

# THE MISSIONARY

Central Union Mission



June 2006

## Celebrating Hopeful Futures

### Sisters Recollect Camp Memories and Pass on the Blessing



*Jacqueline Thompson now teaches her son, Julian, about the importance of giving and compassion by donating to Christmas Bags together.*

Jacqueline Thompson and her older sister, Alethea Franklin, can trace much of who they are today back to their experiences as children at Camp Bennett. Alethea's knowledge of Biblical truths, love for camping, and desire to foster compassion, as well as Jacqueline's swimming abilities, passion for travel, and interest in learning about people different from herself are all seeds of hope and joy planted at Camp Bennett years ago. And today these seeds have taken root in Alethea and

Jacqueline's lives to bear fruit of strength, generosity, and mercy for others.

"We came from a low-income home, but Central Union Mission made us feel that we were somehow more than that. They helped you see that you could be more than you were. Camp gave me that exposure; it gave me some direction," recalls Alethea.

Alethea and Jacqueline, along with their third sister Arlene Woodyard, attended Camp Bennett together over 35 years ago. But the years have not diminished their fond memories of hiking through the woods, sharing scary stories around the campfire, and making friends with new people from all over the Washington area during their weeks at Camp. Throughout the year, the sisters attended a weekly children's club at the Mission—learning Bible verses and stories through

songs and games. At Christmastime, they eagerly looked forward to receiving Christmas Bags as well.

"With regards to my faith, the Bible verses that I learned through Central Union Mission have stuck with me throughout my life," says Jacqueline. "At times of crisis, it's been helpful to reflect on the Word. It strengthens me and gets me through those difficulties."

During Christmas 2005, Alethea and Jacqueline demonstrated their gratitude and vision for passing on blessings by returning to Central Union Mission to participate as Christmas Bag donors.



*Jacqueline and her sisters experienced the love of God at Camp Bennett, and they have never been the same!*

"I don't think I would be the person I am today—a giving person—if it weren't for Central Union Mission," says Alethea. "[When I was preparing my Christmas Bag,] I found myself buying more and more gifts. The sheer number of gifts should have made that little girl happy!"

"Having been there, I know how much it can mean to those single moms with no way to provide camps or gifts for their children," commented Jacqueline.

Alethea and Jacqueline represent the highest hopes Central Union Mission has for the children who participate in Camp Bennett and our Children's Ministry. Not only did they gain fun memories and knowledge of the Christian faith, but they were profoundly shaped into the women they are today. They developed an understanding of themselves, their world, and the importance of living out their faith no matter where they find themselves in life.



2006 Services Provided Update Page 3



Easter Luncheon Page 2



Make a Child Jump for Joy Page 4

## *From the Executive Director: Planning the Next Era of Ministry*



In 1982, through *eminent domain*, Central Union Mission was forced to leave our two seven-story, carefully designed buildings located one block off of Pennsylvania Avenue. The facilities had served as our home for 60 years of service to Washington, D.C. We

reopened operations in a converted five-story auto dealership. Since then, the Mission has longed for a facility designed for our services. For seven years, I have pursued this goal and carefully followed the guidance of the city planners: find property with C-3-A zoning and build a facility with retail downstairs and residence upstairs. With these guidelines, I have sought an ideal location for us to flourish as a community-based residential facility.

Scores of developers and realtors aided our search for an appropriate property for the construction of a new Mission. Finally a suitable, properly zoned location was found on the 3500 block of Georgia Avenue. "Great!" we thought. Sell our building for \$7 million, raise another \$8 million and let's serve the poor for 50 or more years in a well-designed rescue

building as we did on Pennsylvania Ave.

Whoa, Dave. Not so fast. Like rescue missions across the country trying to improve services for those in need, we hit a political and neighborhood buzz saw. While we offer many essential programs for low-income community members, two issues cause a great divide between the Mission and our new neighbors: fears of diminished property values (although we are gathering evidence which counters this idea) and concern for the activities of our overnight guests during their time outside of the Mission. We are working to ease community fears but the road is long.

I'll be sharing more in the months ahead, but for now please pray for great wisdom as we seek to handle powerful opposition to our service and ministry goals. Please stop by or log on to our website ([www.missiondc.org](http://www.missiondc.org)) for a look at sketches of our dream building. And please remember, we only seek to serve and share.

Blessings,

## STP Celebrates Eight Graduates

On May 25, the Men's Spiritual Transformation Program was pleased to host a graduation ceremony for eight men marking their completion of the program. The ceremony was held at Freedom Baptist Church, and pastors from the graduates' churches were invited to share words of exhortation with the graduates.

### *Congratulations to...*

James Curtis  
Charles Grant  
Jerome Hall  
Anthony Harris  
Clarence Jackson  
Bryan Lashley  
Calvin Snowden  
Adrian Vaughn



*The proud graduates have come a long way!*



*Bryan Lashley receives his certificate of completion from STP Assistant Director Don Ross.*

## *He is Risen!: Easter Luncheon Shares Joy of New Life*

The annual Easter Luncheon at Central Union Mission was a warm time of fellowship as 213 people gathered in our chapel and dining hall for a hot Easter meal served by welcoming hosts, including ABC 7 Anchor Leon Harris. Many people expressed deep gratitude for the meal, saying Central Union Mission was their only place to go for the holiday and that it truly blessed them to find a welcoming atmosphere on what would have been a lonely Easter Sunday. We rejoiced together in the hope of Resurrection Sunday with those who truly know the value of the hope He gives!



*Our hard-working volunteers chose to spend Easter Sunday with some very special guests!*



*People from all walks of life gathered for food and fellowship.*



*Guests feasted on ham, asparagus, mashed potatoes and cake.*



*ABC 7 News Anchor Leon Harris, along with other volunteers, prepare meals for our guests.*

### *You Provided!*

During March and April 2006, Mission supporters touched the lives of DC's homeless and hurting with...

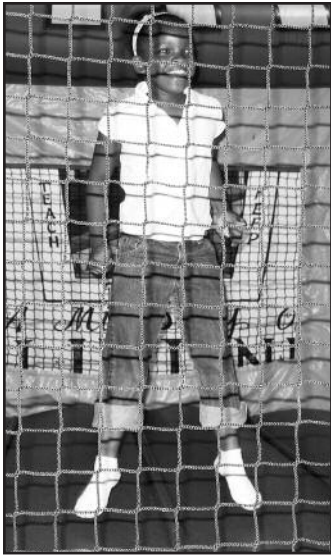
7000 Beds	20 ESL Students
20,000 Meals	28 Tutoring Sessions
652 Bible Studies	319 Clothing Gifts
430 Counseling Sessions	15 Eye Examinations
53 Medical Clinic Visits	8 Eye Glasses
52 Health Orientation Consultations	



*Students from Immanuel Christian School in Springfield, VA visited our Seniors Luncheon in May with gifts of goodies, cards and fellowship.*

### *Correction*

The Missionary would like to make note that the honoree of tribute gifts from six donors mentioned in the April 2006 issue is James T. Boddie, III, not James T. Brodie. Please accept our apologies.



Make a child jump for joy this summer by donating to Camp Bennett!

## Make a Summer Camp Dream Come True!

Every summer, children all over the United States eagerly anticipate a week away at summer camp chocked full of outdoor fun, adventure, and discovery. Through its Camp Bennett ministry, Central Union Mission is pleased to extend this joy to children from the Washington area who would otherwise be unable to have such an experience. For just \$40, you can provide one day of camp, including lodging, meals, swimming, a ropes course, Bible teaching, and loving counselors. Or provide an entire week of Camp Bennett for \$200! To support Camp Bennett, simply reply with the enclosed card, call us at 202-MISSION, or give online at [www.missiondc.org](http://www.missiondc.org). And please don't forget to pray for Camp Bennett this summer!



Bring a smile to a child's face with the gift of one week at Camp Bennett this summer.



Get into full swing and team up with Central Union Mission through Birdies for Charity! Visit us online for more information.



This spring, the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability declared that Central Union Mission was "found to have no discrepancies" in its financial management.

## THE MISSIONARY

IS PUBLISHED BY CENTRAL UNION MISSION  
1350 R STREET, NW, WASHINGTON, DC 20009  
(202) 745-7118 • (202) MISSION  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: DAVID O. TREADWELL  
EDITOR IN CHIEF: BRITTANY NOETZEL  
MANAGING EDITOR: BARFONCE K. BALDWIN  
WRITERS: EMMANUEL FIELDS, BRANFORD HEARN, HERMAN REINHOLD,  
JULIA SMITH AND SHELAH WILCOX  
PHOTOGRAPHY BY JAY GIBSON AND BRAD HEARN

Proudly printed by Todd Allan Printing Company.  
For more information, please contact Greg Warner at 301-982-0300 x174.



## Upcoming Events:

### Sunday, June 18, Father's Day Brunch • 12:00 p.m.

Join Central Union Mission in celebrating fathers and the important role they play in our lives. We will host a luncheon for Father's Day in honor of fathers in the community. All are welcome. To volunteer, contact Shelah at 202-MISSION.

### June 18-24, Birdies for Charity

Looking for a way to combine your love of golf with an interest in the work of Central Union Mission? Check out *Birdies for Charity* and support the Mission by making pledges on the birdies hit during the Booz Allen Classic golf tournament. To pledge or learn more, visit our website ([www.missiondc.org](http://www.missiondc.org)) and click on the *Birdies* logo.

### Saturday, August 19, Back to School Backpack Event • 10:00 a.m.

The new school year may seem far away, but Central Union Mission will be busily preparing hundreds of backpacks for needy children this summer. If you would like to help prepare a child for school this year, please contact Brittany at 202-MISSION.