

NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER

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

FEAST OF CARING

Thursday, November 15, 2007

On Thursday, November 15, 2007, the 16th annual Feast of Caring will be held at First Baptist Church, 1000 West Friendly Avenue, Greensboro. Drop in anytime between 5:00-7:00 p.m. for a simple meal of soup and bread. No reservations are necessary.

This meal, in the soup kitchen tradition, kicks off our annual operating fund campaign. We are requesting your 2008 Annual Pledge or Gift at this event. Individuals give over half of our \$2.5 million budget. Since we are not a United Way agency we must raise all funds ourselves. Please be as generous as you can!

Greensboro Urban Ministry is often the last place people turn for help. We continue to see record numbers of men, women, and children requesting food, shelter, clothing, emergency assistance, and pastoral care.

William Mangum's 2007 Honor Card titled "New Passage" will be unveiled and made available at this event. When you make a pledge or give a donation (\$20 minimum), you will receive a handcrafted pottery bowl donated by local and Seagrove potters or four honor cards.



Stacey Carson prepares to make a bowl at the Feast of Caring.

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. Also, we encourage local potters to donate one or more pieces of pottery. To respond, please call Gail Gore-Lewis at 271-5959 ext. 305 or Anita Johnson ext. 304.

NEW PASSAGE

HOPES JOURNEY

When I'm in search of new subject matter I often hop in my jeep and take off to the mountains. A bit of reckless abandon joins me because I know that every road leads somewhere. On these outings I have discovered some amazing sites as I creep along tractor trails to paths that may not have been traveled in sometime. It's being on the edge, knowing that I might be the first artist to discover a scene, that gets my adrenaline going.



Needless to say I've gotten over my head a number of times and I remember one outing when my radiator hose burst on top of a mountain trail and I had to walk for nearly two miles to the last house that I had passed. I had a challenging time convincing the homeowner to let me use her phone and an even more difficult time explaining to AAA where I was and how to come and get me.

New paths are fun to go down and at times quite rewarding but many times they can get us in trouble as we stumble and get lost. It is those times that we have to lean on someone else to help us get back on track, fix the damage and set us back on the right course.

Many guests at the shelter and the homeless I have contact with on the street would confess to having taken the wrong path along life's journey. I heard a message this summer that said "the paths we take determine our destination." That's a prophetic thought. Simple but true! It makes me ponder the things that I'm involved with and if they are healthy and righteous. Would they indeed be paths that God would smile down upon as I make my way? I take comfort in knowing that God is a lover of mankind and that he wants to travel the paths with us. Even at times when we've made some pretty embarrassing mistakes he is with us.

I have deep admiration for the volunteers and the staff at homeless shelters across our state. I have seen many a volunteer share their own experience of being on the wrong path and the price they had to pay. Often times that's the encouragement needed when someone is seeking help to get back on the right path. Willing to humble themselves, face their challenges and put the pieces back together.

The Honor Card is a tremendous way to reach out and support this agency and to share with others your concern for those that are less fortunate. Your gift enables agencies to provide for the needy, giving them encouragement, love and direction as they set a "New Passage" in their life, a New Passage that leads to a rewarding life filled with hope and glory. Thank you for your support of this program and may the Lord richly bless you for your outreach to those less fortunate. ☺

William Mangum



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*

*Monday, November 5, 2007 12 to 1 p.m.
GUM Boardroom – 305 West Lee Street*

*Respond to Bill Glasgow by October 31
271-5959 ext. 339 or bglasgow@gumministry.org*

*Drawing for a free
limited edition Mangum print!*

COMPETITION BRINGS SUCCESS FOR THE 2007 CROP WALK

For a number of years the Greater Greensboro CROP Walk had been the second largest in the country, ranking behind Charlotte and ahead of third-place Durham. (Congratulations to North Carolina!) However, in 2006 upstart Durham embarrassed us by raising just over \$200,000 in their April Walk. When all the counting was done, Greensboro raised \$186,000 last year.

So we issued a friendly challenge. Greensboro's mayor Keith Holliday and mayor Bill Bell of Durham agreed to a wager: a Greensboro Grasshopper's baseball bat against a Bull's bat that we would regain second place. On Sunday, October 14 an estimated 5,000 Greensboro area walkers helped everyone to win: we garnered \$189,200 in donations and pledges. Durham had a successful walk in the spring raising \$191,000, and most importantly, the plight of the hungry of the world will be eased a little more.

We are again grateful to the Greensboro Grasshoppers for hosting the opening ceremonies at First Horizon Park, where the main walk started and ended. The participants walked (and some jogged) through downtown Greensboro to the Bennett College campus, where the college provided a welcome water and rest stop, before returning to the ballpark. (Thanks to Well Spring Retirement Community for providing bottled water.) Satellite walks took place in Oak Ridge, Summerfield, Brown Summit, and Forest Oaks on the same day. Students at Canterbury School again participated in a one-mile mini-CROP Walk on Saturday, October 6, and St. Pius X School had their walk on September 23.

We are immensely pleased to have Syngenta Crop Protection as our new Platinum Level (\$3000) sponsor of the Greater Greensboro CROP Walk. The company states in its Community Grant Guidelines, "Through its Community Grant Program, Syngenta focuses on local programs that support two important needs in our community: alleviating hunger and educating our citizens about science and agriculture." Syngenta has long supported our CROP Hunger Walk, and we feel this new role is an especially good fit. We are sincerely grateful to both Syngenta and to Lincoln Financial Group, our 2006, and first, Platinum Sponsor.

Greg Kerr, WFMY News 2's Sports Director, served as Honorary Chairman of the Walk. He emceed a brief pre-walk ceremony that featured the introduction of Emily Osborne, who created the design for the 2007 CROP Walk T-shirt. In a competition with fellow students in an advertising and graphic design class at GTCC, Ms. Osborne's design was selected for this year's shirt. The competition was arranged by Awilda Feliciano of the graphic design faculty and a member of Urban Ministry's Board of Directors.

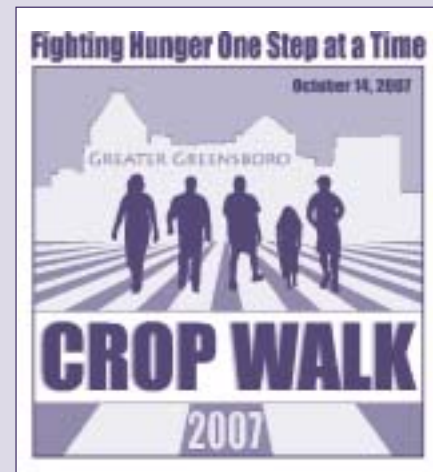
As part of their Food 2 Families program, WFMY, an official sponsor of the CROP Walk, conducted a food drive in conjunction with the walk. 1200 pounds of non-perishable food was collected and donated to Urban Ministry's Food Bank.

As pledged donations continue to be collected, we are confident we will reach our goal of \$210,000 to feed the hungry in Greensboro and around the world. CROP Walk recruiters should deposit all contributions in the CROP Walk account by December 31, 2007. Twenty-five percent of the funds raised will go to the Urban Ministry Potter's House, which serves over 350 mid-day meals daily to hungry people in our community. The balance goes to Church World Service, an international aid agency that meets emergency needs for food, water, shelter, and medical supplies in over 80 countries.

If you would like to make donations to this important humanitarian effort to alleviate hunger across the globe, please send a check payable to "CROP" to Greensboro Urban Ministry, 305 W. Lee Street, Greensboro, NC 27406. For more information, contact Bill Glasgow at 271-5959, ext. 339 or bglasgow@guministry.org.

These sponsors, through cash and in-kind donations, helped to defray most of the expense of arranging the 2007 CROP Walk. This includes the cost of 4,600 T-shirts.

<i>Advanced Mailing</i>	<i>Lowe's Foods</i>
<i>American Express</i>	<i>Lucky 32 and Green Valley Grill</i>
<i>Analog Devices</i>	<i>Mother Murphy's Laboratories</i>
<i>Ann Crittenden Hallmark</i>	<i>Noah Egerton</i>
<i>Bank of America</i>	<i>Omega Sports</i>
<i>BB & T</i>	<i>Pace Communications</i>
<i>Brown Investment Properties</i>	<i>Panera Bread</i>
<i>Burlington Foundation / ITG</i>	<i>Piedmont Graphics</i>
<i>Craft Insurance Center</i>	<i>Priba Furniture & Interiors</i>
<i>Crown Automotive</i>	<i>Rob Neill Family</i>
<i>Earth Fare</i>	<i>Southern Lights Bistro</i>
<i>First Citizens Bank</i>	<i>Syngenta Crop Protection</i>
<i>First Horizon</i>	<i>Tanger Factory Outlet Centers</i>
<i>Food Express</i>	<i>The Shops at Friendly Center</i>
<i>Friendly Center</i>	<i>Thompson Arthur</i>
<i>Greensboro Grasshoppers</i>	<i>Division - APAC-Atlantic</i>
<i>Greensboro Junior</i>	<i>Time Warner Cable</i>
<i>Woman's Club</i>	<i>Unifi</i>
<i>Greensboro Merchants Assoc.</i>	<i>USMC MALS-16, Miramar, CA</i>
<i>Happy Rentz</i>	<i>VF Jeanswear</i>
<i>Harris Teeter</i>	<i>Well Spring Retirement Community</i>
<i>John Knowles Family</i>	<i>WFMY News 2</i>
<i>Krispy Kreme</i>	<i>Yost and Little Realty</i>



FALL AUCTION FOR GREENSBORO URBAN MINISTRY

Saturday, November 10, 5:00 p.m. until

Hot dog supper, 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Alamance Presbyterian Church

4000 Presbyterian Road, Greensboro

A VISION OF HOPE

by Michael Strong

During a recent trip back to Baltimore, Maryland for the annual MCVET (Maryland Center for Veterans Education and Training) Alumni Day Celebration, I ran into several former guests of the Weaver House. As a staff member of the Weaver House Shelter, it is not uncommon to come into contact with veterans of military service. These men and women are often victims of substance abuse and other mental health issues. They have been forgotten and displaced in society. Most come to the Urban Ministry/Weaver House searching for answers to their plight. After a few hot meals, baths and a few good nights' rest, most are ready to try and re-enter society. In some cases we are able to assist them and they move on. In other cases I have referred these former military guests to the MCVET program.

I was once a guest there and knew what potential success was in store for the guests once they got there. The former guests were very happy to see me. They all have months of abstinence from drugs, participating in twelve step programs, preparing

themselves for re-entry into society and becoming productive members of society. One of the former Weaver House guests is enrolled in Baltimore Culinary Arts Institute while another will be attending college at Morgan State University full time this fall. Seeing these former guests make the effort to change their lives makes my job worthwhile. I get thank you calls from one of the guests at least twice a month!

It was very special seeing not only those guys get a fresh new start on life; it was also great to see some of the other guys that I came through the program with. The MCVET motto of "Do as you're told, Do as you're told, and Do as you're told" has transformed over four thousand veterans in the last twelve years that society had given up on. Some of those same people are now doctors, professors, and millionaires, home and business owners. It gives me hope that although we may not save every guest that comes through these doors, there are those that will take the suggestions that we give and be saved. I am proud to be connected with both MCVET and with the Greensboro Urban Ministry. I can give back what was so freely given to me. ☺

GENEROSITY CATCHES VOLUNTEER BY SURPRISE

Christina Weaver, a member of the Community Ministries Team coordinated a food drive at Harris Teeter near Guilford College. The following story actually happened at the spring grocery store food drive:

"At one food drive, I was left speechless by a shopper. She was an older woman dressed very simply, and I handed her the flyer (with suggested items to buy) as she was going in. She didn't say anything so I thought she probably would not be stopping by on her way out.

"About 30 minutes later, she arrived with an entire cart full of food. I asked her which bag she wanted me to take from the cart, and she told me the whole cart was for Greensboro Urban Ministry. She only had one small bag in her hand. I think she had just been running in for a quick item and took the time to shop for GUM.

"I was surprised. I thanked her and she replied that she was so thankful she was not hungry." ☺



A Fox 8 News Reporter interviews volunteer, Peter Piper at the spring grocery store food drive.

ATTENTION STATE AND FEDERAL EMPLOYEES: You can designate your pledge to Greensboro Urban Ministry this fall through the State Employees Combined Campaign (charity code 1511) or the Combined Federal Campaign.

ATTENTION CITY/COUNTY EMPLOYEES: You can also designate your pledge to Greensboro Urban Ministry this fall. (charity code 6070).

VOLUNTEERS IN MINISTRY

SINGING OUR FAITH

The Guilford Park Presbyterian Men presented a \$2,000 check to Greensboro Urban Ministry. The Men's Chorus celebrated ten years of "Singing Our Faith" and proceeds from their music CD benefited Urban Ministry.

Get your own personal copy of this wonderful CD so you can sing along with the Men's Chorus as they sing these great old hymns. They simply ask for donations of \$5.00 or more to cover their costs and help further our music ministry as we visit nursing homes, shutins, and other places where their sacred hymns, big smile and warm hearts are welcomed! ☺



Left to right: Rev. Frank Dew, Taylor Owens, George Setzer, and Rev. Mike Aiken

LENDING A HAND

Friday and Saturday, September 14-15, Leadership Greensboro Seniors conducted its semi-annual food drive to benefit Greensboro Urban Ministry and the hungry in our community. Volunteers from over fifty congregations in the city collected the food at participating grocery store locations throughout Greensboro.

September's drive will mark the 26th time that Leadership Greensboro Seniors, an active group of retired and semi-retired senior citizens, has coordinated this activity. Since its inception in 1992 the drive has grown dramatically both in terms of volunteer congregations and participating stores, and in the amount of food collected. This past spring, for example, over 50,000 pounds of non-perishable food items were collected and distributed on an emergency basis to over 3,000 needy families through Greensboro Urban Ministry. Over the past year, 25,163 men, women, and children were assisted with emergency food! ☺



Al Lochbra directs Leadership Greensboro Seniors.

Greensboro Urban Ministry has seen requests for emergency food orders **triple** over the past several years. This summer, our Food Bank nearly ran out of food again. These semi-annual food drives are very important in helping to meet this increased need for food.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

EVENT	DAY	WHERE
Futures Conference II	October 19-20	First Lutheran Church
Lunch with Artist William Mangum	November 5	Greensboro Urban Ministry
Annual Fall Auction	November 10	Alamance Presbyterian Church
Feast of Caring	November 15	First Baptist Church

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE:

Volunteers to interview/screen people requesting emergency food or financial assistance. The desired commitment is six months with a minimum four-hour shift per week. Training provided.

PARTNERSHIP VILLAGE:

Groups to provide food and/ or activities with families.

PATHWAYS:

Groups to prepare and serve meals for about 45 individuals including children. Groups plan the menu and provide the food.

POTTERS' HOUSE COMMUNITY KITCHEN:

Help to serve a lunch meal during the weekday from 9:00am-1:00pm

WEAVER HOUSE:

Assist staff in providing a listening ear and support to guests and clients by handing out hygiene items, soap, towels, and linens.

PROGRAM NEEDS/WISHES

CLOTHING BANK:

Men's/Women's clean underwear, socks, t-shirts, sweaters and coats

PARTNERSHIP VILLAGE:

Twin sheet sets

PATHWAYS:

Pillows, clean towels, linens, toothpaste, toothbrushes

WEAVER HOUSE:

Clean linens, sheets, powdered laundry detergent, small plastic storage bags, razors, deodorant, body lotion

VOLUNTEER RECOGNIZED

Mike Sasser, an Elder at Guilford Park Presbyterian Church and an active Stephen Minister at Greensboro Urban Ministry, was named Outstanding Community Volunteer. He is employed at the VF Corporation in Greensboro. A contribution in the amount of \$1,000 will be made to the Urban Ministry in honor of Mike's work.

*This is the miracle that happens every time
to those who really live:
the more they give the more they possess.*

(Rainer Maria Rilke - German Poet)

Last year, 65.4 million Americans volunteered through or for an organization. Here in the Gate City, volunteerism is high on the list of its citizens. Greensboro Urban Ministry is truly blessed to have so many volunteers pass through the doors to aid in fulfilling our Mission, "To express the love of God to people in need through practical action in the Greater Greensboro area." OUR VOLUNTEERS ARE DEDICATED, HARD-WORKING individuals. We greatly appreciate the volunteers who have so diligently donated time and talent to the ministry.

For more information about volunteer positions, you may call or e-mail Gail Gore-Lewis at (336) 271-5959 ext. 305, lewis@guministry.org or Anita Johnson at nita@guministry.org. We thank you for your support!

2007 MEMORIALS AUGUST

Susan Boyle

Tom & Erin Boyle

Bill Brooks

Nancy Brooks

Mary Lee Wood Copeland

Mary W. Copeland

Laurin Davis Keller

Susan & Davis Amick

Darrel & Anne Bowen

Joan Bowen

Sharon Culclasure

Karl & Deborah Fields

Marty & Jeanette Florence

Martha Hastings

Carol Hooks

Richard & Marguerite Kaplan

Linda Keaton

D/M David Keller

John Keller

Donnamae Klotz-Rost

Joann & Floyd Nesbitt

Gregory Schlaudecker

Lewis Owens

Edgar & Annemarie Marks

Jeta Pace

Catherine Sloan

Patricia Page

Nancy & Bob Paxton

Mimi Payne

Tom & Joann Statham

Michael Saavedra

Bill Saavedra

Ruth Schaefer

Oscar & Emily Baley

Bill Stephanz

John & Sally Sherrill

*We compile the lists in this report carefully.
Any errors or omissions are inadvertent.
If you find that your name has been omitted,
please accept our apology.
We would be grateful if you would notify
us of any corrections.
Call Crystal Mercer at 271-5959 ext. 301.*

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO

Futures Conference II Where is the Spirit leading us?

*The Conference will begin with a
Celebration of Greensboro Urban Ministry's
40th Anniversary
(A Birthday Party with cake and ice cream)
at 1 p.m., Friday, October 19, 2007
First Lutheran Church
3600 West Friendly Avenue*

*R.S.V.P. to Rev. Mike Aiken
271-5959 ext. 302
aiken@guministry.org*

Futures Conference I was held at First Lutheran Church in March, 1998. Out of this conference came the dreams for supportive housing at Partnership Village, a child development center (Madeline McElveen Center), and a new Pathways. The final phase of Partnership Village, a 12-unit 2 bedroom apartment building, was opened this past May. Futures Conference II will try to answer the question "Where is the Spirit leading Greensboro Urban Ministry in the years to come?"

We need your help to participate fully as the conference begins with a "40th Birthday Party" at 1 p.m., Friday, October 19. The conference will run the rest of the day until 8 p.m. and will end Saturday, October 20, at noon before lunch. Friday night supper is included. We are pleased to once again have the conference led by Bruce Nolan. Bruce, a former resident of Greensboro, is a professional facilitator and an excellent leader of large group events.



305 West Lee Street | Greensboro NC 27406

Phone | 336.271.5959
 Fax | 336.271.5920

www.greensborourbanministry.org

Change Service Requested

Nonprofit Organization
 U.S. POSTAGE
 PAID
 Greensboro, NC
 Permit No. 334

SPONSOR PROGRAM AUGUST 2007

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 271-5959 ext. 302. ☺

WEAVER HOUSE BED

SALLY COBB - 1 bed for 1 month in honor of Ann Steighner

PARTNERSHIP VILLAGE

TOM & JOANNE STATHAM - 1 week in memory of Mimi Payne

	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