legacy to Greensboro Urban Ministry.

Attention Governmental Employees

You can designate your pledge to Greensboro Urban Ministry through the State Employees Combined Campaign (charity code 1511), the Combined Federal Campaign, or the city/County Employees Campaign (charity code 6070).

VOLUNTEER SERVICES



OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEER

Artist Bill Mangum received the Lifetime Service Award sponsored by the Volunteer Center of Greensboro. The Volunteer Center Awards Dinner recognized outstanding volunteers, programs, and companies that enriched and connected our community through service.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

PARTNERSHIP VILLAGE

Volunteers to tutor school aged children at Partnership Village on Tuesdays/Thursdays from 3:30pm-5:00pm. A semester commitment is required. Orientation/training will be provided.

Church group to provide Worship/Bible Study for approximately 70 children on the 2nd/4th Monday nights.

PATHWAYS CENTER

Groups to provide a breakfast, brunch or dinner meal to approximately 35-45 residents including children who reside at the Center.

WEAVER HOUSE NIGHT SHELTER

Volunteers to help register guests/clients, provide a listening ear/support, and dispense toiletry items as needed to residents living at the shelter.

PROGRAM WISH LIST

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

New T-shirts/undergarments for men/women, diapers, Pampers, Ensure, baby formula (Enfamil with Iron), school uniforms (khaki's, blue/black pants, short/long sleeve white polo shirts), hand sanitizers, Lysol/Clorox disinfectant wipes, feminine hygiene products, and bathroom tissue

POTTER'S HOUSE COMMUNITY KITCHEN

New white kitchen cloths, non-perishable food items

PATHWAYS CENTER

Large hygiene items for families: deodorant, toothpaste, soap, shampoo, conditioner, hand sanitizers

WEAVER HOUSE NIGHT SHELTER

Powdered laundry detergent, Ziploc Storage Bags, Lysol/Clorox disinfectant wipes, hygiene items (lotion, deodorant, soap, razors, powder) indoor games (chess, checkers), reading glasses, towels

YOU ARE INVITED

TO SHARE YOUR TALENTS WITH PEOPLE IN NEED IN YOUR COMMUNITY!

- Prepare and serve meals to the hungry
- Help manage shelters for single adults and families
- Lend assistance in the clothing bank
- Interview clients applying for emergency assistance
- Receive, sort, and distribute food donations
- Mentor and support people in crisis situations
- Offer group meals, children's activities and tutoring

Want to volunteer? Contact Gail Gore-Lewis (336) 271-5959 ext. 305. Visit our website at greensborourbanministry.org.



“I found self-esteem from volunteering”

Two years of service in the AmeriCorps program helped to change a lifetime of hurt and pain for Arabella Pittman. A victim of physical, mental, and emotional abuse, Arabella says that she never thought about her potential or her skills because she couldn't see past the pain, until she began volunteering at Greensboro Urban Ministry.

THANKSGIVING FUND SUPPORTS DINNER FOR THOUSANDS

For 22 years, a dedicated band of volunteers has served up a complete Thanksgiving dinner—from turkey and mashed potatoes to pumpkin pie—for the city's homeless, hungry, homebound, and elderly poor, providing over 4,000 meals each year. Greensboro Urban Ministry provides the kitchen facilities and dining room, but funds to support the dinner come directly from the community. It's easy to give—and every bit helps.

GET INVOLVED! GIVING IS EASY. Gifts can be made by check to The Thanksgiving Fund, c/o Community Foundation of Greater Greensboro, PO Box 20444, Greensboro, NC 27420 or in person at Foundation Place, 330 South Greene Street. You can also give on-line at www.cfagg.org, select Give, Contribute Online Now, Donation Information, Designation: Thanksgiving Fund.

AMEN!

With her seven children huddled around her, Toni was left standing homeless in the front yard of her apartment complex last March. Evicted for charges that would eventually find a local real estate firm guilty of unfair housing practices, she had nowhere to go. So Toni did what many in her situation do: she turned to her local faith community; in this case, it was the Pulpit Forum.

Sympathetic to Toni's plight, the Pulpit Forum provided funding to house Toni and her children for several weeks but was in need of direction on how to find permanent housing. By chance, or divine intervention, Christine Byrd from the Greensboro Urban Ministry CROP Walk Steering Committee and Emergency Assistance Program Director Tyra Clymer, happened to attend a Pulpit Forum meeting where Toni's situation was being discussed. Ms. Clymer agreed to look into the matter and Toni's story began to turn around.

With the blessings of Executive Director Mike Aiken, Tyra met with Toni's community support worker and with Tina Gray from Greensboro Housing Authority (GHA) to discuss the situation and the possibility of Toni entering GUM's Beyond Pathways program. Ms. Gray presented the case to GHA's executive staff and Toni was placed on the waiting list for housing with the stipulation that any past debts be cleared before she was eligible for housing.

With funding from the Beyond Pathways program, GUM assisted Toni by paying off her outstanding debts. Now, after five months of living in the Knights Inn, Toni is a few days away from moving into her new apartment, sponsored by GHA. She has been approved for Work-First, a monthly case stipend through the Department of Social Services, and her story will now have a happy ending.

Thanks to the support of Beyond Pathways and the collaboration of area agencies, Toni and other individuals who face a similar plight will not become a statistic. Beyond Pathways is helping end homelessness in Greensboro and this is just one example of how it is changing lives.



AUGUST 2010 MEMORIALS

WILL AVERA

Jon & Jeanett Meadows

SI BONEY

Pat Brugh

HARRIET BRANTMAN

Jean Tillman

PETER DANIEL

Barbara & Joseph Yount

KIM FREITAG

Ellie Bohlken-Schlentz

EDMUND FRITZ

Sharon & John Muckenfuss
Lois & Richard Schliepsiek

WILLIAM HEARON

Eric Hoekstra

RAYMOND & EVA HERBIN

William Herbin

THURMAN HORNEY

Peggy Horney

MR. & MRS. MELVIN JESSUP

Terry & Hallie Jessup

CARL & ESTELLA KECK

Therron Phipps

WILLIAM KLOPMAN

Anne & Carl Carlson
Charles & Ann Scott

DOROTHY LANE

Winford Morgan Primm

DANNY LEONARD

Samuel & Patricia Smoak

JOE LEWIS

W.F. & Doris Ann Gruble

AL LINEBERRY, SR.

Shirley Spears

MARSHALL MCKAY

Betty Turner

RAMONA WILSON MOORE

P.D. & Iris Ostwalt

ANN ELIZABETH PILLOW

Mary Ann Vinson

BILL STEPHANZ

John & Sally Sherrill

WESLEY WALL

Nancy Wall

CHARLES R. WENTZ

Clyde & Julia Elrod



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SPONSOR PROGRAM

AUGUST 2010

The Urban Ministry Sponsor Program is a great way for you to honor a friend or loved one for a special occasion such as a birthday, anniversary, wedding, or graduation while supporting the work of Urban Ministry. It's easy to become a sponsor for a day, a week or a month. For more information, contact Rev. Mike Aiken at 336-271-5959 ext. 302.

POTTER'S HOUSE TABLE

Larry Hyjek and Elizabeth Natalie
 1 week



North Carolina's Egg Farmers provided lunch for over 400 people at Potter's House. The lunch is part of the Good Egg Project, an initiative to feed people in need. North Carolina's egg farmers donated a semi-truckload filled with eggs to Urban Ministry's Food Bank.

| | WEAVER HOUSE BED | POTTER'S HOUSE TABLE | CHILD CARE | PATHWAYS APARTMENT | PARTNERSHIP VILLAGE SPONSOR | |
|-------|------------------|----------------------|------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|--------|
| | | | | | SINGLE | FAMILY |
| DAY | \$5 | \$10 | \$12 | \$13 | \$4 | \$5 |
| WEEK | \$25 | \$50 | \$60 | \$65 | \$25 | \$39 |
| MONTH | \$100 | \$150 | \$240 | \$250 | \$100 | \$153 |