Help keep the doors open!

20TH ANNUAL FEAST OF CARING
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2011
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, 1000 WEST FRIENDLY AVENUE, GREENSBORO

Each morning a line of people are waiting for our doors to open. It is through support like yours that we are able to keep our doors open so that we can express God's love in so many concrete ways.

One such example is the story of the Kevin and Carol Tucker family which recently appeared in the News & Record. Both parents lost their jobs and became homeless along with their five children. Urban Ministry gave them food and emergency shelter at Pathways Center. Through our new program, Beyond GUM, employment was found and housing was secured with deposits and first month's rent paid at our Partnership Village. Guilford Baptist Church served as their Welcome Home team by helping them move into their new home with needed supplies and furnishings.

The Feast of Caring meal, in the soup kitchen tradition, kicks off our annual operating fund campaign. We are requesting your 2011-12 annual pledge or gift at this event. Individuals like you give over half of Urban Ministry's $3.6 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 of $25 or more, you will receive a handcrafted pottery bowl donated by local or Seagrove potters or five honor cards. William Mangum's 2011 Honor Card titled “Change the World” 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 donate bread, contact Gail Gore-Lewis, Director of Volunteer Services, at (336) 553-2642 or lewis@guministry.org.
This year's Honor Card has been an inspired calling. Sitting in the studio pondering ideas, I was struck by an awesome message as I listened to Andy Stanley. The message was titled “One, Not Everyone.” In it he said “do for one, what you wish you could do for everyone!” As I leaned in and listened more closely, Andy shared that we have a tendency to back away from opportunities. Do you remember when you asked your teacher, coach or parent to do something special? Remember a response like this—“Well, if I let you do it then I’ll have to let everyone do it!” Remember how you felt? You didn’t care what the others thought. You just wondered why they didn’t let you do it!

This year there have been floods, tornadoes and joblessness, coupled with an economic recession that has forced misfortune and helplessness on untold numbers. As we look around and want to help, we’re simply overwhelmed and wonder where would we even begin? If we did help someone, then we feel like we need to help everyone and that’s impossible, so oftentimes we simply help no one. Sound familiar? Are you like that teacher, coach or parent? Unfortunately that is the posture that many of us take. It’s a sad truth, isn’t it?

Carrie Underwood has a powerful song entitled “Change.” Her lyrics cut to the chase, convicting us to not believe other’s lies when they say our efforts cannot make a difference. A smile, lending an ear to someone’s heartache, serving at a shelter, buying a street person a meal, making the most of each opportunity is how WE will “Change the World.” As I listened to those lyrics it made me immediately think of someone that I know living the powerful truth of Andy Stanley’s message and Carrie Underwood’s song.

Her name is Bonnie Harris and she is the inspiration for the 2011 Honor Card. Not too many years ago, Bonnie succumbed to the pressures of the world and became a drug addict. As a mother she had to give up her children; literally losing everything, she wound up living on the streets as a hopeless and desperate person. Ultimately with no place to go, she turned to the one and only that could help her, Jesus Christ, her Lord. One step at a time, someone reached out and assisted her and through the efforts of Greensboro Urban Ministry, Bonnie brought her family back and began to piece her life together.

Fast forward. Today Bonnie is the director of Hannah’s Haven, a loving home that helps women break the chain of drug addiction and substance abuse. I remember her dreams early on and how some scoffed that there was no way she could do it. She listened to her heart and with the Lord’s blessing she has a halfway house that rotates six women at a time. They are welcomed and nurtured into a Christian environment where she literally helps to “Change the World” for these women. There are two verses from Galatians 6:9-10 that challenge and encourage our efforts: 9. Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. 10. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people.

Supporting the Honor Card program is just one opportunity where you can assist and help those in need. It’s a great way to share your love with a friend or family member and give back to your community in a lasting and heartfelt way. Personally I would like to thank you for your support and challenge each and every one of us this season to look for an opportunity to “Change the World.”

BEGINNING NOVEMBER 17, HONOR CARDS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS IN GREENSBORO:

William Mangum Fine Art Gallery  |  2166 Lawndale Dr.  
Greensboro Urban Ministry  |  305 West Lee St.  
Barnes & Noble Booksellers  |  Friendly Center  
Leon’s Style Salons  
Scissor Talk  |  2823-H Spring Garden St.  
Various congregations throughout the city  
Online  |  GreensboroUrbanMinistry.org
Candle Tea Proceeds Benefit the Pathways Center

By Caroline Council

Each year, members of the Moravian Church Women’s Fellowship designates twenty-five percent of the profits of the previous year’s Candle Tea to be spent on mission projects, with one-half designated for foreign missions and one-half for home missions.

Both Women’s Fellowship and the Mission Committee have a special interest in the Pathways Center, the Urban Ministry’s shelter for homeless families. In past years we have provided cribs, crib sheets, pack n’goes, etc., as well as giving $50 Wal-Mart gift cards to each of the sixteen families residing at Pathways during the Christmas season.

This year we were able to purchase a bed-in-a-bag, sheet set, towel set and pillows for each of the 16 families as well as give a substantial Wal-Mart gift card to Pathways to enable them to purchase necessities for families.

Women’s Fellowship member, Marian Carter and I had a wonderful time shopping a recent sale at Anna’s Linens at Pyramid Village where we were assisted by Dolores, the store manager, and her very helpful staff. We filled basket after basket with items. We had so many items that we had to make two trips to Pathways. The Pathways staff was thrilled to receive this brand new merchandise, but no one felt better than Marian and I did after delivering these items to the families.

As I was leaving that afternoon a new family was moving in. They didn’t have much to move other than their clothes. I thought then that I hoped our gifts would make their transition a little bit easier.

Hats off to all of our Candle Tea volunteers who make it possible for our church to have a positive impact both at home and in foreign lands. This year we are also making funds available to support the groups cooking meals for the Weaver House Night Shelter, along with funds for residents of Salemtowne whose money has all been used, emergency assistance for seminary students and scholarships to assist foreign women attending the Women’s Conference. We continue to support the aids orphans in our village of Maria in Tanzania and the Nicaraguan Clean Water project as well.

Winter Emergency (WE!) Starts December 1

WE! NEEDS YOUR VOLUNTEER AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT!

Come to our WE! Community Meeting, Tuesday, November 1, 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.

The following congregations have agreed to be WE! sites:
First Presbyterian
West Market Street United Methodist
Mt. Zion Baptist
Grace Community
Pleasant Garden Baptist
FaithStep
YWCA of Greensboro

Our Weaver House Night Shelter for single adults has been at capacity again all summer and the homeless are having a hard time finding jobs and services.

A nation that continues year after year to spend more money on military defense than on programs of social uplift is approaching spiritual death. —Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
“The hardest thing to deal with was to hear my children say, ‘I’m hungry,’” recalls Mr. Tucker when asked of his recent experience with unemployment, hunger, and homelessness.

Because of unemployment, the Tucker family lost everything during the worst time of year – the winter. Walking the streets in the snow, they were faced with extremely cold temperatures, no food, and no place for their five children to sleep except their car. That was before they found the Pathways Center, Greensboro Urban Ministry’s emergency family shelter.

Once at Pathways, the Tucker family began participating in the Beyond GUM program which works with individuals and families to prevent homelessness and to rapidly re-house them. Utilizing the resources provided through Beyond GUM, Mr. Tucker was able to find employment and the family was able to move into Partnership Village, our transitional housing community.

Mr. Tucker no longer has to worry about his children being hungry or where they will sleep. He has steady work, allowing his wife to stay home with their youngest child. The future is looking up for this family and with continued case management through Beyond GUM, life will only get better.

Holiday Fund Supports Thanksgiving and Christmas Dinners for Thousands

For 23 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, over 4,000 meals each year. Last year Bender’s Tavern owner Anna Freiberg started a Christmas meal in the same tradition for the same population.

Greensboro Urban Ministry provides the kitchen facilities and dining room, but funds to support the dinners come directly from the community. It’s easy to give—and every bit helps.

Calendar of Events

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<tr>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Winter Emergency (WE!)</td>
<td>November 1</td>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>First Presbyterian Church</td>
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<tr>
<td>Community Meeting</td>
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<td>617 N. Elm Street</td>
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<td>William Mangum</td>
<td>November 1</td>
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<td>Honor Card Lunch</td>
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<td>410 N. Holden Road</td>
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<td>Feast of Caring</td>
<td>November 17</td>
<td>5-7:00 pm</td>
<td>First Baptist Church</td>
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<td>Thanksgiving Day Meal</td>
<td>November 24</td>
<td>10:30 am</td>
<td>Potter’s House Community Kitchen</td>
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Volunteer Opportunities

**EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE**
Interview clients to assess crisis situations and eligibility for financial assistance.

Must be at least 18, High School Diploma or GED; minimum semester or 6 month commitment with a 4 hour shift per week. Monday-Friday, 8:30am-5:00pm.

**WEAVER HOUSE NIGHT SHELTER**
Assist shelter staff checking in new guests/clients, interact with clients to assess needs, help with laundry, and provide encouragement.

Must be at least 18, High School Diploma or GED; minimum semester or 6 month commitment, one shift per week. Nightly 6:00pm-9:00pm.

**PARTNERSHIP VILLAGE**
Tutor children ranging in age from elementary to high school; help with homework; assist group leaders with special projects, snacks and other after-school activities.

Must be at least 18, High School Diploma or GED; minimum semester or 6 month commitment, one shift per week (Tuesday or Thursday, preferably both days). Tuesday and Thursday, 3:30pm-5:00pm

Want to volunteer? Contact Gail-Gore Lewis, (336) 553-2642, lewis@guministry.org or Ben Rumley, (336) 553-2461, rumley@guministry.org. Visit our website at GreensboroUrbanMinistry.org

Outstanding Volunteer

Greensboro Urban Ministry would like to extend a big “thank you” to volunteer Dewey Meeks, who has been with us for over three years. Dewey began with GUM in early 2008 as a volunteer in both Potter’s House kitchen and the Food Bank, and has since then become indispensable in managing the retail operations of the Food Bank. He currently volunteers two days a week and has served over 1,500 hours.

Dewey, a native of Texas, moved from Houston to Greensboro in 1992 with his wife, Bonnie. He laughs as he remembers his first job in his parents’ grocery store, a small “mom ‘n pop” outfit, and now he has come full-circle in using his early work experience in his retired years as a volunteer.

When asked what he likes best about volunteering at GUM, he quickly answers “people”—particularly the other volunteers and customers he has come to know over the years. Recently, the East Market Street Seventh Day Adventist Church honored Dewey with an award and ceremony for his outstanding work with the Urban Ministry. As regular customers of our food bank store, the church recognized the humility and dependability that characterize his service every day.

Way to go, Dewey, and thank you!

Welcome New Class of 2014

**CLASS OF 2014:** Vic Bowers, Wendy Gatlin, Otis Hairston, Denis Jacobson, Samantha Magill, Kate Maleski, Susan Phillips and Nora Shively

**RETURNING BOARD MEMBERS:** Turner Battle, Cynthia Bowen, Charlie Broadway, Shane Carrico, Linwood Carver, Andrew Chamberlin, Dorothy Colson, Bill Conner, Christopher Couch, Don Cupit, Fanta Dorley, Neal Dorman, Todd Herman, Don Hughes, John L. Knowles, Jr., Fritz Kreimer, III, Ed Lemons, Hugh Mann, Tim McNeal, Judy Newlin, Olga Perkins, Pete Salassi, Bob Scheppegrell, Craig Siler, Vincent Sims, Eric Sturdivant, Paul L. Wingate, Jr., and Charlie Zimmerman
Back to School Party for Pathways

The Market America family reached out with hope, love and compassion to help the children and families who reside at the Pathways Center housing program of Greensboro Urban Ministry with a super surprise “Back to School Party” filled with loads of goodies for all.

Teams were formed to choose and sponsor a child in need. Over the last two months teams have been buying clothes, shoes, backpacks and school supplies. We are so thankful to all who participated in this great cause.

The children of the Pathways Center were so surprised when the Market America Family arrived and hosted a “Back to School” party with homemade cupcakes, brownies, cookies, loads of gift bags, and a cake made especially for them.

Each school age child was presented with gift bags of new clothes, shoes, backpacks and school items to begin the new school year with confidence. No child was left behind. Market America also bought toys and other goodies for the younger children. Let’s not forget the mothers of these children—Market America made beautiful goodie bags for them as well.

The Back to School Party was so wonderful, warm and greatly received by all – there was nothing like seeing the children’s faces light up with a big smile or hearing the laughter and giggles – laughter that had seemed lost by these children. When the children were presented with bags and bags of goodies, it was like Santa had stopped by in August.

The Market America teams have plans in the works to continue to help these families and children in need.

“I enjoyed going to the Pathways Center. I had never been there and didn’t know what to expect. What I saw was several small children enjoying their food, running and playing without a care in the world. The kids seemed happy as can be. I’m very glad I went and could be a small part of their lives.” ~ Pam Douglas, M.A. Volunteer

Eagle Scout Projects Completed

Andrew Saintsing, with the help of his family and friends, was able to construct two picnic tables which can now be found at the Pathways Center. In addition, he assembled two stand-alone benches which will also be placed in the garden at the center.

Rev. Mike Aiken, Dean Little, and his father Dean stand on the custom-built walkway that leads from the back parking lot to the Food Bank loading dock. Dean had to first present a comprehensive proposal that showed all the details of the project, then secure financial backing.
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 (336) 553-2638.
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) 553-2639 or aiken@guministry.org.

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<th>WEAVER HOUSE BED</th>
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Thank You, Greensboro!

Leadership Greensboro Seniors coordinated and collected 79,982 pounds of food and $2,350 in donations at the semi-annual food drive held on September 17, 23 & 24.