

THE central union MISSION Missionary

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No one should live hungry and homeless

New Board Member Links Communities

"CENTRAL UNION MISSION was one of the places where I got to serve during my first inner city missions trip in the mid 90s," explains Dee Dee Collins. There she realized that "you can give people food and clothing, but if they don't have coping skills for what they're dealing with (and in my view, those skills come from knowing Jesus Christ), you might put a bandage on a problem but not give long-term solutions." That was the start of her nearly 20-year relationship with Central Union Mission.



Dee Dee (center) likes "to tell volunteers to look people in the eye and engage them the way Jesus would."

Dee Dee has been involved in all of the Mission's ministries: she's helped with Family Ministry food drives, worked at Camp Bennett and helped with Operation Christmas Miracle and Operation Backpack. Her long-term commitment, however, has been serving dinner on Wednesday nights with volunteers from Immanuel Bible Church, her home church. She explains, "I really like that connection over a meal and being able to encourage the Overnight Guests and the people in the Spiritual Transformation Program."

Jesus is Everywhere

These experiences make Dee Dee uniquely qualified for her newest role at Central Union Mission: Board member. She also brings expertise from a 33-year career in the intelligence community and a master's degree in organizational change as well as from church

leadership. She lives in Northern Virginia with her husband Buzz, a former naval pilot who is now a Southwest Airlines captain, and they have two grown sons.

What means the most to Dee Dee is connecting people in the suburbs to helping homeless people in the city. She's found that "people have a fear of going into the city, or they feel it's inconvenient. I think the Lord has really used me to help people out of their comfort zone and see that God is at



Buzz, Dee Dee and her colleague Michael Frazier helped plant trees outside the Mission shelter before it opened in fall 2013

work. Jesus is everywhere down here! You've got to have some street smarts, but it's nothing to be afraid of. I offer to drive folks in. They serve dinner along side me in the kitchen; they get to meet the guys and to hear their stories."

Building Relationships

Dee Dee revealed a special conversation that has become a touchstone in her spiritual life and service. One Overnight Guest told her "You're a girly girl. You drive a yellow VW with daisy rims. You just don't seem like the kind of person who'd want to hang out with folks like us." He added, "You'll never know how you're changing prejudice on the other side of the serving line."

Dee Dee responded, "I won't forget that. Instead of just checking off a list of good works for God, we're building relationships with people we never would have met otherwise." This understanding, as well as Dee Dee's energy and commitment, are blessed additions to the Mission's leadership team and the heart of Central Union Mission. ■

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More than Meets the Eye



MOST PEOPLE BELIEVE MOUNT EVEREST to be the tallest mountain in the world, but the title actually belongs to Mauna Kea, a dormant volcano in Hawaii. Like an iceberg, more than half of Mauna Kea resides below water.

Mauna Kea is a beautiful reminder that what's under the surface matters. God wants us to see others as He does and to choose to look below the surface of our own hearts, too. Self-examination can greatly impact our personal growth. It's easy to project a certain image, but true transformation and change happens when we allow God to work on the tough, hidden stuff deep inside.

Another place to look beyond the obvious is our charitable giving. While it may seem like cash is the simplest way to give to ministries you care about like Central Union Mission, it's not always the most beneficial. Donating appreciated stock instead of cash provides many surprising benefits including:

- Tax deductions
- Avoidance of capital-gains taxes
- The gift of extra time and simplicity when you donate through a donor-advised fund

For the full version of this article, request a FREE copy of **Three Secrets to a Deeper Life** by contacting Minister Deborah Chambers from Central Union Mission at 202-745-7118, ext. 227, or dchambers@missiondc.org or bless your family today with a God-honoring Will at christianwill.org/missiondc.

From the Director

AS 2017 COMES TO A CLOSE, I pause to thank you, our generous friend, for how you have helped struggling men, women and families in Washington, DC, this year. Central Union Mission relies totally on gifts from private donors like you, so we know that along with your every gift also comes your care, direction and purpose.

Together, we've rebirthed the Family Resource Center into a larger space with clean, bright fixtures, good parking and a large meeting room perfect for chapel services. You helped us launch our Mission Muffins workplace development program to off-campus sales venues, as well as present the new Mission Muffin food truck in our front yard. You equipped talented local chefs to share their creativity and know-how to change our meals from nourishing to "nurturing."

You were there when TV cameras came to interview our guests; you were there at our glamorous HeArt & Sole

fundraiser—but most important—you were there when a tired, addicted man gave up his dirty street corner to learn about Jesus and to make his broken life whole. Every financial gift, donated sandwich, hour of volunteering and heart-felt prayer was critical to our neighborhood's survival this year, and it's you we thank. May God richly bless you and yours during His Christmas season.

Blessings,

David Treadwell,
executive director



An Unforgettable Evening

MISSION SUPPORTERS SHOWED they have plenty of heart and soul at HeArt & Sole, the Mission's annual fundraising event on October 25. Nearly one thousand guests enjoyed gourmet tastes and live entertainment donated by the area's most talented chefs and artists. Together, we provided **\$180,000** to ensure that no one lives hungry and homeless this winter. The Mission is so grateful to the donors and sponsors who made this evening possible:

Sandals Sponsors: You don't know Him till you walk in His shoes

Michael & Jacqueline Abbey
Anonymous
Hoffman Town Center
Independent Order of Odd Fellows
Passport Auto
Pepco
Robert & Janet Robertson
Smither Family Foundation
Walmart

Heels Sponsors: Put on your nice clicks for this event

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EDENS
Northeast Rescue Mission
St. Brendan's in the City
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Kicks Sponsors: Have the coolest kicks in the house

John & Sally Cox
Brian & Margaret Murtagh
MGM National Harbor
National Presbyterian Church
Earl W. & Amanda Stafford, The Stafford Foundation

Sneaker Head Sponsors: Break out your finest for a night on the town

Alan & Deborah Chambers
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Buzz & Dee Dee Collins
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Arn Halpin
Larry & Lyn Huff
David & Laura Leach



Kim LeBel
Kathi Trotter Rayner
David & Charlotte Treadwell
Royster & Wendy Wright

Golden Slippers Sponsors: This party is a rest for your sole

Capital Air Filter Corporation
DC Brau House
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Photography donated by M. Shonell



For the Dark Nights at Year-End



THINK OF HOW GOOD IT FEELS to burrow down into your cozy blankets, then remember those who are sleeping on the street with only cardboard and newspapers to keep them warm. Your gift to Central Union Mission

gives men even more than warm, safe shelter: it gives them the opportunities and tools they need to start new lives and to escape what could be generations of poverty.

Please remember Central Union Mission in your year-end giving, which can include estate gifts, stocks, gifts-in-kind or even that old car you don't drive anymore. Contact Deborah Chambers at 202-745-7118, ext. 227, or dchambers@missiondc.org for ideas about helping homeless people while at the same time possibly improving your tax situation for 2017. Your gifts make a big difference in Washington, DC. ■



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Unless otherwise noted, photos are from Adobe Stock. A copy of Central Union Mission's current financial report is available upon request by writing to 2600 12th St., NE, Washington, DC 20018 or by calling 202-745-7118. In Maryland, copies of documents and information submitted by Central Union Mission are available for the cost of copies and postage from the Secretary of State, Statehouse, Annapolis, MD 21410, 401-974-5534. In Virginia, a financial statement for the most recent fiscal year is available upon request from the State Division of Consumer Affairs, P.O. Box 1163, Richmond, VA 23209, 804-786-1343.



CHRISTIAN CAMP & CONFERENCE ASSOCIATION



Empowering Ministries To Transform Communities



Please Recycle

Please use my donation of:

- \$15 to feed and care for 7 guests
- \$30 for 14 guests
- \$50 for 24 guests
- \$150 for 72 guests
- \$_____ to serve as many as possible this fall
- I'd like information on making a gift of stock, vehicles, gifts-in-kind or through my will.

Please make checks payable to "Central Union Mission." To donate by credit card, please see our website at missiondc.org, or visit FaceBook at "Central Union Mission, DC."

Senior Fellowships

December 8, 2017 and January 19, 2018
9:00 am to 1:00 pm;
December 22, 2017 and January 27, 2018,
in Spanish

8:00 am to 11:00 am

You can help serve seniors as they enjoy fellowship and a delicious meal.

STP Graduation

December 10, 2017

Join in congratulating our Spiritual Transformation Program graduates.

Show Some Love

December 10, 2017

5:00 pm

This volunteer-run Christmas party is a special event for Mission guests.

Operation Christmas Miracle

December 16, 2017

10:00 am

You can help distribute gifts to neighborhood children in need.

Christmas Day Celebration

December 25, 2017

Throughout the day

Register now to help serve dinner and celebrate Christ's birth with our guests.

A Day of Service

January 15, 2018

Celebrate Martin Luther King, Jr.'s, legacy by volunteering at the Mission.

To volunteer for an event, please register at missiondc.org/volunteer

Let Me Shed Some Light!

Central Union Mission
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Washington, DC 20018
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God bless you for caring!



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