God’s Love Changed the World

YOUR CITY.
YOUR MISSION.
CITY UNION MISSION.
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Last week I shared this verse from Frederick M. Lehman’s hymn “The Love of God” with the families staying in our Family Shelter. They really enjoyed the amazing picture these words paint of just how much their Creator loves them. It seemed to shed a whole new light for them on the verse they were memorizing at the time—John 3:16.

We worked through each line—picturing the oceans filled with ink instead of water, the sky made entirely of paper, every blade of grass a pen, and every man and woman a scribe. When I got to the last lines our mouths just dropped open in awe! To describe the love of God could not be adequately done even if the ocean was drained dry of ink and the parchment-filled sky was fully covered in text.

One of the women in this class had started our time together complaining about some of the expectations our staff had of her. Her complaints were transformed into praise as we contemplated the love of God together.

“For God so loved the world that He gave . . .” As much as we love to make Thanksgiving and Christmas special for those God has given us to serve—by providing warm beds, meals, clothing, food baskets, gifts and more—we love it far more that we can share with them the immense and intense love of God through Jesus Christ the Lord.

Thank you for your continued generosity and prayers for this ministry and those in our care.

For His glory,

Rev. Daniel J. Doty
Executive Director
Every day here at the Mission, we witness hearts and lives transformed by God’s unconditional love. While we can never match the amazing gift God gave to us that first Christmas, we do everything we can to share the message of His love with the men, women and children in our care and with struggling families and individuals in our community.

Once again this holiday season, we’ll open our Christmas Store to residents of our Christian Life Program for men and New Life Program for women and families, and for the impoverished and working poor in the metro area. They’ll have the opportunity to “shop” for presents especially for their husbands, wives and children. They’ll choose from much-needed household items like towels, sheets, small appliances and Christian CDs. Their little ones will be delighted with baby dolls, board games, sweatshirts and even skateboards.

Homeless men in our emergency shelter will receive presents like socks, flannel shirts and a backpack. And youngsters in our Vanderberg Youth Center will receive a gift from his or her Christmas wish list. We’ll also hold a community Christmas dinner for our neighbors in need and deliver candy, socks, journals and other personal gifts to nursing home residents and men and women in prison.

With your help, we’ll share God’s love with hundreds of homeless and near-homeless men, women and children this Christmas!

We need your willing hands. See Page 14 for Mission: Christmas 2012 volunteer opportunities!

Thank You, City Union Mission!

“My family and I are truly thankful for the opportunity to receive these wonderful gifts for Christmas. It truly is a blessing for you all to be so thoughtful for families with needs and most importantly, me and my husband are grateful for the help to provide presents for our children.”
Be Part of Mission: Christmas 2012

The thousands of gifts we provide at Christmas give our staff, volunteers and faithful donors many opportunities to show people of all ages they’re worthy of God’s love. Your partnership makes our Christmas outreach possible!

We invite you to purchase items from our gift lists on the following pages or make a donation toward their purchase. (To contribute funds, simply send your gift in the envelope enclosed with this newsletter or donate online at www.cityunionmission.org/donate.) The items will be used to stock the shelves at our Christmas Store and for our other holiday distributions.

Beginning after Thanksgiving, residents of our programs and income-qualified families from the community will begin “shopping” for gifts for their loved ones. The presents will be lovingly wrapped by Mission volunteers and delivered to their doorsteps in time for Christmas!

Through Mission: Christmas 2012, you’ll help children and adults in our community have a holiday that warms their hearts knowing friends like you care about them . . . God loves them . . . and His promise of a bright and joyous future extends to every one of them.

Help Keep Our Christmas Store Stocked

The Mission will begin accepting items donated for our Christmas Store, Thursday, November 1, and the store will open for “shopping” on Monday, November 26. The store is restocked daily through Tuesday, December 18, so you’re encouraged to “donate early and often” to keep the shelves stocked for our excited and grateful shoppers. Simply deliver your gifts to our new Christmas Store location at 1700 E. 8th Street, Kansas City, Missouri, weekdays from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., or to the Family Center, 1310 Wabash, after 3 p.m. daily and anytime during the weekend.
Mission: CHRISTMAS

2012 Gift Lists

**Women - Receive 2 Gifts**

- Bath & body gift sets: 300
- Candles/candle sets: 100
- Flannel/fleece pajamas, nightgowns, robes: 300
- Purses: 50
- Slippers/house shoes: 150
- Perfume: 50
- Manicure sets: 50
- Clothing, all sizes (plus sizes most needed): 200
- Sweat pants/sweatshirts: 75
- Underwear: 150
- Socks: 150

**Men - Receive 2 Gifts**

- Blue jeans, all sizes: 200
- Watches: 100
- K.C. Chiefs jerseys: 50
- Athletic clothing (NBA, NFL, NIKE, etc.): 50
- Cologne & aftershave sets: 200
- Bath & body gift sets: 300
- Hand tools/power tools: 150
- Socket/screwdriver sets: 100
- Packages of socks and underwear: 100
- Shirts, large sizes (no small sizes): 200
- Slippers/house shoes: 150
- Electric shavers: 150

**Children (4 - 12 years old) - Receive 3 Gifts**

- Ethnic dolls for girls: 200
- Barbie dolls/princess dolls: 200
- Action figures for boys: 200
- Handheld games: 200
- Remote-controlled vehicles: 200
- Art sets: 150
- Slippers/house shoes: 200
- Bicycles: 50
- Pajamas: 200
- Cars & trucks: 200
- Nerf toys: 200
- Clothing (sizes 6-20): 200

**Teens (13 - 18 years old) - Receive 2 Gifts**

- CD/MP3 players: 100
- Video games & electronics: 100
- Blue jeans: 150
- Skateboards: 75
- Sneakers/tennis shoes: 150
- MP3 download gift cards: 100
- Gift cards to Old Navy, iTunes, Kohl’s, game stores: 200
- Bath & body sets: 150
- Cologne/perfume: 150
- Slippers/house shoes: 200
- Handheld electronic games: 100
- Sports team apparel (Chiefs, NIKE, etc.): 75
- Clothing, all sizes: 200
- Footballs, basketballs, soccer balls: 100
- Batteries: 300

**Household - All Families receive 1 Household Item and a Food Basket**

- Crock pots: 150
- Toaster ovens: 100
- Small microwaves: 75
- Coffee makers: 75
- Griddles: 100
- Electric skillets: 100
- King & queen size sheet sets: 100
- King & queen size blankets & comforters: 100
- Bath towel sets: 100
- Cookware (pot and pan sets): 50
- Flatware: 50
- Glassware or plastic drinking glasses: 100
Gifts to Meet Everyday Mission Needs

Bring Christmas to our ministry and help offset our budget by contributing gifts from the list below or the funds to provide them. Because money given toward these items will be designated for their specific use, we ask that these financial donations be made in addition to what you plan to give toward our programs and services this holiday season.

For more information or to let us know you’d like to meet one of the needs listed below, please contact the Development Department at (816) 474-9380, ext. 259.

**MISSION’S WISH LIST**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gift cards (Starbucks, Walmart, Target, restaurants, etc.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gas cards for Mission vehicles (QuikTrip, 7-Eleven, etc.)</td>
<td>$3,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toilet paper</td>
<td>6,000 rolls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pain relievers (acetaminophen or ibuprofen)</td>
<td>4,000 tabs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DayQuil and NyQuil (tabs only, non-alcohol)</td>
<td>150 tabs of each</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multi-vitamins</td>
<td>900 tabs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men’s reading glasses</td>
<td>30 pair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Towels</td>
<td>166</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Twin sheet sets</td>
<td>83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bus passes</td>
<td>1,067 or $975</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Visit [www.cityunionmission.org](http://www.cityunionmission.org) for a list of the stocking stuffers we need, as well!
Christina’s Story
In what seemed like the blink of an eye, Christina’s life fell apart. She lost her job and was forced to flee from the home she shared with an abusive boyfriend. While her circumstances were devastating enough to face on her own, she had her baby boy to think about. A family member took them in, but the relationship soon soured. Homeless once again, she and her son came to City Union Mission. It was her first time in a shelter, and she was surprised at what she found.

“Everyone was so friendly, there was no violence and we were safe. There was structure and we even had a door on our room,” she explained. The Mission eased her concerns even further as we provided food, clothing, diapers and formula—everything she and her son needed—including an opportunity to become closer to God. “I’d been away from the church since I was a teenager,” she explains. “So this is very important to me to rebuild my relationship with Him.”

She joined our New Life Program to ensure she’s prepared with the knowledge and skills to give her baby the future he deserves. After graduation she’ll find a job and housing and hopes to finish nursing school.

In the meantime, she’s also looking forward to being among the new friends she’s made here at the Mission during the holidays. “We share experiences and we learn from each other,” Christina says. “It’s nice to know we’ll have a place to be at Christmas, where people care about us.”

She wants donors to know their every gift is important to help people like her and her son. “It’s so hard not to be able to provide for my family. Their generosity is so appreciated.”
City Union Mission’s annual Celebrate Hope: Reach Out to K.C.’s Poor and Homeless campaign is underway. With the help of a compassionate community, our goal is to raise a significant portion of our annual donated income by January 31, 2013. With the ever-increasing needs among the homeless and working-poor of Kansas City for shelter, food and hope for the future, our goal is to raise $5 million. This funding will lay the financial foundation to continue our ministries of rescue, recovery and reaching out well into the year ahead.

As a Mission friend and supporter, you’re aware of the holistic scope of our services, which extends far beyond life essentials to offering programs few other agencies can provide. Our staff includes professional counselors trained to assist men and women challenged with addictions, mental illnesses and other issues that prevent them from living independently. Our case managers are experienced in the areas of vocational training, job-placement assistance and housing resources. And our facilities include a learning center equipped with classrooms, computers, textbooks and other tools necessary for adult education.

As stewards of your gifts, we don’t provide these programs as entitlements or without expectations. Once physical needs have been met, men and women are compelled to meet personal milestones in their progress. And we accept no funding that would require us to compromise the Christ-centered values that form the nucleus of our comprehensive curriculum.

This holiday season, when the needs of the less fortunate are heavy on your heart, we invite you to join us as we Reach Out to K.C.’s Poor and Homeless with the love and guidance that transform lives. Read “Ways to Give to Celebrate Hope” on the next page!
Ways to Give to Celebrate Hope!

Your contribution today in support of our Celebrate Hope campaign will have a tangible impact on hundreds of men, women and families every day of the year. Here’s how you can help the Mission reach our $5 million goal:

• Respond to our correspondence with generous gifts or donate online at www.cityunionmission.org.
• Send a holiday gift in honor or memory of a friend or loved one.
• Bring your church for a service project or tour, or invite a friend to an Awareness Luncheon held the third Friday of each month. Please RSVP to info@cityunionmission.org.
• Invite coworkers to make a holiday gift in honor of a client, vendor or associate.
• Ask your company to match your Celebrate Hope gift to the Mission.
• Contact Dennis Chapman, Chief Development Officer, to discuss “challenge” or “matching” gift opportunities. Email give@cityunionmission.org or call (816) 474-9380, ext. 1476.

Please continue to pray for the success of this campaign and to give as God leads you!
Eleven-year-old Harrison Powell donated $26.53 from his savings after hearing a Mission representative speak to his congregation at Christ Lutheran Church in Overland Park. He was thrilled to learn his gift would provide 13 meals for hungry people.

Golfers and sponsors of Fiorella’s Jack Stack Barbecue’s 3rd Bi-Annual City Union Mission Golf Classic raised nearly $100,000 in support of the Mission’s programs and services. The tournament was held September 4 at Loch Lloyd Country Club and Golf Course. Pictured here is the winning team of Polsinelli-Shughart with golfers Anthony Romano, Mike Wells, Eric Packel and Chris Sobba.

Through their Bare Feet Event, Church of the Harvest collected and donated more than 300 new and gently used pairs of shoes to the Mission. Many will be used to fulfill shoppers’ wish lists in the Mission’s Christmas Store.

Thank You, City Union Mission!

“To the wonderful donors for the City Union Mission Christmas program, I would like to thank you guys for your wonderful donations and being able to allow my children to have a wonderful Christmas. Continue to do the things you are doing for the families.”

“Love God’s Love”
We’re grateful for the compassion of groups and individuals who support our work—and the people we serve—in unique and wonderful ways!

Dale Trott serves on the Board of Arts Council of Metropolitan Kansas City and is also a huge baseball fan. When he learned the story of Alexander Austin, former City Union Mission shelter guest turned artist and street painter and his pledge to give back half the proceeds from a recent show to the Mission, he purchased Alexander’s portrait of Frank White. The painting is displayed in Dale’s office at Burns & McDonnell, behind a glass wall through which passersby can view it. “Many have commented on it and I enjoy telling them Alexander’s story,” Dale says.

One Sunday in July, Mission representative Dennis Ellis spoke at LifeBridge Church, comparing the church body to the Good Samaritan story from the Book of Luke. After hearing the moving message, a compassionate congregant pledged to donate a portion of the raise he had received earlier that week to further the Mission’s work with the poor and homeless.

Special thanks to Honeysuckle White and its More to Share program for providing turkeys each holiday season—for many years now—to make our Thanksgiving and Christmas meals and special times of fellowship possible.

Thank You, City Union Mission!

“Thank you from the bottom of my heart. I just didn’t know what I was going to do for my daughter at Christmas.”
**Mission: Christmas**

**More Ways to Participate!**

In addition to financial support and material donations, the Mission relies on hundreds of willing hands to bring *Mission: Christmas 2012* to Kansas City. For more information and to apply for these and other volunteer opportunities, visit our website at [www.cityunionmission.org](http://www.cityunionmission.org).

**Christmas Assistance Interviewers**

Christmas Assistance Interviewers take applications from families and individuals desiring assistance through *Mission: Christmas 2012*. During the interviewing process, their responsibility also includes sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ and offering encouragement concerning spiritual growth.

**Christmas Store Shopper’s Assistants**

Accompany shoppers at our Christmas Store and assist them as they select gifts for their families. Then, bag the gifts in preparation for the gift wrappers.

**Christmas Gift Wrappers**

After families have selected their gifts in the store, the gifts are bagged and tagged. The gifts are then taken to the wrapping station, where these volunteers wrap them, apply name tags, and place each family’s gifts in a giant red sack to be delivered to their home a few days before Christmas.

**Christmas Gift Deliverers**

Gift Deliverers pick up wrapped gifts from our Christmas Store and deliver them along with food items to the families who selected them. Delivery instructions and directions to the families’ residences are provided.

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*Thank You, City Union Mission!*

“You have no idea how appreciative I am for you donating items to help someone like me and my daughter out. We have really been struggling lately and your generosity and thoughtfulness mean so much.”
“I had a rough life,” says 25-year-old Alex. Being hearing impaired since birth has made it difficult for him to speak clearly. “Because of that, everyone assumed I was mentally handicapped,” he explains. He suffered physical abuse at the hands of his family. His grandmother told him God hated him. Despite the mistreatment that destroyed his self-esteem, he graduated from high school. But he was ill-equipped to manage life on his own. After several years, his struggles led to jail time. When he was released with nowhere to go, his parole officer guided him to City Union Mission.

“It was scary to come here; I was terrified,” Alex recalls. But after the care, compassion and acceptance he received from the staff in our emergency shelter, he decided to join our Christian Life Program. “I’d hit rock bottom and I was ready to try anything.” In addition to learning skills that will empower him to live on his own, we helped Alex get the medical care, therapy and hearing aids he needs to live a productive and meaningful life. Most importantly, he heard the good news that God loves him unconditionally! He graduated from our long-term program in June and we’re helping with his job search.

“If it wasn’t for the Mission and the program and the people here, my life would be nothing. I would be dead by now. I was so lost. I’ve done a big turnaround. I am definitely on the positive side.”
Each year, we recognize and honor special Mission friends who relieve the burdens of the homeless and hopeless through their involvement in our ministry. This year’s celebration luncheon was held on September 25 at Fiorella’s Jack Stack Barbecue. We thank each one of our 2012 Service Award recipients for their faithful partnership.

MATTHEW 25 AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING CORPORATE INVOLVEMENT

The Mission presents this award in recognition for the many years of commitment and excellent service a corporation (business, organization, foundation, media outlet, etc.) has provided to Kansas City’s poor and homeless through partnership with City Union Mission. The award reflects key verses found in Matthew 25: “Well done, thou good and faithful servant . . . enter into the joy of the Lord.” (Verse 21) And, “In as much as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.” (Verse 40)

- Williams Foods
- The Culinary Center of Kansas City
- Gragg Advertising
- Kansas City Catering
- Faultless Starch/Bon Ami Company
- Helping Hands Cleaning Ministry and Helping Hands Connect
- EPIC Entertainment

A CUP IN HIS NAME AWARD FOR EXEMPLARY CHURCH INVOLVEMENT

This honor is awarded to local churches in recognition of their many years of commitment and participation with City Union Mission in serving the least of these. The award is named after a key teaching of Jesus found in Matthew 10:42: “And whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones because he is my disciple, I tell you the truth, he will certainly not lose his reward.”

- Antioch Bible Baptist Church

CEO AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING PHILANTHROPIC LEADERSHIP

This recognition goes to an individual with a record of exceptional generosity and who has demonstrated outstanding civic and charitable responsibility by his or her philanthropic leadership role in our community.

- Binny Pearce
Volunteer Award for Exceptional Effort

This honor recognizes individuals who have demonstrated heartfelt compassion for those we serve through numerous volunteer opportunities, giving of that most valued resource—their time.

- Bud Frye
- Shirley Reed
- Bryan Hurst
- Lupe Hernandez
- Diane Calhoon

Barnabas Award

This award is presented to a church ambassador in recognition of his or her gift of time and resources in order to bring his or her church into a greater awareness of the Mission, supporting our ministry in the inner-city. This recipient goes beyond that which is required, exercising passion on behalf of the Mission's vision.

- Brian Rothrock, Lenexa Baptist Church

2012 Award Recipients: Bob Baier (Antioch Bible Baptist Church), Brownie Simpson (KC Catering), Bud Frye, Bryan Hurst, Brian Rothrock (Lenexa Baptist Church), Greg Gragg (Gragg Advertising), Linda Anderson (Helping Hands Cleaning Ministry and Helping Hands Connect), Maria Dickson (The Culinary Center of KC), Cathy Beaham (Faultless Starch/Bon Ami Company), Shirley Reed, Binny Pearce and Diane Calhoon.

Associate Director Award for Outstanding Philanthropic Leadership

The recipient of this award is honored for fulfilling a leadership role in our community that demonstrates selfless generosity and a high standard of civic and charitable responsibility.

- Beth McCown
While many of our friends may feel passionate about the work of the Mission, they also may feel they’re currently limited in the amount of financial support they can offer. Or they worry that a large gift now may impact their future financial security or the size of the estate they hope to pass on to their heirs.

The good news is giving to the Mission isn’t only about outright gifts! We invite you to consider the many planned giving options that allow you to fulfill your desire to help carry out our programs and services without compromising your financial future. Some even offer significant current tax incentives. Common types of planned gifts include charitable trusts and bequests, and assets such as life insurance policies, retirement accounts and gift annuities.

As the end of the year approaches, you may want to consider important opportunities to plan a strategy for long-term giving that could provide tax benefits as early as next year. Or if you want to make a gift that will offer tax incentives yet this year, consider the following:

- **Donations of cars, trucks and vans**, which can be used in Mission programs or sold for funding.
- **Gifts of stocks and other securities** (bonds, mutual funds, etc.), which allow you to give without depleting cash reserves.
- **Products or services** your company manufactures or provides, which can be used to offset our budget.
- **Real estate**, which can be used in our ministry to the homeless or sold to support our programs.
- **Collectibles** such as coins, artwork or antiques you no longer have a place for.

For more information on these and other donation opportunities, contact Dennis Chapman, Chief Development Officer, at give@cityunionmission.org or call (816) 474-9380, ext. 1476.

**PLEASE CONSIDER THE MISSION’S TRUST . . .**

if you or your company is looking to make a significant year-end contribution for the purpose of tax incentives. Over $1 million is donated annually to the fund, which serves as a safety net in times of financial hardship, transfers annual contributions to our general operating budget, and supports capital and expansion projects like our new City Thrift in Kansas. Proceeds from Wills, stocks and donor-advised funds are placed in the Trust, as well as cash gifts and other proceeds designated for this purpose. For more information, contact Dennis Chapman, Chief Development Officer, at give@cityunionmission.org or call (816) 474-9380, ext. 1476.
This Christmas, in keeping with our commitment to good stewardship, we will . . .

1. Honor and thank God for His provisions.
2. Celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ.
3. Share the Gospel with all those we serve.
4. Provide a family environment for our homeless guests.
5. Show Christ’s compassionate love through our actions and words.
7. Be content with what we have.
8. Not ask for anything we don’t need.
9. Pray for God’s guidance as we approach each holiday activity and need.
10. Give our donors ample opportunity to share God’s love with the hurting.

**Financial Update**

**FY 2012 Budget (Oct. 1 - Sept. 30)**

$8,250,000

**Amount Raised as of 9/30/12**

$8,313,495.55

**Because You Gave**

**January-August 2012**

- Daily average of homeless sleeping overnight: 413
- Daily average of meals served: 662
- Approx. number of patients seen for medical issues: 2,334
- Daily average of homeless attending chapel services: 250
- Approx. number of salvations and rededications: 337
People in Kansas City are hungry. Not only for food, but also for the guidance, hope and opportunities that lead to a better life. Your gift to FeedKCNow.org will help us feed them . . .

• Physically—with daily meals, holiday dinners and nutritious grocery boxes
• Spiritually—through chapel services, Bible study and prayer
• Mentally—with counseling, case management and loving fellowship
• Educationally—through life-skills classes, learning center activities and work therapy

Let’s join together as part of a caring community . . . and Feed KC Now!