

TRINITY REACHES OUT is issued quarterly. It is a celebration of the spirit of volunteerism as seen through the eyes of our missionaries as they reach out to those in need. Our main focus is on our Trinity missions –but we invite parishioners who volunteer in other outreach missions to submit ideas about their volunteerism. As we have limited space, there is a strict word count, and stories are planned at least three months ahead of actual printing. We ask that our stories come from the heart, from those who serve those in need. We would love to hear from you.

Patsy Green, Editor

OUTREACH COMMITTEE

The purpose of the Outreach Committee is to provide leadership, encouragement and support in carrying out Trinity Cathedral's Christian ministry of responding to human need. As the body of Christ, based upon the servant ministry of Jesus Christ, we are to seek and serve those in our community who are vulnerable and at risk. It is our goal to help make this world a better place for all of its people. We hope that you will give of your time, talents, money and heart in support of one of our outreach missions or any others you choose.



DAUGHTERS OF THE HOLY CROSS SELECT FIVE MAJOR BAZAAR

RECIPIENT AGENCIES: Winston's Wish, Goodworks, Heartworks, The Free Medical Clinic and The Women's Shelter. All net proceeds of the bazaar go to outreach. This year's bazaar will be held on Saturday, November 15. Mark your calendar.



Trinity's standing missions, which are funded through our Trinity Cathedral Outreach Budget, include: St. Lawrence Place, Sunday Morning Breakfast, The Cooperative Ministry, Soup Cellar, Morne Michel, partnership with W. A. Perry Middle School, Christmas Gift Bag Ministry and York Place. In addition, we are awarding grants to three local non-profit agencies which provide early childhood services: Vital Connections, Nurturing Center and SPLASH Committee of the Reformation Lutheran Church.



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"I FIRST THANK THE LORD FOR THIS PLACE"

To many of us the homeless seem strange and undesirable, but to those who serve Sunday morning breakfast they are brothers and sisters with hopes and needs just like ours. Each Sunday morning we make available for our guests index cards to write prayer requests and each week we receive a few. I would like to share some of these with you, but I will change the names of those asking for prayers.

Frequently we receive a one time request as we did from George Smith. He simply wrote on his card, "I need hope." Matthew asked, "I have a new job now. I ask for prayer for a new place to stay for me and my girlfriend so that we can start our new lives together and live a good life clean." Jim prayed, "Pray that I find a job and get a nice room or apartment and that I grow close to God." Luke asked, "I pray that God comes into my life and that He takes the taste of alcohol from me." Katie asked, "Please pray that God uses all the hard times I have been through to help younger people make better choices."

Occasionally we hear beautiful prayers that are ongoing. One of Sheila's first cards said, "I have committed myself back to Christ. Pray for the continuance away from drugs and alcohol. Pray that I am blessed financially. Pray for me to get a job. Pray for me to get a place of my own. Pray for my health. I want to thank each of you for feeding us. May God bless y'all." Another week she said, "Please pray for me to get a job and a place to stay. I thank each and every one of y'all Christians for feeding us and loving us. I love y'all too."

The most moving prayers came from a lady named Jenny. They came over a period of a couple of months. Her cards have stopped coming and I hope that this is a sign that God answered all of her prayers. One of her first cards said, "Dear Lord I come to you as boldly as I can. I love you. Please continue to bless me and my husband Joseph. My name is Jenny. I

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love you with all my whole heart. Please bless my unborn child, Joseph and myself. Bless us with a home and good health. I love all of you. God Bless. Love, Jenny and Joseph. Another week she wrote, “Good morning our Lord and Savior. I want to say thank you for waking us up this morning starting us on our way. I want to thank you for the wonderful and loving people here in this church. Bless our unborn child. Protect the baby, protect us. I love you Jesus.

The one thing we always get whether written or spoken is plenty of “ thank you.” Wilbur wrote, “I first thank the Lord for this place, part of my journey. I thank you people for your time. God has placed a lot of people in my path along my journey. Thank you guys and ladies, God Bless. He also included three bible verses: John 3:16, 1:9 and 10:9. The simplest I have seen, written in three line said this,

Thank you

From us

The Homeless

As you can see, our guests share the same hopes and desires that we have and the same prayers that many of us pray. Perhaps the next time you pass a homeless person on the street you will say a quick prayer for them and be aware that they may be one of our Sunday guests.

Lynn Butler

WE GIVE THANKS for St. Paul Lutheran Church for their Souper Bowl check for \$470.90 to be used in our Sunday Breakfast Program, and to the Young Adult Sunday School Class at Shandon Methodist for volunteering for our Sunday Breakfast Team once a

We give thanks for MASON HAWLEY'S dedication for the weekly gathering of food for Harvest Hope. Please bring canned goods to the church. A basket is outside the bookstore

YORK PLACE

York Place Episcopal Church Home for Children has served children and their families for over 150 years. First established in 1850 in Charleston as an orphanage, the Church Home relocated to York, S.C. in 1910. Since that time, it has evolved from an orphanage to become one of the first residential treatment facilities in South Carolina. York Place serves children and adolescents who are most in need and who, without residential treatment services, might require psychiatric hospitalization.

Treatment is provided to children and adolescents with significant psychiatric illness and impairment in behavioral, cognitive, emotional, physical, familial and social functioning and these boys and girls are in need of intensive treatment in and out of home placement.

In the last year, the Richardson Treatment and Evaluation Center has opened. It is a state-of-the-art facility that provides comprehensive evaluation and intensive residential treatment for up to 20 children and adolescents. Many unobtrusive safety features were incorporated into the design of the center, balancing the needs for safety and a homelike atmosphere.

Both the Diocese of South Carolina and the Diocese of Upper South Carolina own York Place. Both bishops are members of the board. Other members of the board are elected at diocesan conventions. Canon Cantrell has just rotated off of the board after serving two terms and Kirby Shealy has been recently elected to the board. John Shiflet provides the wonderful leadership in the office of director.

York Place has many needs. It is very labor intensive to work with children such as these and so staffing is very expensive. They welcome all donations. At present they would like to have arts and craft supplies, a DVD video camera, digital camera, journals, musical instruments and educational software. The web site for York Place is www.yorkplace.org.

Canon Cantrell and Kirby Shealy

Summer is here and school is out! There are so many children who are on the free or reduced lunch program during the year and must go without during the summer. Extra Food is needed at Harvest Hope. Please remember the hungry! Our *SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE* will also start this month -- and our SEEDS OF HOPE farmer will soon be in the parking lot. Tomato sandwiches, anyone?

CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

As coordinator of the homeless Christmas bags, I have witnessed the generous response of Trinity parishioners to this cause, so much so that what was given this year at Christmas has allowed us to continue to provide needed items for the homeless through Easter.

You gave over 325 bags on Christmas morning, 300 socks and gloves in February and 300 bags with toiletry items and t-shirts at Easter.

James tells us, "What good is it my brother, if a man claims to have faith but has no deeds?...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." (James 2:14-17) Through our faith we have the desire to do good deeds. You can't truly have one without the other.

So I continue to ask for your good deeds in our homeless ministry. As with most ministries, the needs are endless. As we receive monetary gifts, we will purchase items that we feel will be appreciated by our homeless guests. At the moment, I am looking for individuals to help sew our Christmas morning bags. 300 bags are needed. We also would appreciate your prayers. Please pray for Trinity's Sunday morning breakfast and that our community will become united in providing for the needs of the homeless.

Finally, with so many of you participating in this ministry, it's hard to properly thank all who have given of their time, talent and money. So on behalf of the Trinity Homeless Committee.. **THANK YOU!**

God's Peace, Elizabeth Beal



Harriet Rogers, Ann Bauknight, Lizzie Taylor, Helen Rogers, Elizabeth Beal



Jed Johnson, Savanna Haynes, Pinkney Beal, Lizzie Taylor, Sallie Taylor

Girls Choir [& Jed] Stuffing Easter Bags

TRINITY SOUPER BOWL OF CARING



We recently hosted a group of young people from across the country who are members of the advisory board for the Souper Bowl of Caring. They came from every region of the United States but they were united in their desires to make a difference in other people's lives.

One Sunday morning they arrived at 6:00 a.m. in the morning to feed and serve our guests. They were great workers and although the hour was early they eagerly did each job they were assigned. It was a privilege to see them in action, and I believe they received more than they gave. Here are a couple of their comments.

"I was fully immersed into fighting the war against hunger when the 15 members of the NYAB volunteered at a local soup kitchen. While I was thankful that we would be eating breakfast in a couple of hours, the people we served were just happy to be alive – 'I can't complain. The good Lord is watching over me right now!' they would reply when I asked how they were doing." – James Carras, Fort Lauderdale, FL.

"Once you are exposed to lifestyles that are so different from your own, your entire outlook changes. I realized that the needy that we were helping are actually people not just a statistic and they should be treated that way." – Jessie Blankenship, Lexington, SC.

Lynn Butler

ISABEL

It started while taking a lady for a job interview. She, like I, had just moved to Columbia. Harvest Hope Food Bank--never heard of it, I said. Where is it? On Harden Street, behind the fire station. As I walked around this very small building, waiting for my friend during her appointment, I noticed a volunteer at the desk who was answering the telephone and looking for a card in a small box on a counter even smaller, in a room full of people.

"Would you like to help while you wait?" she asked. "All you do is take the paperwork and take it to the next room." That was my first introduction to the Food Bank and the year was 1990. Eighteen years later, two moves, more clients, always the question -- will there be enough food? In the new building, there are private cubicles and a computer --wonder of wonders --one on one with the clients. The clients--so heartrending -- a young family with a baby living from pay check to pay check, the car needs repairing, rent must be paid--no car, no work, no money, no food-- a look at hopelessness on the father's face. What does the baby eat, you say with a prayer that the food bank has it. The prayer was answered loud and also with diapers. The hand clasp is more than any words.

And then there is the young man. As you are ready to send him to pick up food, he guiltily asks, "do you have a bar of soap? I have a chance at a job. We don't have any household goods." You haven't been a volunteer this long not to know where household goods are kept, and such a little thing like soap and you must ask.

And there is the senior who has worked hard all her life, with a very small Social Security check, now comes for help, with maybe one to five children. You explain that she can get help from social services for the children. The mother is on drugs. With great dignity, the old lady replies that they are not taking her babies away. She will manage. And then there are the clients who know everything, and you just grit your teeth and smile. Who are you to judge?

But it is the children --some very quiet, others bright eyed and full of curiosity. What's your name? You talk funny. I explain that it is my English accent. Where do you come from, they ask, while all the time looking at the bowl of candy on your desk for I'm the candy lady. Some help themselves without asking. Others wait. Would you like some candy? You can have two. Some say thank you, and if not, the grown-ups remind them. The heart breaks at a young girl having a hard time making up her mind, then asks "can I have some for my baby brother?" So little means so much.

THE REWARDS: The many, many thank-yous and God bless you, so many times---this just for being a volunteer!

Isabel Baker

"YOU WON'T FORGET ME, WILL YOU?"

Study Buddies, part of Trinity's Outreach Program at W.A. Perry Middle School, was already functioning when Tom and I got involved several years ago. Its purpose, as I'm sure you have guessed by its name, is to give an academic assist to students in serious need, but the experience of working together can have other rewards. This year's little band of faithful tutors--Connie Britt, Sarah Gibbes, Kate Hicks, Tom Kohlsaas, Cricket Newman, Bob Oakman--join Tom and me from noon until 1:00 on Tuesdays to work with seventh graders on an individual basis. Tutors work in their areas of choice. Some tutors feel more comfortable with math concepts and games, others with language skills; some delight in the science offerings, some with the really comprehensive and interesting history/geography program. The students' needs range from the basic to the more complex, from the need to master the multiplication tables and desert the furtive finger counting to the need to keep the verbs in the right tenses when weaving a complicated original time warp story.

Academic improvement is the goal and primary reward, but it was also encouraging to overhear Kate Hicks, widow of an Episcopal priest, leading a little discussion group with three earnest girls. Concerned that Mrs. Hicks would be lonely, they wanted to know if she had a boyfriend at Still Hopes. She told them about being a travel agent with American Express, about learning about other people through travel, and about the importance of paying attention even in courses that you don't like so you will know what you do like. They were spellbound.

Thanks to a schedule change last year, a very smart sixth grader named Emmanuel (he knew what his name means) landed in our program briefly. After he and I had worked through all his assignments, we took turns twirling a globe and randomly dropping a finger on a spot, then telling whatever you knew about that place. I don't remember what I said, but I'm not likely to forget what he said in puzzled interruption: "You're losing me with your young hip lingo!" I was charmed to learn that I not only had a lingo but that it was both young and hip!

The anecdotes go on, but I think that one of the most touching was about the boy my husband had worked with for some time. His family was moving to another school district. He looked up at Tom urgently and pleaded, "You won't forget me, will you?" That about sums up why we are there--not to forget them, and their needs.

Sarah Terrill

PLEASE REMEMBER OUR VOLUNTEERS THIS SUMMER! A little vacation would be nice! Our Sunday Breakfast teams and our Soup Cellar team work all year long. Won't you take a Sunday morning breakfast (Rusty Miller, 865-2830) or Thursday morning Soup Cellar (Ruth Tibshirany, 787-4309).