



2015 FALL Newsletter

FIRST RESPONDERS

Before I arrived in Greensboro, I had heard about the giving spirit of this community. Four months in my new hometown has proved this time and again as I have met many of you and heard your heart for the hopes – and hurts – of our city.

Our Board decided earlier this year that to better address the hurts facing many of our neighbors, we must build our capacity on Greensboro Urban Ministry's front lines of service. In addition, we must identify and lower barriers that can prevent our guests from getting the help they need.

We have several front lines where we meet men, women and families in crisis. For us, the needs that fill our emergency assistance lobby each morning, our Potter's House Community Kitchen at lunch and our shelter beds at night are equally real and important.

So the Board has chosen this year to invest a significant portion of Greensboro Urban Ministry's endowment resources to serve our guests better. Our work will focus on adding key case managers and shelter staff while maintaining service and assistance levels in our other programs.

Many headlines in the past year have decried our city's quickly growing urban poverty. Yet, to know the need is great we need look no further than the 50 families waiting for shelter at Pathways Center or the 70-120 people a day that come to us hoping to avoid eviction and empty kitchen shelves.

Lack of food, funds and affordable housing create true disasters in the lives of our guests. Poverty, like a tornado, is an equal-

opportunity destroyer. Our goal is to be there first with our guests to help them dig out from the rubble and move quickly back into a permanent home.

What will the Board's investment mean for our guests?

- First, our guests will have adequate support to create the plans and time frames they need to resolve their homelessness.
- Next, our shelters will increase their capacity to offer client-centered assistance in a manner that will reduce barriers to needed services and empower our guests to achieve rapid and long-term success.
- Finally, our guests can continue to find help for rent, food and utility assistance requests, which have nearly doubled on some days this year. This short-term assistance can prevent homelessness or help someone experiencing homelessness to be re-established quickly in a home.

What does your investment mean for our guests? Your generous support is the catalyst. Whether you give \$10 or \$10,000, you are a first responder to crisis in our community. Your belief in our guests since 1967 allows us to serve as many hurts as we can, and say yes as often as we can. Thank you for your faithful support. Please stay with us on the front lines!

Rev. Myron Wilkins, Executive Director



HONOR *Card*

THE VOLUNTEER BEHIND THE HONOR CARD

N.C. artist Bill Mangum's contributions to those in need each year through the Honor Card program are well-known to Greensboro Urban Ministry supporters. His contributions at Potter's House Community Kitchen may be less known to many who know and love his annual holiday card designs.

Each Wednesday morning since 1991, Bill has volunteered for the early morning breakfast shift at Potter's House. He is also a passionate fund- and friend-raiser for the meal, which is supported by several donors and open to anyone who is hungry. He has also helped inspire others to underwrite the Monday Morning Prayer Breakfast, which is also open to the community.

He works with a loyal group of Wednesday Morning Prayer Breakfast volunteers, some of whom have also participated for more than two decades. "When folks work together, it is such a joy," Bill says. "It's humbling and inspiring to be able to build a bridge of hope for the less fortunate."

This front-line work with the homeless and hungry has helped Bill gain insights into the loneliness, separation and pain of those experiencing homelessness. "For the Honor Card to be an authentic, legitimate story – a true story – I need to be engaged," he says.

On Thursday, October 29, you can meet Bill and hear about the inspiration for this year's design at the annual Honor Card Luncheon. The event is free thanks to the generous support of the Hutchinson Family Office. Seating, however, is limited and reservations are required. Secure your spot today by emailing Cheryl Ledford, Director of Special Events, at ledford@guministry.org. Please include your name and address, email and phone number.



A \$5 minimum donation per card allows you to share with friends and family a one-of-a-kind card and a special greeting that a gift has been made in their honor to support those in need at the holidays. It's a meaningful way to celebrate the season's hope.

All proceeds from the card go directly to Greensboro Urban Ministry, thanks to generous financial support from the Wells Fargo Foundation and Michael and Sarah Kearney.

YOU'RE INVITED!

Honor Card Luncheon with Bill Mangum

11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday, October 29

Christ United Methodist Church, 410 N. Holden Rd.,
Greensboro

Reservations required by 5 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 20

Contact: Cheryl Ledford, Special Events Director,
at ledford@guministry.org

EXCEPTIONAL 4-STAR RATING!

Greensboro Urban Ministry has received the exceptional 4-star rating from Charity Navigator, the top independent charity evaluator in the United States. Receiving four out of a possible four stars indicates that Greensboro Urban Ministry adheres to good governance and other best practices that minimize the chance of unethical activities and consistently executes its mission in a fiscally responsible way. Please visit www.charitynavigator.org to check out the rating.



Weaver HOUSE

MICHAEL

Weaver House night shelter's new director, Michael Pearson, has known two important things about himself since he was just a kid: He loves hiking in the mountains, and he loves helping people. As the Indiana native settles into his new role, he's finding the two are not unrelated.

He works with the men and women at Weaver House to find their own trails out of the woods and through challenges that often feel like mountains. "I want us to give people the hope they need and help they need to turn away from devastation and push over their own barriers, with our support."

Michael, who graduated with his master's in social work from Indiana University, worked in the field of Mental Health and Addictions, partnered with the Indiana Department of Social Services, several school systems and community agencies before coming to North Carolina. The common denominator in these jobs: the people. He first felt that draw to helping others as a child in Fort Wayne, growing up in a family that faced tumultuous issues, including bouts of homelessness. Overcoming those challenges to become an accomplished professional gives Michael a perspective into how important it is for guests and colleagues to recognize that we are all equals and all deserving of respect.

"When you walk in the lobby at Weaver House," he says, "people need to feel the sense of welcome, and of newness. This is a place where people can feel like they're learning, becoming more aware and educated about helping themselves, others and giving back."

In Michael's office, a handmade quilt patched from some of his favorite T-shirts greets guests and staff. The messages of hope and humor speaking from the squares give folks in Michael's care a warm sense that they are not traveling alone. "I have an energy for meeting people at their need," he says. "My goal and my heart is for people to feel good about themselves."

Last year, your support allowed Weaver House shelter to serve 1,321 men and women at Greensboro Urban Ministry's West Gate City Boulevard location.



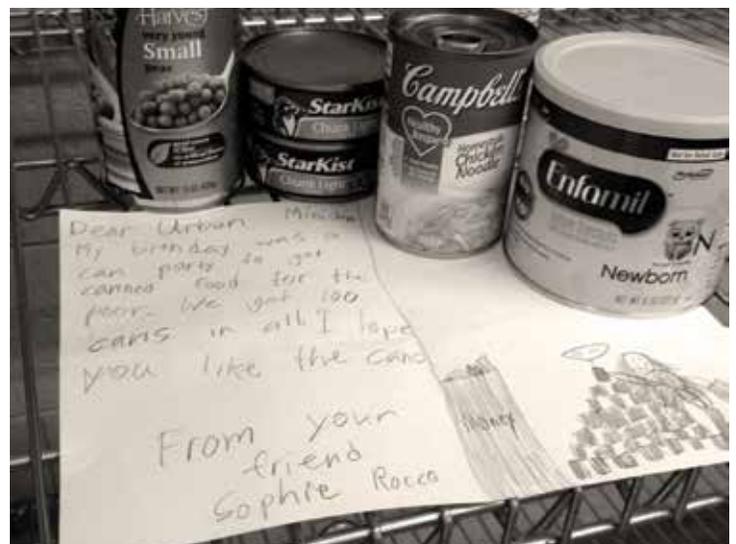
THERE'S MORE HAPPENING! CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA

Teaming Up: Northwest Vikings and The Summit Church Oak Ridge are scoring together in the fight against hunger. On Friday nights this fall, The Summit Church Oak Ridge has launched a Twitter campaign to #LoadUptheScoreboard – the church is contributing one meal for every point the Vikings score at football games. See how many meals they have contributed – and who is multiplying their good work.

Gifted: Claxton Elementary third-grader Sophie Rocco makes her birthday wish for others.

Sharing: Triad potters' Feast of Caring contributions take shape well before the soup starts simmering.

Visit us at www.greensborourbanministry.org, like our page at www.facebook.com/GreensboroUrbanMinistry and follow us on Twitter @GsoUrbanMin!



Partnership VILLAGE

KEITH

Keith Murphy is a freshman this fall at Brevard College, and no one would doubt it who knows him.

The Brevard freshman football special teams member was, after all, a capable student and a varsity standout at Page High – all conference on a team that won the conference in 2011, 2012, 2013 while he played wide receiver and defensive back.

But while Keith is building his stats on the field, he is defying them elsewhere. The Partnership Village mentoring program “grad” is the first in the support network for teens to go away to a four-year college. For the mentors who have known and worked with him for the past three years, he’s already taken it to the house.

“I’m so happy for him and so proud,” says Mike Sasser, who leads the mentoring program with Rev. Andrei Spells, a chaplain at Greensboro Urban Ministry. “I get those texts from him, and it’s just like from a son.”

Kevin, his little sister and mom came to Partnership Village in 2012 as the family overcame significant challenges to regain housing and stability. Kevin, a quiet kid, didn’t often let on what was going on, Mike and Andrei say.

He came on Thursday evenings to play basketball and also share a meal and faith with his friends and mentors. Together, they learned life skills and trust. Over time, Keith opened up to his mentors and to the opportunities he was creating for himself.

Going to a college three hours away from home, however, was an opportunity that gave Keith pause. His mentors were with him:

How can we listen and help you?

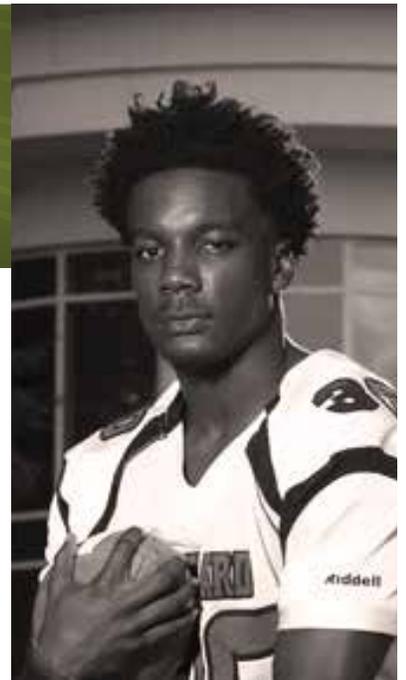
“The discussions we had helped me understand what to expect from college, and their support helped me get the things I needed to be ready,” Keith said.

A member of Mike’s church, Guilford Park Presbyterian, donated a computer for Keith to take to school. They outfitted his dorm room. And now, they pray for him and encourage him to keep his head in the college game.

Keith is helping Mike, Andrei and the other mentors think about how to support PV kids once they get to college. A new partnership this year with Guilford County Schools will also help younger students like his sister – and their parents – begin to envision a different future by sharing information early about college, from necessary tests to financing.

“Watching your friend or brother graduate from college has a huge impact,” Andrei says. “It’s an important step in breaking the generational curse of poverty. “

You can support Keith by writing him a note of encouragement. Please send notes to Keith Murphy, c/o Rev. Andrei Spells, Greensboro Urban Ministry, 305 W. Gate City Blvd., Greensboro NC 27406.



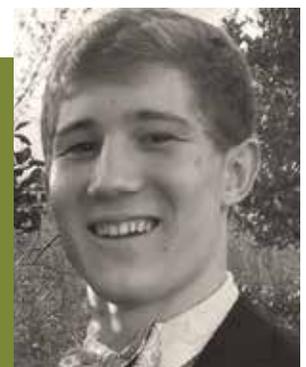
HONORARY GRIMSLEY BOARD MEMBER

Greensboro Urban Ministry’s Board of Directors welcomes honorary member Jacob Coughlin, a senior at Grimsley High. Board Chair Craig Siler nominated Jacob to recognize his efforts to fight poverty and hunger in the community.

Jacob has organized and run the Food Drive on Staunton Drive for six years. He was inspired to action as a middle-schooler, when he learned about the extent of poverty and homelessness in Greensboro.

This year’s six annual food drive was Saturday, July 25, and Jacob enlisted the help of several friends and his sisters, Addie (12) and Bella (10). Together, they collected 1,442 pounds of food and \$470.

As a non-voting honorary Board member, Jacob will participate in meetings and at Greensboro Urban Ministry events. Thanks, Jacob!



MEMORIALS

John Akers
John & Mary Broome

Anne M. Allen
Margaret & Bob
Beeching
William Black
David Hunter
Jane & David Martin
Patricia McConnell
Catherine and
Ben Rogers
Erma Smith

George P. Arnold
Tom & Anna Hannon

Carson Bain
Fanny Bain

J.C. Barefoot
Catherine Barefoot

Bertha Berford
Lisa & William
Meyerhoffer

Carolyn Bilyeu
Anonymous
Clara Colbert
Margaret Gargano
Sylvia Gullatt
Allan Molho
Daryl Nuccio
Cassandra & Leslie
Ricketts

George Black
Bessie Black

Michael Boyum
Joan & Pedro Tavares

Joy Briggs
George & Frances
Cheek

Bob Brisley
Barry & Claudia Siegal

Marie Brown
Ed & Carolyn Bailey
Bette Weatherly

Robert E. Bump
Pat Wagner

Lewis A. Canter
Lewis & Lucille Canter

Archie D. Carter
John & Susan Suggs
WM Miller Wood
Stark & David Zauber

Victor Cates, Sr
Robert Cates

Elizabeth Cecil
George & Frances Cheek

Blake Clark
Linda & Perry Crabtree

Minnie Lou Clark
Caren Weiss

Andrew Courts
William & Judith
Carmichael

June Chilton
Betty & Julian Rogers
Wilhelmina Stokes

Robert H. Cudd
Joyce S. Cudd

Nan W. Dail
Marion D. Dail

Evon W. Dean
Willard Dean

Yvonne Fillyaw
Linda Parker

Bob Forrest
Sue & Troy Brim

Ann Gale
Neil & Susan Lutins

Pamela Gambino
John & Lindsey
Gambino

William C. Gay
Anonymous

John Gentle
Laura & Alan Stone

Betty Gibbs
Linda & Perry Crabtree
Uldine & Lewis
Duckworth
Bobetta Waynick

Martin W. Golds
Anonymous

Janel A. Greer
Carrie Gowen

John D. Hall
Joan Hall

**Charles & Beatrice
Hamilton**
Clyde & Dorothy Brown

Kristina Hamm
Robert Cook

Bennett Herbin
Barbara Herbin

Raymond & Eva Herbin
William Herbin

Bob Herron
Loretta & David James
Ruby & Craig McGhee

Ansley Jessup
Bobby Jessup

Leon Jessup
Bobby Jessup

John Jett
Donna Whitson

Nathaniel Jones
Brenda Barksdale

Kenny Jones
Robert Cates

James Fredrick Jones
Kay Jones

Obie Kallam
Alma Kallam

Robbie Kennedy
Phillip & Barbara Walls

Glen Key
Lynn & Linda Rorer

Nancy A. Kimmons
Margaret Wade

Gary Lang
Don & Phyllis Kranz

Justin Lee
Bob & Joyce Lee

Mary R. Lloyd
Lori & Jody Attias

F. William Lowrey
Richard League

Hazel Macon
Paul & Evelyn Zopf

Brian Mabe
Robert Cates

Amelie Marohn
Billy & Amy Chamblee
Harry & Ruth Edgren
Carl Fenske
Clint & Kay Guenther
Meg Hayes
John & Karen Jarvis
Harold and Susan
Kincaid
Robin McPherson
Virginia Rives

Mollie Marsh
Howard & Sally Marsh

Bob Martineau
Judy Martineau

Harlan McKenzie
Anonymous

Ann R. Melton
Audrian Melton

June Missroon
Ann Crandall

Sidney C. Moore
Lois Davidheiser
Alice and Christopher
Dudley
Alice Pruden
Wilhelmina Stokes

Jack & Maie Noland
Larry & Patti Staples

Harold Odum
Janet Odum

Franklin & Mildred Palmer
Elfreda Palmer

Ruth Pamplin
Ann Gouldin

Mr. and Mrs. W.C. Parker
Linda Parker

Arthur Pekar
Susan & Robert Good

Curtis Pinkowski
David Pinnix

Brenda R. Protonentis
Mary & John Ciricione

John Quick
Sue Medley

Michael S. Rabe
Randal & Jeanne Rabe

Maurice Radney
Gloria Radney

Sue Rahn
Jeffrey & Lora Farlow

Amy L. Ramsey
Albert Dowling

Nancy Reed
Joe & Chris Warriner

Steven Roach
Harold & Joyce Bennett

Johnny & Jewel Roberts
Bruce & Melinda Adams

May Bell Robinson
Willi Coleman

Joe Robinson
Pat Robinson

Jerald I. Rosen
Vivian Rosen

Bruce Sanders
Becky Sanders

Anita C. Schenck
Louise Bowles

Tony Schiffman
Howard & Sally Marsh

Robert M. Scott
Roy Fagan and Mary
Fagan

Vernell Sheppard
Malvena & Tracy
Sheppard

Charles Shinn
Miriam & Patrick Forbis

Clifford Shore
James. M. Harvey

Alice Smith
Sue Adams
Cone Health Foundation

Pearl Smith
Paula Daniel

Mark Smith
Ernest Goins

Bill & Betty Spieth
David Spieth

Bill Stephanz
John & Sally Sherrill

Frederick H. Steck
Betty & Ben Cone
Clarence & Judyth
Hustrulid

Victor J. Steinbacher
Victoria Lundy

John C. Stuart
Sara H. Stuart

Joyce Stutts
Winfred & Barbara
Hunsucker

Lewis Styons
Mary Garrison

Bennie Swain
Ann & Thomas Stroud

Linda F. Tugman
George & Frances Cheek
Mary Ellen & Burl Hull

William Vaden
Lizabeth Vaden

David J. Van Dorn
Constance Van Dorn

Nathaniel Villines
Lizzie Villines

Wesley Wall
SKA Consulting
Engineers, Inc.

Hazel Walls
Vickie Smith

William L. Whitaker Sr.
William Whitaker

Marilyn Whitcomb
Ann & Thomas Stroud

Charles H. Williams
Mildred Ballentine

John Wood
Grey Wood

Peggy Woods
James Woods

Thomas Yarbro
Kathy & Lowell Rauch

Helen Zink
Ben & Carol Parke

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.



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FEAST OF CARING

Join us at First Baptist Church between 5 and 7 p.m. on Thursday, November 19, for the annual Feast of Caring. Greensboro Urban Ministry's annual event brings the community together to share a bowl of soup, our many blessings and opportunities to help those in need in the Greater Greensboro area.



For a minimum donation of \$25, you can choose either five William Mangum Honor Cards or a piece of North Carolina pottery created by a local artist.

First Baptist is located at 1000 W. Friendly Ave. This year, we'd like to ask you to consider bringing a friend. Dinner is on us!

Your support of the Feast of Caring allows us to continue to meet men, women and families at their point of crisis and help them get back on their feet. We provide food, shelter, emergency assistance and case management thanks to the generosity of folks like you. Thank you for your continued belief in our guests – and our partnership, which is truly changing lives!

OUR STATE MAGAZINE FOOD DRIVE AT FEAST OF CARING

We're excited to welcome Our State magazine this year to the annual Feast of Caring!

Our State, which is featuring the work of urban ministries around the state in its November issue, is partnering with Greensboro Urban Ministry to hold a food drive as part of the evening. In addition, they will share a complimentary copy of the November issue with folks who participate in the event.

Learn more about the drive at www.ourstate.com or www.greensborourbanministry.org.

Our State
NORTH CAROLINA