As the year 2011 begins, at Central Union Mission we’ll use this opportunity to reflect on our last fiscal year in our Annual Report.

2009-2010 was difficult for the poor and underemployed in our nation’s capital. We added many more people to our family of caring, and we provided food, clothing, shelter and spiritual encouragement for our growing number of friends.

We are grateful that you continue to support us as we serve God by helping “the least of these,” as He commanded.

Central Union Mission runs an 18-month Spiritual Transformation Program (STP) that is open to any man who wants to commit to rehabilitating his life.

In our 28th year of service, the STP helped 2,000 men toward overcoming their addictions and prepared them for productive community life. Senior Director of Ministries James Lewis and STP Assistant Director Don Ross oversee the Bible studies, career training and relationship reconciliation that are all part of getting the men back on their feet.

Employment is a necessary part of recovery. Recent STP graduate Jeremiah Rose worked with the US Census Bureau stationed at the Mission from April through September. Jeremiah is also a full time student at University of DC. STP graduate Kennedy Molder completed his nursing assistant certification and was selected as Washington, DC’s, Nursing Assistant of the Year.

More Good News Inside…

Financial Report ................................................3
Reconciling Relationships.................................5
Join our “Meals a Month” Program.................7
FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
You Make the Blessings Happen

God’s blessed the Mission greatly this year, and your support is how He did it. I’m excited to share with you about all the people helped and opportunities grasped because of your support.

The media is talking about our nation’s economic recovery, but it’s not obvious among the poor in the Nation’s Capital. More people than ever are seeking food, clothing and shelter in unusually cold temperatures. And since the holidays are over, there’s more interest in New Year’s resolutions than housing the homeless.

That’s why you might like to tell your friends about our new “Meals-A-Month” program. A small monthly gift is convenient for a donor and helps provide stability for the Mission. You can read about Meals-A-Month on page seven.

Thanks again for your prayers and contributions. Your Mission and your neighborhood appreciate (and rely on) your faithfulness.

Blessings,

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Volunteer Spotlight
Generous Hands and Hearts

Both faithful volunteers and new helpers enhanced the Mission’s everyday work and 13 special events in 2010. From serving breakfast to literacy tutoring to calling Bingo at a Seniors Luncheon, we simply couldn’t do it without enthusiastic volunteers like you from businesses, churches and community organizations.

On Thanksgiving Day, over 300 volunteers (twice as many as last year!) came to help serve our neighbors by making turkey sandwiches, wrapping gifts and decorating Christmas trees, as well as simply serving Thanksgiving dinner. Volunteers also designed logos and took photographs, helped with fundraising and development, cleaned and painted our facility, encouraged children and provided worship services and music for our guests.

If you are interested in volunteering at the Mission, contact Seamus Merrigan at jmerrigan@missiondc.org or 202-745-7118 ext. 249. You can also fill out a volunteer registration form on our website at www.missiondc.org.

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Veterans Day volunteers from the Mintz Levin law firm prepare a batch of donation ‘thank you’ letters and receipts.
Spiritual Transformation Program

continued from page 1

Other STP grads made important commitments: Don Tate and Darion Carter gained employment at the Mission and married their new brides this year. Don and Bernadette are living in Maryland where they are part of Shechem Covenant Outreach Ministries (Forestville, MD). Darion and his new wife Margaret are a part of Mt. Gilead Baptist Church's congregation in Washington, DC.

Working toward full recovery requires God’s help and determination. With your financial support, these men gained direction for their lives, and we rejoice with this year’s graduates for their successful hard work. You can read more about the STP at www.missiondc.org/stp/.

Congratulations to newlyweds Don & Bernadette Tate and Darion & Margaret Carter (pictured above).

Financial Report

2009–2010

Total Income: $8,253,325

- Individuals & Appeals
- Churches
- Organizations
- Grants
- Camp Bennett
- Bequests
- Gifts in Kind
- Other Income

Total Expenses: $11,136,707

- Overnight Guests
- Homeless to Housing
- Administration
- Hispanic Ministry
- Outreach
- Charitable Help
- Spiritual Transformation Program
- Development & Communications
- Food Service
- Camp Bennett
Hispanic Family Ministry

Through Growing Needs, God Provides

With the construction and hospitality industries hit so hard by the bad economy, even more local Hispanic families relied on services from the Mission's Hispanic Family Ministry. The Ministry provides clothing, food and services to our growing Spanish-speaking community.

In addition to Director Dr. Jorge de Casanova's sermons and counseling, the Ministry worked with 523 volunteers to provide English training for 22 people and citizenship preparation for four, as well as helping others with literacy, tutoring and job applications.

Hispanic Family Ministry coordinates Central Union Mission’s community outreach opportunities for Spanish-speaking people. Through the Mission’s Food Depot, 3,082 received bags of groceries and 201 received turkeys. With your support, HFM gave 326 backpacks of school supplies to needy children.

117 of Camp Bennett’s summer campers were from HFM, and 378 enjoyed the Ministry’s special Hispanic Family Day at Camp Bennett on the day after Easter. Because you care about the families in our community, your donations are preserving the dignity, health and safety of our Hispanic neighbors. If you would like to know more about Hispanic Family Ministry, please contact Pastor Jorge at 202-232-4490 or jdecasanova@missiondc.org.

Parents were thankful that HFM could provide their children with presents from Operation Christmas Miracle.

We’re Here to Serve

Central Union Mission serves the entire community, not just homeless men. Here are some of this year’s success stories:

Seniors Luncheon
Many urban senior citizens feel isolated and lonely. That’s why the Mission provides a monthly luncheon to bring our friends together. They enjoy a worship program and games, festive decorations, a delicious meal and, best of all, lively fellowship. Each month, we averaged 50 in attendance.

Food Depot
As the economy continued to be rough this year, the Mission supplied even more groceries, turkeys and holiday dinners—nearly 160,000 meals—to hungry men, women and children.

Operation Backpack
When your parents are out of work, school supplies are out of reach. Through Operation Backpack, our faithful donors provided new backpacks stuffed with pencils and paper. With your help, 1,400 children were able to start their school year prepared.

Operation Christmas Miracle
This year, almost 2,000 children received books, games and toys in their Operation Christmas Miracle bags—nearly 600 more children than last year. Thank you for your generous spirit. There’s a place for your heart in Central Union Mission’s community outreach. To volunteer or donate, please contact Tracy Duncan at 202-MISSION ext. 260 or tduncan@missiondc.org.
Social Work Focus

T rusting God through the Storm

The Mission’s Social Work Department continues to support men in realizing their potential and becoming self-sufficient members of society.

Homelessness to Housing
A sure sign of our times is the large number of men—152—in the Homeless to Housing Program. Despite the bad economy, God continues to show us favor by helping us place men in housing. For example, Mr. Tetteh, who had been homeless since 1999, came to the Mission in despair from all the hurt and losses he suffered. Contrary to some myths about homelessness, he is a scholarly man with extensive credentials and impressive history. He persevered in his faith, and now finds himself in his own apartment preaching and teaching others about our Lord Jesus’ goodness.

Reuniting Families
2010 was a year of reconciliation and restoration of marriages and relationships. God used our work at the Mission to help renew the marriages of the Newmans, Thomases, Brooks, Dobbines, LeRosses, Johnsons and other couples. Since “the effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much (James 5:16),” nothing is too hard for God—not even repairing a broken marriage.

College Opens Doors
We not only stress the importance of education but assist the men in securing avenues to further their education. We are so proud of four of our men who are currently in college: Earl Smith, who is not only attending The Art Institute of Washington but was hired by the Mission to be one of our full-time cooks; Jeremiah Rose is attending the University of The District of Columbia as well as working part-time for the Mission; Cartrail Eaton is pursuing a degree in theology at Washington Bible College; and Michael Cameron is fulfilling a life-long dream of becoming a chef and owning his own business by pursuing his degree from The Art Institute of Washington.

Camp Bennett

Summer Camp is Cool!

R ural Maryland is a cool respite for city kids who enjoy a week of outdoor fun at Camp Bennett. 401 children attended our summer camp—6 more than 2009. They enjoyed swimming, a ropes course, crafts, music and stories about Jesus: 58 children accepted Christ as their Savior this year and 60 more rededicated their lives to Him.

We are grateful to the Lancaster Bible College volunteer counselors who committed to showing God’s love to the children.

We had 26 volunteers from Church of the Epiphany (Herndon, VA) and Olney Baptist Church (Olney, MD) working on facility maintenance and counseling. Also this summer, we welcomed Maryland’s Congresswoman Donna Edwards (4th District) for a tour of the facility and to meet the campers.

If you would like to volunteer at Camp Bennett, or if you know children who would like to participate, contact Director Kevin Hollowell at 301-774-4420 or khollowell@missiondc.org.
Any of the men who come through our doors have lost all hope. Misfortunes and crises--some uncontrollable and some of their own making--put their lives in turmoil. Central Union Mission gives the men a place where they can be safe. Then they are able to listen as we share the hope of the Gospel and give them the tools they need to go back into society.

Thomas was one of these men. After a conflict with other Overnight Guests, Thomas was not permitted at the Mission for a week. When he returned, he was ready to talk. Poor financial decisions led to broken relationships, alcohol abuse and losing his job and home: "I was always in control, had a place to go, had people around that I could manipulate," said Thomas. "I had never been here before--in a place where I lost everything. But at the Mission, even when I lashed out in anger, the other Overnight Guests and staff loved me--enough to put me out to get me to think. I now want the peace that you all have here in the Mission."

Thomas spent as much time as he could in Bible study and worship. We helped him regain his pension and Social Security income. In time, he was able to find his own home and will soon be moving out. It took longer than he had expected, but he has hope now, claiming Jeremiah 29:11, where God tells us that His plans will prosper us and give us a future.

The Mission provided more than 50,000 safe places to sleep this year, but some had even greater hope: 242 guests received Christ as their Savior, 17 were baptized and 261 rededicated their lives to Christ. The Mission provided legal aid services for 84, appointments to Unity Health Care Clinic for 493 and 192 came to our health fair. We had 2,541 men attend Bible study and 32,382 participated in evening chapel services.

We also thank our Chaplains Chuck Jones and Rutherford Cooke, who taught evening Bible studies and offered support and pastoral counseling to our guests. Director of Overnight Guests David Howard and Senior Director of Ministries James Lewis are also grateful for the help of part-time staff and volunteers.

If you'd like more information about the ministry, please contact Pastor Howard at 202-MISSION ext. 243 or dhoward@missiondc.org.
Your Meals-A-Month partnership provides reliable resources for hungry people.

No Cooking Required

If you have a compassionate heart—and you want to help feed the hungry in this city—then the Mission’s brand new Meals-A-Month program is just for you. Meals-A-Month donors are a very special group of friends who ensure that the Mission’s ministry continues month after month, all year long.

First, you choose the amount of your monthly donation. Since one complete meal costs $1.98, a donation of $19.80 will provide 10 nutritious “meals a month.” Then, you can choose the giving option that works best for you: we’ll provide coupons and envelopes for sending in your monthly gift, or you can select an easy autopay option.

Your monthly gift will help feed the hungry and homeless, and you can make a difference in Jesus’ name—every single month. To join our new Meals-A-Month program, contact Deborah Chambers at 202-MISSION ext. 227, or dchambers@missiondc.org. Or you can sign up online at www.missiondc.org.
Saving a Life at a Desperate Time

This is the most cruel time of year to be a homeless person. Even if it isn’t snowing, the streets are too cold for safe sleeping. As well, the economy has forced other DC shelters to shut down, leaving even fewer beds available.

Central Union Mission is a refuge in DC. Since we depend on God’s followers such as yourself, the government budget has little impact on how we feed and care for people. The Mission still offers hot meals, a clean bed and spiritual encouragement to any who are in need.

Since the holidays are over, some lose focus on donating money to sustain the poor. We know, however, that through you—our generous friends—God will meet all our needs “according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus” Philippians 4:19 (NIV).

Bringing Warmth to Winter

I’d like to help feed and care for our city’s homeless people in Washington, DC, this winter. I have enclosed my gift of:

- $25.00
- $50.00
- $100.00
- $200.00
- $ _______ to help as many people as possible
- Please contact me with information about the Meals-A-Month sponsorship program.

Please make checks payable to “Central Union Mission.” To donate by credit card, please see our website at www.missiondc.org.

Your gift is tax-deductible to the full extent of the law. We’ll send a receipt for your records. God bless you for caring.

Central Union Mission, P.O. Box 96763, Washington, DC 20090-6763