



THE

VOLUME 6 • ISSUE 5 • OCTOBER 2007

Missionary

A PUBLICATION OF CENTRAL UNION MISSION

Discovering Transformation

Austin's Story: Transformation through Testimony



Austin's many changes make him proud to share his story with others today!

One changed life can impact countless others. Because of the power of shared personal experiences, Austin has found a place at Central Union Mission where he can discover the power of his own testimony.

At home in Pennsylvania several years ago, Austin was overwhelmed by mounting family and career problems. He was going through a painful divorce and feared losing his daughter while struggling to find employment. He met a co-worker named Scott at a steel plant who had participated in the Mission's Spiritual Transformation Program (STP). Scott's experience in the STP struck a chord in Austin's

searching spirit. "In the midst of all that was going on, I asked God, 'What would you have me do?'" he says. "I needed to get away—to get to know who I am and what God had for me."

Austin soon found himself unemployed. It was then that he moved to Washington, DC to pursue the STP. Through the program, he found the opportunity to focus on his life choices and relationship with God away from painful distractions.

Austin learned a great deal from the mistakes and successes of the other men in the STP. Staff, volunteers, and participants shared openly with him. He learned to wait patiently on God to provide for him. "I have learned how to be content where God has me. Some guys [in the STP] only think about being somewhere else, and they miss the blessing that's right there in front of them," he reflects.

Austin discovered that he has his own story to tell. "I had a hard time opening up to people, but I learned about the importance of my testimony by sharing in devotions and chapel," he says.

At Central Union Mission, Austin discovered profound spiritual and emotional change, but he also found medical, educational, legal, and professional support. Austin graduated from the STP in February 2007 and soon began a part-time custodial

job near the Mission. He decided to pursue further vocational training, so the Mission connected him to the Rehabilitation Vocational Association where he found funding assistance to pursue heating/air conditioning technical training at Montgomery Community College. He started classes in August of this year.

In order for Austin to truly put his life back together, he needed legal and medical help as well. He found invaluable assistance through a volunteer lawyer at the Mission's Christian Legal Aid. After four months and a few simple phone calls by the lawyer, Austin's record was expunged of some charges for which he had been previously acquitted in Pennsylvania, making it possible for him to obtain employment. Also, Mission staff and volunteers helped Austin secure insurance, treatment for his glaucoma, and glasses.

"The Mission has so many resources to get you the help you need—housing, social workers, education, and counselors," he says. When his desire for personal renewal met the many resources possible through Mission supporters, Austin became a new man. His experience at Central Union Mission reflects the deep, multi-faceted life change we hope for all who come to us for help. ■



FROM THE DIRECTOR

Getting the Big Picture of Life Change

Wow! How fast the years fly by. This year in *The Missionary* we featured: A Sharing Community, God's Faithfulness, Discovering Fresh Starts, Discovering Hope, Discovering New Places, and Discovering the Joy of Learning. Even with this wide variety of featured topics we were only able to scratch the surface of all the activities that transpire at your Mission on a daily and weekly basis. It is truly a joy for our staff to be engaged in so many activities aimed at benefiting hurting people in need.

This annual report edition of *The Missionary* looks back on the events, developments, and stories that we have been blessed with during the 2007 fiscal year, beginning July 1, 2006 and ending

June 30, 2007. As you browse through our annual report I hope you will see God's hand in each ministry and activity. While all of the Mission's training, counseling and distribution of goods sound nice when they stand alone, it is the God-directed holistic service to those in need that brings the greatest impact. It is well documented that people who are hungry, without homes, or battling addictions are not usually seeking Christ as the immediate solution to their problem. However, when followers of Christ step in to address immediate problems, they open the door for Christ and the solution to our greatest needs.

We hope this report will encourage you. As you see how your time, talent and treasure directed to the Mission have

effectively met basic human needs, they also open the door for sharing God's love with men, women and children. We thank you for making all this possible and ask that you stand with us as we face the incredible opportunities and needs in the Washington area in the coming year.

Blessings,



You Provided!

In early 2005, Central Union Mission implemented a new client management system that allows us to track our clients and services more effectively. This system also helps us organize information so we can tailor our services to the Mission's guests and other community members who truly need them.

With the generous support of donors like you, Central Union Mission provided the following services to the community from July 1, 2006 – June 30, 2007:

- **Outreach to children** through a free week-long summer camp and distribution of Christmas bags, back-to-school supplies, and backpacks.
 - 284 children attended Camp Bennett
 - 794 children received back-to-school supplies and backpacks
 - 1,966 children received Christmas Bags
- **Support to 5,943 families and individuals** in need through clothing & household goods distribution
- Residential recovery services through the 18-month Spiritual Transformation

Program for **81 men overcoming addictions and other issues**

- A safe place to sleep, food to eat, clothing to wear, and other supportive **services for 985 men** through the Overnight Guest Ministry
- Coordinated appropriate **housing for 64 individuals and families** through our Hispanic Family Ministry and Homeless to Housing Initiative
- **Counseling services** including individual, group and, family counseling, home visits and hospital visits for **3,388 families and individuals**.
- **Free medical and legal services**, including health fairs, exams and consultations for **947 individuals**
- **Educational services for 115 adults** including English as a Second Language, literacy, and GED training
- **Community development projects** in partnership with other organizations such as World Vision DC and Feed

the Children, including food distribution at Macfarland Middle School and youth center refurbishment for First Baptist Church (New Hampshire Ave.)

People come to Central Union Mission because they know that it is a safe place where they can find compassionate people to help them address their needs. Thank you for helping to create and sustain this space where immediate needs are met in lasting ways. ■



Mission services meet people at many points of need. Moments such as STP graduation represent the successes that your support makes possible.

Overnight Guest Ministry: A Moment of Need and a Wealth of Resources

The Overnight Guest Ministry was certainly busy during the 2007 fiscal year. In the midst of a growing gap between the need for emergency services and the District of Columbia's service capacity, we consistently worked toward our mission of serving the homeless through shelter, food, clothing, and medical assistance. We did this while spreading God's Word through nightly chapel, Bible studies, and most importantly, loving service for men such as Willie.

When he first came to the Mission, Willie's life was marked by addiction, crime, and desperation. Because of the assistance he received from Mission staff, his life began to change. He decided to follow Christ, joined a local church, obtained his

Commercial Drivers License, and is now a Metro bus driver. With the help of the Mission's Social Work Department, he was also able to find housing at Oxford House, a transitional group house for individuals in recovery, and is now seeking permanent housing.



A welcome place to rest, eat, and find help makes our guests truly grateful!

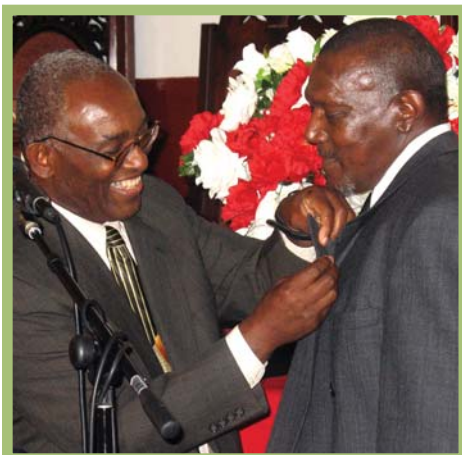
Men like Willie find in the Overnight Guest Ministry both the immediate help they need and resources to address broader issues. This year the Overnight Guest Ministry continued to partner with Unity Health Care, Christian Legal Aid, the Veterans' Association, and many other local service providers to offer high-quality wrap-around services. Additionally, over twenty men joined a church in the past year. Seven men were baptized into the Sons of God in Christ Church, which operates out of the Mission chapel and is lead by Pastor James Lewis, Senior Director of Ministries.

And our staff continues to grow! In March we welcomed Mission employee Sylvia Johnson to the Men's Ministry as Assistant to the Senior Director of Ministries. Gerard "Mack" McManus also joined the Mission in July as Assistant Director of Overnight Guest Ministries. They have both added much to our team. We look forward to another fruitful year of ministry to men in crisis. ■



Events such as the Overnight Guest Birthday Party share joy with struggling and lonely men.

Spiritual Transformation Program Celebrates 25 years of Life Change!



Graduation represents great achievements and new horizons.

"People here truly do care. Any help that you need is here," Austin says of his experience at Central Union Mission's Spiritual Transformation Program (STP). This summer the STP celebrated 25 years of ministry to men like Austin seeking to restore their lives to wholeness and stability. Begun in 1982 by Executive Director Emeritus Bob Rich as a response to deeper needs of Overnight Guests, the STP has remained faithful to its core intent to create disciples while enriching the quality of services we provide. We thank God that through church support and partnerships, the STP has consistently met real needs for men in Washington, DC. As Austin can testify, the caring staff

works hard to meet the many and varied needs of men by creating a truly spiritual recovery community.

During the 2007 fiscal year, the STP operated at full capacity with men in all three phases and many at Applicant status waiting to be accepted. Phases I, II, and III focus on addiction recovery, spiritual guidance, and life-skills training, respectively, and give men a firm foundation. "We teach them to stand," says Deputy Director of STP Don Ross. "No matter where they end up, we hope that every man in the STP will be able to function better in society after being with us." This year the STP added a new

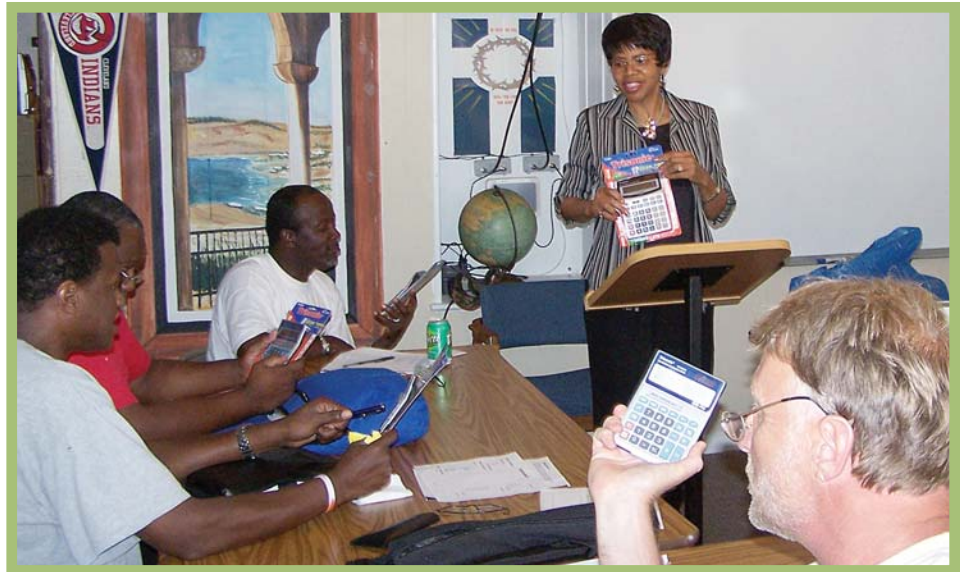
[continued on page 5](#)

Social Work Department: New Initiatives Enrich Services & Lives

The 2007 fiscal year has brought many exciting challenges and changes to our Social Work Department. We are excited to share several new initiatives aimed at enhancing the quality and sustainability of the ministry as a whole.

Established in January 2007, the innovative Homeless to Housing Initiative enhances our ability to provide comprehensive affordable housing placement services by increasing housing referrals, community partnerships, researching affordable market trends and providing individualized wrap-around services. This program has served 52 participants to date, 37 of whom have been placed in appropriate housing.

Another exciting development was the Extended Support Program (ESP), established in May 2007 in response to our recognition that a portion of our population demonstrates a specific set of needs warranting additional attention. This program allows the Mission to responsibly embrace and support men who are either manageably disabled (physically, mentally or emotionally) or are seniors without caretaker resources. Christ-centered Social Work assistance attempts to individually determine appropriate wrap-around services and length of stay, as well



Educational opportunities are essential to success once graduates leave the Mission.

as securing the best available housing and care option for each man.

The Social Work Department was also greatly enhanced by the Birth Certificate/ Identification effort and our new on-site Basic Education Instructor and tutoring support services.

Through these new initiatives and existing services, the Social Work Department provided:

- 1,785 Individual Counseling Sessions

- 276 Group Counseling Sessions
- 72 Placements in Gainful Employment
- 502 hours of Community Service Volunteer hours at World Vision DC for Overnight Guests

Our team is stronger than ever as we implement these new initiatives. Jermaine Wyatt (MSW) was promoted to Assistant Director of Social Work. Our staff is expanding as well, not only do we have Justin Moore as the Housing Coordinator but Anita Mingo as Social Work Associate. We give thanks for these blessings and the ministry we are able to pursue through them. ■



Basic Education Instructor Leitha Wilson joins Social Work staff Shirley Johnson and Jermaine Wyatt with proud STP graduates.

Employee of the Year



Congratulations to Supervisor Dwayne Chandler on being named the 2007 Employee of the Year!

continued from page 3

component to its counseling. Instead of focusing solely on Biblical teachings, there is now a commitment to Christian counseling which helps individuals suffering from addictions to deal with their recovery.

The STP has seen 27 graduates throughout the past year, with graduation ceremonies held in October, February and May. The graduation ceremony represents much larger success in STP participants' lives. This year STP graduates have gone on to further education and technical training as well as careers in ministry, food services, administration, commercial driving, and air conditioning/heating among others. Please continue to pray for the lasting success of the participants and graduates of the STP. ■



Family reunions are some of the most profound victories for the STP ministry.

Stepping Up the Pace at Camp Bennett



Campers learn new skills and express themselves with crafts.

The 2007 fiscal year proved to truly be a year of transformation at Camp Bennett. Rundown facilities got a facelift, the retreat center was full almost every weekend, and the number of campers improved by almost 40% from last year. In July 2006, Kevin Hollowell became Camp Director and jumped immediately into summer programming which was already in full swing. Kevin immediately noticed that numbers were down. A camp that can accommodate 64 children per week had an average of 38 children per week. As soon as

camp ended in August, Kevin set to work improving the facilities. Old doors were replaced, fresh paint was applied, and the petting zoo was repaired. It looked like a new camp. Now it needed people.

After some new brochures and strategic promotion, Camp Bennett had retreats booked for every weekend from April to October, save for the weeks of children's camp programming. The new groups are not only customers, but friends who help us care for Camp Bennett and return year after year.

The numbers continue to speak of growth in our summer children's camp programming. Kevin maintained strong connections with schools and youth workers on the front lines with our kids throughout the year to generate interest for this past summer. We were also blessed with Joshua Washington, our hard-working and well-organized Camp Bennett registrar. Everyone's hard work has paid off and this year we had 373 children attend Camp Bennett.

Many challenges and projects still lie ahead, but progress made in the 2007 fiscal year will continue to strengthen Camp Bennett as we move ahead. "Discovering transformation" has taken on many shapes this year and we look forward to seeing what the next will bring! ■



Soaking up summer fun!

Hispanic Family Ministry: Caring for the Whole Family

We give thanks to God and to our donors because the Hispanic Family Ministry (HFM) continued to provide much-needed assistance in the 2007 fiscal year. We also grew in some important areas. As you may notice, we've added "Family" to our name to reflect our intent to serve and strengthen whole families from the Hispanic population.

Educational opportunities at the HFM provide much-needed skills to struggling families. In August 2006 we began classes including English as a Second Language, Literacy, and Citizenship. We launched Computer and GED classes in January. Currently, we have 37 students enrolled and the support of five community volunteers to sustain the services. Also, special conferences and classes to facilitate the acclimation of Hispanic families to American society occur throughout the year. The arrival of new students at the ministry

allows us to speak to them of the love of God and salvation through Christ.

Special events provide opportunities for families to celebrate together. On Easter Monday, we enjoyed a day of games, food, and fellowship at Camp Bennett with over 200 HFM participants. Also, the Christmas Bag and Back-to-School Bag parties provide opportunity to commemorate important events. With the help of churches such as

Immanuel Bible Church, partner organizations, and individual donors we provided Christmas bags to 540 children and distributed 201 backpacks filled with school supplies in August 2006. These services are important support to many Hispanic families living on low resources.

Other highlights of the 2007 fiscal year include two Health Fairs with a variety of free services including screening for diabetes, hypertension, blindness prevention, and referrals to local clinics. Also, in July 33 children



Health fairs provide much-needed medical resources free of charge.



Children find a place to belong at the Hispanic Family Ministry.



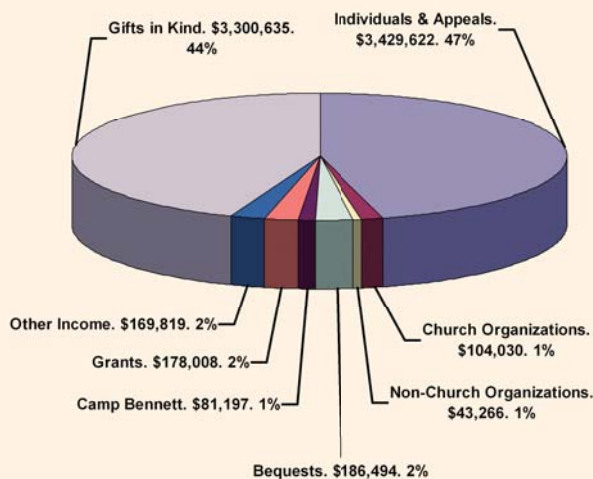
Celebrating Easter as families at Camp Bennett!

from the HFM attended a week of summer camp at Camp Bennett.

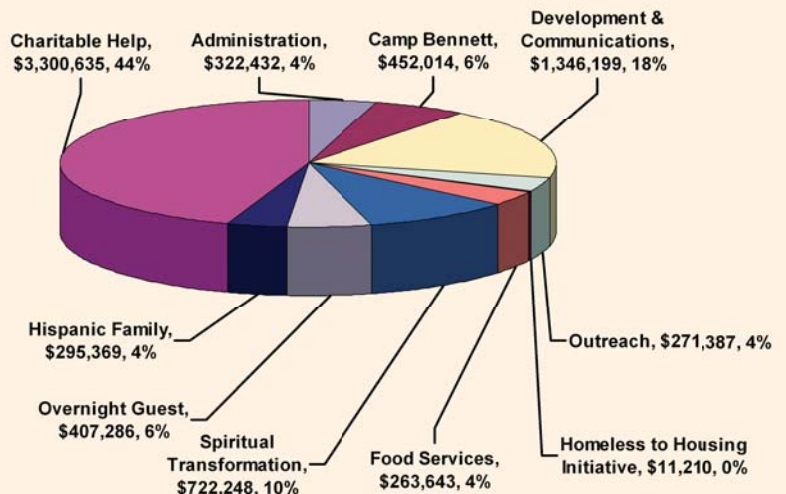
We could not achieve any of these accomplishments without the tremendous support our ministry receives from our donors and our host site, Freedom Baptist Church. Our partnership has truly proven fruitful for reaching Hispanic families in

Central Union Mission • Operations FY 2006-2007

Total Income: \$7,493,071



Total Expenses: \$7,392,423



Outreach Shares Blessings at Record Numbers

To say that the Outreach Ministry's 2007 fiscal year was a blessed and fulfilling one is a bit of an understatement. This record-breaking year has certainly been an encouragement to us, but more importantly to the thousands of families in the Washington, DC metro area who were touched and benefited from our services.

From the Seniors Luncheon and Food Depot to our child-focused outreach at Christmas and Operation Back Pack, we saw significant increases in attendance and in donations. Operation Backpack kicked off during the summer, and thanks to our generous donors and volunteers, in August

2006 we were able to provide 796 children with backpacks full of school supplies.

This year we've seen true growth in our various food distributions. Throughout the year we provide fellowship and a meal to over 740 seniors during our monthly Seniors Luncheon. This supplements the food bags and fellowship we provide to over 200 seniors and single-parent families with our weekday Food Depot program throughout the month.

And of course, holidays are a special opportunity to bring joy to neighbors in need. We distributed over 1,700 turkeys at Thanksgiving. In December, our Christmas Bag program provided over 1,900 bags of clothes and toys to children. Just days before Christmas, the Mission was crowded with the children, their families, over 50 volunteers, and even a group of Christmas carolers.

The 2007 fiscal year was truly a blessing. The past year set a precedent for things to come and has enabled us to continue to flourish and provide a community of hurting, lonely, hungry and needy people with services and special events that bring true joy and help. Our faithful donors make this possible. We look forward to continuing to find creative ways to be stewards of all we are given.



Families were ready to celebrate after the Christmas Bag event!

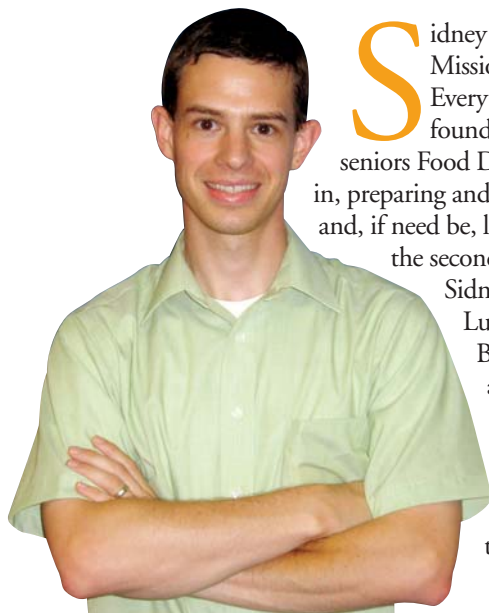


Seniors know how to enjoy food and fellowship at their monthly luncheon



A shared meal brings people of different walks together at Mission holiday events.

Outreach: Volunteer Spotlight



Sidney Bennett has been a regular Mission volunteer since February 2006. Every Tuesday morning he can be found in the Chapel helping with the seniors Food Depot, where he assists with sign-in, preparing and distributing the bags of food, and, if need be, leading the worship music. On the second Wednesday of every month, Sidney lends a hand at the Seniors Luncheon. His duties include Bingo calling, serving the meal, and most importantly being a warm presence to the seniors in attendance. "My favorite part of volunteering is spending time with and getting to know the seniors," he says.

Through his volunteering, Sidney has learned about leadership. "I've learned that it's important to make decisions and stick with them, and also how to be kind but firm. Sometimes it's a challenge, but I'm here because God has asked me to be here and that's enough."

"Sidney is a loyal and dedicated volunteer, who is here no matter the circumstances," says Volunteer Coordinator Shelah Wilcox. "It's more than just volunteering—it has become a true ministry for him."

We thank God for faithful volunteers like Sidney! If you would like to volunteer at Central Union Mission, contact Shelah Wilcox at 202-MISSION or swilcox@missiondc.org.

An Invitation to Join Us

Some think of Central Union Mission merely as an overnight shelter for homeless men. Some imagine a recovery program when they hear our name. Others picture bags of food or children at camp. As this annual report reflects, Central Union Mission has a rich and varied ministry to people in need throughout the Washington, DC area. The faces, names, and stories of those who come to the Mission's doors mirror the diversity of the city we serve. Each life and circumstance is precious.

As a supporter of Central Union Mission, your contribution paves the way for men, women, and children to receive support in time of need and an encouraging hand to sustain them through difficulty. With the gift of time, food, clothing, finances, prayer, or expertise, Mission

supporters demonstrate the transforming love of God to their neighbors. We invite you to join us in this exciting and often challenging journey. Even as we give thanks for successes and blessings received in the 2007 fiscal year, the future of the Mission relies on your continued support.

As Proverbs 28:27 reminds us, "He who gives to the poor will lack nothing, but he who closes his eyes to them receives many curses." Every day, we face numerous ways to give to the poor. Partnering with a long-standing organization such as Central Union Mission is an excellent way to see the fulfillment of this teaching. The rewards for those who share what they have are vast, as any Mission volunteer or partner can testify. Come and see! For more information, please contact us as **202-MISSION** or visit us online at www.missiondc.org.



Even our youngest supporters make a big difference!

Upcoming Events

■ **Annual Hunger No More Radiothon**
Thursday, November 8, 5:00-7:00 p.m.
WAVA/105.1FM

Tune in to the Don Kroah Show on WAVA—105.1FM to hear David Treadwell share stories of hope and transformation from men who have been served by Central Union Mission. Learn more about the services provided at the Mission and opportunities for partnership. Tell a friend and share the joy of partnering in turning hungry people into hope-filled people!

■ **Veterans' Day Service of Honor**
Friday, November 9, 11:00 a.m.
Central Union Mission

Every day, Central Union Mission serves men who have served our nation in the military, and on Veterans Day we look forward to honoring them with a special service and luncheon. All are welcome to join us. To volunteer, please call Shelah Wilcox at 202-MISSION.

■ **Help the Homeless Walkathon**
Saturday, November 17, 8:00 a.m.
The National Mall

Join tens of thousands of Washingtonians at the 2007 Fannie Mae Foundation Help the Homeless Walkathon and in support of Central Union Mission's service to our homeless neighbors. To register or learn more, visit www.helpthehomelessdc.org. Be sure to select Central Union Mission (Code: CNUM) as your beneficiary organization. We'll see you on the Mall!

■ **Great Thanksgiving Banquet**
Thursday, November 22, 12:00 p.m.
Central Union Mission

Give thanks by giving back to those in need! All are welcome to join people from every ministry of Central Union Mission for our annual Thanksgiving feast. We are in need of table hosts and servers. For information or to volunteer, call Shelah at 202-MISSION.



THE

PUBLISHED BY CENTRAL UNION MISSION

Missionary

1350 R ST, NW WASHINGTON, DC 20009 | MISSIONDC.ORG | (202) MISSION

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

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

David O. Treadwell

EDITOR IN CHIEF

Brittany Noetzel

MANAGING EDITOR

Barfonce K. Baldwin

WRITERS / CONTRIBUTORS

Brad Hearn | Julia Smith | Sarah Spinler | Jermaine Wyatt

