Thank You for Your Compassionate Action

Your prayers, volunteer hours and contributions feed hungry families, prepare lost men for gainful employment, rescue the captive from addiction and pave the road to freedom in Christ for so many in Washington, DC. We gratefully THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.

In a Word...

We wanted to give you a snapshot of what the Mission is all about, so we interviewed staff and friends for their Mission “keywords.” These words came to mind: “inspiring,” “supportive,” “encouraging,” “quality” and even “fun.” But the top of the list reveals “serving” and “compassion.”

That’s where our inspiration for this fall’s Campaign for Compassion 2010 comes from. You’ll read about so many ways to show compassion: from volunteering your talents, as has graphic artist Joel Young, to exercising in the Help the Homeless Walkathon.

Compassion is creative. We have many other ideas to share with you, and we know you have some of your own. Please read pages 4 and 5 for all the details, and share with us at www.missiondc.org/Campaign for Compassion 2010.

The Art of Serving God

Joel Young is hearing God’s call, and Central Union Mission is fortunate that he’s listening. Young worked in the corporate world as a graphic designer for nearly ten years. He had good intentions for serving God, but with all his work hours, he just had no time.

Then God got his attention through a conversation with a friend who strayed from the church. Young realized that ministry was just too important to put off. In faith, he decided to resign from his job with a consulting firm and to open himself up to God’s plans. He is leaving Northern Virginia this summer for Ohio to work with a friend in an evangelistic ministry as well as to continue his graphic design business.

At first, Young volunteered to help serve a holiday meal at the Mission, but we soon found out about Young’s special talents and asked him to help us innovate the Mission’s graphic image. Thanks to Joel Young and his dedication to obeying God, the Mission’s updated communications attract even more potential friends to the work of helping homeless people.

You can contact Joel at Joel.Young@evantgard.com.

More Good News Inside...

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Central Union Mission

Here is the new logo that Joel designed for us. You'll see this and the new seal above on all our Mission communications.
This fall starts up another busy season at the Mission. With Camp Bennett and Operation Backpack behind us, we’re already planning for the holidays and cold weather. Of course, our planning for the future is ongoing, too.

We learned in July that DC's Department of Real Estate Services has selected Central Union Mission as the agency to negotiate a lease for the purpose of rebuilding and operating a community-based residential facility in the Gales School at 65 Massachusetts Ave., NW. We pray for a short negotiation period and a prompt beginning of construction for this 175-bed facility.

Another piece of news is our collaboration with the distressed DC Sports Network to equip area teens both for basketball and their futures. I hope you’ll read all about this exciting project on page 3.

Thanks to you, needy and homeless people have the chance to be safe and fed, as well as trained and inspired. With your participation in our Campaign of Compassion 2010, lives are changed every day.

Blessings,

Did You Know?

Since homeless people have little or no money, all of Central Union Mission’s services and programs are provided for free. Your faithful and generous support makes our work possible. Here’s a quick look at the ways you can help needy people in DC during our Campaign for Compassion 2010:

† Contributions through United Way #9617 and Combined Federal Campaign #85786
† Matching gifts through your employer
† Verizon Velocity #13804
† Fannie Mae Help the Homeless Walkathon (At www.helpthehomelessdc.org, choose beneficiary #DC015.)
† Shopping online through Give Back America at www.givebackamerica.com/charity.php?b=239
† One-time donations via the mail, online or phone
† Monthly partnership donations through credit card or automatic bank deduction, as well as personal checks
† Planned giving (For a complimentary consultation, contact Ted Meyers, ACRFE, at 301-421-5800.)
† Major personal, corporate or foundation gifts, restricted gifts and gifts of stock or property
† Memorial or honorarium gifts
† Gifts-in-kind (Food, furniture, autos, clothing, etc.)
† And—most important—Prayer and Volunteer time.
Where some may see a coincidence, others see God’s hand at work. As DC-based recording artist and TV host Jeff Majors toured Central Union Mission, he recognized someone. “That’s Gregory Leonard,” he said, former all-star point guard for a local high school basketball team. Mr. Leonard, a wealth of basketball talent and strategy, has been living at the Mission as an overnight guest.

A few months later, Wade Simmons was trying to pull together the teen basketball league DC Sports Network that he founded with another former homeless man. The league was shattered when Simmons’s partner ran off with the uniform and referee fees the Northeast, DC, boys had invested.

Central Union Mission saw the connection and stepped in to help sponsor the league and a team with Gregory Leonard as the new head coach and Don Ross, Mission chaplain, as assistant. The Mission is also contributing water, computer and copier access and administrative and fundraising help to the league.

According to Dave Treadwell, Mission executive director, this is a perfect opportunity for both the Mission men and the teens. The men gain a chance to contribute to the city’s future citizens and to gain some responsibility and job skills. The young men can benefit from the hard-driving competition, the athletic advice from our men and the hard-learned lessons about homeless life. “We can get involved and help the young men, get them off the street and on a positive track, so that we never have to see them here later as adults.”

For Coach Leonard, education is the key: “It’s important that these kids stay in school and get good grades, because when basketball is over, they have to live their lives.”

Central Union Mission’s Camp Bennett welcomed Congresswoman Donna Edwards for a tour this summer. The representative from Maryland’s fourth district was impressed with the Camp’s commitment to inspiring needy children. She also offered ideas for funding for facility improvements and using the land for work therapy and environmental education.
Compassion through Volunteering

Graphic Designer Joel Young donated his skills to update the Mission’s appearance (see page 1.) Do you have some time or skills you can volunteer? We can use your professional skills like photography, grant writing and accounting. If you’ve got time to offer, please volunteer at one of our upcoming events. Read page 5, and contact Sarah Spinler at 202-MISSION ext. 258.

Campaign for Compassion 2010

Do you have compassion for poor and homeless people? You can participate in our Campaign for Compassion 2010 to make a difference. Here are some ideas:

Compassion through Individual Action

Is God calling you to be vulnerable enough to make a difference through the power of one? You can tutor a Spiritual Transformation student or Overnight guest, helping prepare them for independent life. Call Shirley Johnson at 202-MISSION ext. 225 for details.

Your youth group can grow a servant heart, as these kids did painting the Mission stairwell.

Spiritual Transformation Program students need help in preparing for the GED and for mastering life skills.
Compassion for Homeless Youth

Into basketball? DC Sport Network and the Mission can help you show compassion by donating uniforms, balls or your practice facility. They also need your time as a coach, driving players to games or attending a game to cheer them on, so call Don Ross at 202-MISSION ext. 232.

Christmas is coming soon, and many DC children will not be getting presents without your help. You can sponsor a child for Operation Christmas Miracle 2010 through Tracy Duncan at 202-MISSION ext 260.

Compassion through Financial Support

There is always a need to pay for the Mission’s food, utilities and programs. Please help today. See page 2 for ideas, or call Deborah Chambers at 202-MISSION ext 227 for donation opportunities.

Compassion to End Homelessness

You can show your compassion at the Fannie Mae Help the Homeless Walkathon (see page 6). There are so many ways to participate: you and your family, co-workers or church group can walk together. You can sponsor a MiniWalk for your organization. Invite your friends with strollers, be a corporate sponsor, or just walk at home (or stay in bed) as a Virtual Walker. This year, as well as walking with your dog, you can even make a donation in your favorite canine’s name. Register online at www.helpthehomelessdc.org and specify Central Union Mission #DC015, or call Sarah Spinler at 202-MISSION ext. 258 for more information.

Corporate Compassion

Are you a networker? Use your connecting skills to get others on-board for compassion. Sponsor a Compassion Sunday or Urban Outreach event (see page 7). Perhaps your company can make donations to the Mission through your business, as do FAB Solutions (www.fab-s.com) and Kensington Caboose (www.kensingtoncaboose.com.) Contact Deborah Chambers at 202-MISSION ext. 227 for ideas.
Walking to End Homelessness

Walkathon participants show their warm hearts on a cold morning.

On November 20, join us as we walk a scenic three-mile route through downtown DC in the Help the Homeless Walkathon. We’ll be among thousands showing our compassion for the needs of homeless people in our city.

New this year: you can register as a family, and you can register your faithful canine companion. Or, you can be a Walkathon “Virtual Walker,” and sleep in instead. Learn more about these options under “Get Involved” at www.helpthehomelessdc.org.

You must register in advance. Please visit www.helpthehomelessdc.org, and select Central Union Mission #DC015 as your beneficiary, then meet us outside the Archives/Navy Memorial Metro Station entrance (on the Green/ Yellow line), at 7th St. and Pennsylvania Ave. at 8:30 am. Just look for the Mission banner!

A New Partnership That Is Making a Difference for a Higher Purpose!

Central Union Mission and FAB Solutions have partnered together to raise funds. If your business or organization accepts credit cards, Central Union Mission has the potential to receive 50% of the revenue FAB Solutions generates from each transaction that you process, at NO COST to you or your business.

Three Easy Steps
- Contact FAB Solutions
- Receive a Free Analysis and Rate Proposal
- Move your Processing to FAB Solutions

That’s it! You pay for your credit card processing today, but by putting that money to work by redirecting some of it back to support Central Union Mission!

HOW TO GET STARTED
Phone: 677-311 (3227) Email: Info@fbs.com Website: www.fbs.com

A No-Cost Way To Support Central Union Mission is now available!

17 Presents from One Birthday

Malaika Staff has a heart for children, so when a colleague told her about Operation Backpack, she knew she had to participate. To her, it was “heartbreaking that kids had to go to school without supplies they needed, through no fault of their own or their parents.” So for several summers, she donated a full backpack to Operation Backpack.

This summer when family and friends asked her how she’d like to celebrate a milestone birthday, she decided to share it with the children of DC. Her planned double donation of two backpacks turned into five, then nine, then 17! She and her niece Alyssa had so much fun filling the backpacks with supplies purchased and donated by her loved ones.

She also inspired her friend Joyce Casso, proprietor of the award-winning Kensington Caboose childrens’ consignment shop (Kensington, MD), to donate proceeds from a special sale to Operation Backpack in the amount of $618.00.

Says Malaika, “Raised by a single mom with four kids, I can appreciate how community, friends and family step in when children are in need.”

We’re so grateful that Malaika shared her birthday and her compassion with Operation Backpack.
Compassion is Contagious

We know about your passion for helping needy people in DC, but have you ever wondered how you can share that passion with your friends? That’s why we’ve created Compassion Sunday and the Urban Outreach Event.

To sponsor a Compassion Sunday, you choose a good date for your congregation, and a Mission senior staffer will provide the program you select. Depending on your interests, we can present anywhere from five minutes to an hour. Current students and graduates can give their testimonies; some have even been known to share in song. We can also bring literature about homelessness, show pictures and a video of what we do and share ways for individuals and small groups to get involved.

An Urban Outreach Event is perfect for your church group, office colleagues, youth club or other community group. After receiving a facility tour, your group can meet current students and residents and participate in a volunteer project at one of the Mission’s facilities.

If either sounds like the inspiration your group needs, please contact Deborah Chambers at 202-MISSION ext. 227 or dchambers@missiondc.org for more information.

Upcoming Events

Operation Christmas Miracle 2010
Registration begins now to sponsor a needy child for Christmas. Call Tracy Duncan at 202-MISSION, ext. 260, or visit us at www.missiondc.org, and click on the “Operation Christmas Miracle 2010” link.

Seniors Luncheon
Wednesday, September 8, 2010
10:00 am
Please volunteer to help our seniors enjoy this time of worship and fellowship.

“DC Goes Blue” Health Fair
Wednesday, September 29, 2010
10:00 am in Spanish at 1629 13th Street NW, Washington, DC; 2:00 pm in English at the Mission
Colon cancer information available free to the public, provided by Colon Cancer Alliance (www.ccalliance.org).

Seniors Luncheon
Wednesday, October 13, 2010
10:00 am
Please volunteer to help serve our seniors a harvest luncheon after the worship service.

Community Health Fair
Friday, October 29, 2010
Health services and testing provided free to the public.

Turkey Give Away
Monday, November 8, 2010
11:00 am
Please help us distribute turkeys to Mission families and neighbors.

Seniors Luncheon
Wednesday, November 10, 2010
10:00 am
You can help our seniors participate in the holiday program and lunch.

Veteran’s Day Luncheon
Thursday, November 11, 2010
11:30 am
Please volunteer to help guests and veterans enjoy this special program.

Fannie Mae Help the Homeless Walkathon
Saturday, November 20, 2010
Visit www.helpthehomlessdc.org to register today, and select Central Union Mission (#DC015) as your beneficiary.

Community Thanksgiving Dinner
Tuesday, November 23, 2010
12:00 noon
We need your help serving our neighbors during this Thanksgiving-themed program.

Thanksgiving Dinner
Thursday, November 25, 2010
5:00 pm
Please volunteer to serve and encourage our overnight guests.

Why We Send You Mail

Sometimes our friends ask us why we send monthly letters and other information from the Mission. Since we don’t see you weekly like your church, we need a method for communicating with you regularly.

With modern design, printing and mailing economies we are able to produce quality letters that are relatively inexpensive. We’ve found that these mailings are the most economical and efficient way to inform our friends and generate new interest in the Mission’s events and services. We are very careful to keep the Mission’s development costs in line with the strict requirements of the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability (see http://www.ecfa.org/MemberProfile.aspx?ID=6045.)

If you would like to reduce or eliminate the mail you receive from us but still contribute to our efforts, we encourage you to sign up for a monthly partnership with credit card payment at www.missiondc.org/partner. Thank you again for your faithful support.
I’m Putting My Compassion Into Action!

I want to show my compassion for the homeless.

☐ I’m going to participate in this Campaign for Compassion activity (see page 4 for details): ____________________________

________________________

I have enclosed my gift of:

☐ $50  ☐ $75  ☐ $100  ☐ $ _______ other amount.

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

Name: ____________________________

Address: __________________________

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