Serving Neighbors...Changing Lives
Annual Report 2010-2011
From the President

Love God, Love Your Neighbor

The most important teaching that the world could ever learn is laid out when some cynics came to Jesus looking for some wiggle-room. “Hey, Jesus. What’s the most important rule in the whole Bible?” Rather than falling into their trap, Jesus responded with two commands that speak to the core of whom we’re called to be as Christians and humans: Love God with all you are, then love your neighbor likewise (Mark 12:28-31).

Part of what we seek to do through Central Union Mission is open up ways for each of us to live out “loving your neighbor as much as you love yourself.” We all should be looking for ways to love our neighbors, the people on our block and down the cubicle hallway. As our circle widens, we find ourselves face-to-face with the needs of a desperate, hungry city. How can we possibly love all those people?

That’s what Central Union Mission is all about. With the help of donors like you, we put Christ’s command into action. Your support gives folks a safe, clean bed. You give families the food they need. You help children receive the only Christmas presents they’ll know. Now, that’s loving your neighbor and serving God at the same time.

We thank you for your devotion to the Mission and your faithful service. Your generosity keeps our doors open—every day. Please consider how you can love your neighbors at Central Union Mission.

Roy Wright

Mr. Wright has served the Mission on the board of directors since 2004 and began his board president term in 2011.

“If we truly love God, we will express it by loving our neighbors, and when we truly love our neighbors, it expresses our love for God.”

- Richard Stearns
President, World Vision
Our History

Central Union Mission is the oldest social service agency in the District of Columbia. Founded in 1884 by the Reverend Latham Douglass, the Mission’s purpose was to serve thousands of homeless, neglected men—many of whom were Civil War veterans wandering Pennsylvania Avenue.

Since then, the Mission has continuously operated an emergency shelter for homeless men and been a place for spiritual encouragement and recovery. It has survived the Great Depression, two World Wars, 24 presidential administrations, neighborhood transitions and numerous relocations.

The Mission Today

Today, Central Union Mission is a faith-based 501(c)3 nonprofit organization with four locations throughout the Washington, DC, area. It operates an 18-month rehabilitation program for men with life-controlling issues, a free meals program, a clothing and furniture distribution center and a 220-acre retreat center with a camp for underprivileged children and recreation facilities for the community.

The Mission is continually developing its programs to meet the changing needs of the community. Its current programs serve homeless men, underprivileged women, children, seniors, veterans and the growing needs of the underserved Hispanic community.

One life at a time, with God’s intervention, the area’s toughest rehabilitation cases—including addicts, gang members, criminal offenders and the chronically homeless—are transformed into productive members of society. With your compassionate help, once-hopeless men reconcile with their families, learn skills and get jobs and permanent housing.
See What You’ve Done!

Because of your support this year, Central Union Mission was able to provide a wide range of comprehensive, life-changing services and goods to poor, homeless and hurting people in the Nation’s Capital. We are grateful for your assistance and proud to share what your contributions have accomplished:

**Nutritious Meals**

168,002 hot meals served for men, women, families and children (including daily meals, groceries, senior luncheons and special events)

**Food Distribution**

402,000 bags of groceries reached underserved clients through our relationships with our partners and community organizations

**Household Support**

14,248 individuals (some in families) received clothing, furniture and household goods

**Education**

800 adults received instruction in English as a Second Language, literacy and computer competency and preparation for the GED test

**For Children**

419 children attended a free week-long, residential summer camp at Camp Bennett

1,400 received backpacks filled with much-needed school supplies

2,000 children enjoyed free Christmas bags filled with presents and clothes

**Residential Recovery**

49,252 beds were provided through the Overnight Guest Ministry and Spiritual Transformation Program

6,227 counseling services and home and hospital visits were provided for individuals, groups and families

**Medical and Legal Services**

806 people received physical exams, eye exams and private medical and legal consultations

“He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose.”

- Jim Elliot
These summer 2011 Spiritual Transformation Program graduates are ready for their new roles in society. Front row: Spiritual Transformation Program graduates Tyrone Douglas, Ronald Allen, Eugene Dalton, Ronald Law, Thomas Parker, Jose Santiago. Back row: Mission staff Donald Ross, Shirley Johnson and Don Tate, speaker and Good Success Christian Church Pastor William Bennett II, Mission staff David Surles and James Lewis.

With your generosity, these children can start out school with all the necessary supplies.

Needy children get a chance to experience summer camp fun only with your help. Photo by Jay Gibson
“How different our standard is from Christ’s. We ask how much a man gives. He asks how much he keeps.”

- Andrew Murray
South African missionary (1828-1917)
From the Executive Director

Although the difficult economy affected everyone this year, I praise God for our faithful supporters. Organizations, businesses, churches and individual donors continued to support our efforts in the community. In fact, we welcomed 8,291 new donors this year, and 3,507 reactivated their commitment. As one of our most faithful donors, we are grateful to send this annual report to you. Please remember that we have this report online as well at www.missiondc.org, so you can share it with potential new Mission friends.

The need never abates; “the poor we will always have with us.” Please pray about your involvement with Central Union Mission and consider making a gift during these slow months, or in anticipation of the Gales School remodeling to come. I thank you so much for your generosity.

Blessings,

Dave

David Treadwell has been Central Union Mission’s executive director since 1998.
“Although the world is full of suffering, it is also full of the overcoming of it.”

- Hellen Keller

Highlights of the Year

Camp Bennett celebrated its $300,000 renovation this year with an Open House. Thanks to a generous matching grant from the state of Maryland, we were able to renovate and winterize our girls’ cabin and lodge and, as seen here, put new roofs on all our 1930s-era buildings.

At the Holiday Banquet, we honored our volunteers for their generous service and collected many presents for the children’s Operation Christmas Miracle program. Pictured are Steve Roylance, Mission Board Member Pam Roylance and Rob Yancey.

Sixty-five golfers played in the Tee Off for Kids Tournament, and they raised $27,335 to send inner-city children to camp for a week this summer. Pictured are Lew Myers, Ted Myers, Darrel Vaughn (STP student) and Philip Ford (Mission staff.)

Hispanic Family Ministries’ Easter Party brought 317 to Camp Bennett for games, lunch, the Gospel message and a good old-fashioned egg hunt.

In addition to relying on the Food Depot and Clothing Closet, our senior neighbors enjoy the fellowship of our Senior Luncheon, a monthly, themed meal with an inspirational speaker and games, as well as occasional outings.

With the help of generous donors and volunteers, the Mission served hundreds of holiday dinners and distributed nearly 500 turkeys to hungry families this past Thanksgiving.
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Men's Ministry Administrator
Volunteer Coordinator
Executive Assistant
“Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.”

- James 1:27

Volunteer Spotlight

We are grateful for the generous hearts that volunteered at the Mission this year. People from dozens of churches, organizations and companies donated their time to help the homeless. This June, nearly 60 employees from ExxonMobil Corporation’s Virginia office cleaned our facilities, prepared countless sandwiches and carefully organized the third floor library.

The DC law firm Mintz Levin devoted their annual volunteer day to helping with our Veterans’ Day Celebration. Many thanks to Susan Berson, managing partner, for joining Mr. Treadwell and the distinguished panel of speakers for the luncheon.

Thanks also to generous individuals who helped the Mission. For example, Luisa Goodspeed donated two dozen of her beautiful hand-knitted hats and scarves for cold Mission guests. Jessie Wallace spent his Christmas Day serving as a volunteer leader at the Mission’s Christmas dinner, which later inspired him to attend two leadership training sessions for Operation Backpack. These only represent the many individuals and groups who improved our ministry and encouraged our guests.

What Your Gifts Do

After a Mission friend dropped off some donations in May, he was dismayed to find that his car wouldn’t start. While he was pondering his options, Mission receptionist and graduated STP student DC Carter offered him a seat and called Michelangelo Payne. Michelangelo, a Mission employee and former STP student, got down to work and fixed the problem. When our friend offered him some money, Michelangelo refused, saying that “ministry is what Central Union Mission is about.”

Michelangelo, right, came to the Mission in 2009 addicted to drugs, and here learned what it means to serve Jesus. He works full-time as logistics coordinator for the Hispanic Family Ministry and is pursuing a degree in radiology. Thanks to your generous donations of time, money and talents, Central Union Mission has helped many hopeless people pull their lives together and learn to follow Christ for the first time.
In 2006, DC government determined that a shelter for the homeless was the best use for the historic Gales School at 65 Massachusetts Ave., NW. The city was concerned about not only renovating the decrepit structure but also providing services for the community. After several unsuccessful efforts to identify a provider who could restore and operate the facility, the District issued a request for proposals to lease the property and to transform it into a functional homeless shelter.

Out of three applicants, Central Union Mission’s proposal was selected. Following a lengthy lease negotiation, this July the District Council agreed to release the property from government use and to allow the Mission to lease it for 40 years with a subsequent 25-year extension available.

Our neighborhood on R Street has been revitalized, which forces our potential clients into far-off communities without easy transportation. The Mission has been praying for many years to return to the very heart of the city, and this is God’s answer.

A huge task lies ahead: we must restore the historic structure and convert modest classrooms into a large dining/meeting room, remodel an attic and basement into useful space and add 5,000 square feet for a kitchen and pantry. We will provide sleeping and bathroom areas for over 150 men per night and house our offices, classrooms and counseling areas for all our men’s ministry activities. Our service plans include:

- Spiritual Transformation and other long-term men’s programs
- Temporary and transitional housing
- Medical, dental and legal services
- Drug counseling and treatment
- Job, life skills and computer training
- Educational, literacy and GED training
- Dining and meeting facilities
- Daytime activities to draw men to the facility

This God-given opportunity seems overwhelming in scope, but we know that He will guide us to make the best possible place to help His needy people. Please pray for wisdom for our architects and planners, and pray that God will provide the contractors we need for the construction phase. Pray also that we would bless our new community, making friends with our new neighbors.

If you have expertise you could offer, we would appreciate your time. As well, we will need more financial contributions to get the job done. Thanks so much for your faithfulness; we look forward to working with you in this new adventure.

What’s Next?
The Mission with a Heart in the Heart of the City
Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen:
to loose the chains of injustice
and untie the cords of the yoke,
to set the oppressed free
and break every yoke?

Is it not to share your food with the hungry
and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter—
when you see the naked, to clothe them,
and not to turn away from your own flesh and blood?

Then your light will break forth like the dawn,
and your healing will quickly appear;
then your righteousness will go before you,
and the glory of the LORD will be your rear guard.

Isaiah 58:6-8 (NIV)