

The Lighthouse

A Publication of **The Gospel Mission, Inc.** Established 1912

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Greetings once again from our mission field in the city.

It has been a productive and blessed year in our continued labors in the Lord. Long days as usual but much accomplished to the glory of God. We have made it through the year with His blessings, *For in him we live, and move, and have our being* (Acts 17:28). We are encouraged every day to make the most of our limited time. *Redeeming the time, because the days are evil* (Ephesians 5:16). As we enter a new year we are also reminded from Scripture, *Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away* (James 4:14). We have a mission of urgency in our work to bring the Good News to the lost.

We certainly want to thank everyone for their support in so many ways during 2016; it has been well invested. We hope you have noted that our newsletter is designed to report the Good News of our mission field and give a report on your investment in the Lord's work here. God will always supply our needs as He moves the hearts of people to do so.

As to the time ahead, we will take it a day at a time. Our business plan is simple as usual; Do all we can for the cause of Christ with the means He supplies. Our budget is whatever the Lord sends. We must thank Him for providing for us as we move into our 105th year. Our desire is to serve Him daily until He comes again.

Our greatest request for the year is for souls to be delivered out of bondage; so many evil things have a hold on them. Pray that the Lord would be pleased to move many hearts this year to come to know Christ as their Savior. That is the only way the city will change. We want to be *a light that shineth in darkness* (John 1:5) and see the city transformed by the love of God. One by one it can be done.

Sue and I are now entering our 33rd year of work at the mission and His provision for our family has been great through the years. Thanks so much for your prayers and support for this mission field. Thanks for your God-given sensitivity that has enabled us to grow reaching so many different people groups with the Gospel. Pray for great spiritual growth among the people in order that true joy and the assurance of Heaven will be theirs.

To God be the glory, great things He has done.

By His grace,



Chaplain, Director

Jamestown Greenview High School - National Honor Society



The Lord has blessed us repeatedly over the years with visits from members of the Greenview High School National Honor Society. While these young men and women excel in the classroom, they also desire to help the less fortunate in our community.

They regularly serve in our kitchen, clean our chapel and perform other much-needed (and appreciated) service projects.

Thanks Greenview NHS Students!

Smarts has it's Rewards

The entire fall semester of our tutor class was very competitive; thirteen weeks of 'grueling' work. The grueling may have been the instructors. Nevertheless, there were rewards for those who managed to survive, stuck with it and came out on top; a Christmas shopping trip. Their point system earned them some very nice buying opportunities.



A great deal of effort is put into our youth programs. Keep them in prayer.....we must impact their future to the glory of God. Shown here just before they were turned loose at Walmart.

Christmas Choir

The Christmas season always brings some special days to the Gospel Mission; extra activities, holiday foods, Christmas services and of course, special music. We were very pleased once again this year to have the Ark Church choir for our Christmas celebration...their performance was wonderful! We hope the beauty of the words sung with the most excellent voices were able to reach the hearts of many.

Seed was planted. May the Lord give a great harvest.

Need A Lift

Yes, we need a lift. For many years, so many have struggled to get into our building because it is a split level building. The chapel is up and the King's Table is down... down lots of stairs. Some prefer to get out of their wheelchair and on their seat using the handrail lift themselves, a step at a time, until they get to the top and back in their wheelchair. Some have to eat outside because of the weight of the chair. We are preceding this project with prayer. We do not have cost estimates in yet, but it is a real need, and we are trusting the Lord to supply whatever is needed to get the job done.

Gutter Ball



Every day the Gospel Mission works to keep people "out of the gutter." Sometimes it is just impossible especially when you take our God's Guys out bowling for an evening of fun. Although we would like to keep them out of the gutter and score a few pins they still have a blast! Top that off with pizza and you can't beat the fun and fellowship that we hope will be instrumental in keeping them "out of the gutter."

Youth at Christmas



Anticipation is the key word at this time of year for our youth. Anticipation carries with it much hope and excitement.

We are glad to fulfill many of the dreams of our youth with the wonderful gifts that our supporters provide.



The pictures show the enthusiasm and excitement on the evening of the gift distribution. This was their Christmas.



Thanks again for all who made this possible!



Christmas Banquet

The Gospel Mission always has an extra special meal for Christmas with an emphasis on Christ. It is to the honor and glory of our Lord that we do the things we do. The objective, by the providence of God, is to see folks come to Christ. The meals have much value in many ways...so many appreciate the quality, variety and amount that is provided; we are glad to provide the sustenance. We hope ultimately that the love of God will shine through to reach them with the best possible sustenance...the Staff of Life...the Living Word...Jesus Christ. Our prayer is that one day that they will be at the great *supper of the Lamb*. (Revelation 19:9)

Christmas Gifts Appreciated



We first want to thank everyone for the great out-pouring of gifts to meet the many requests...all worked out so well. We had five days of distribution to get everything done in an orderly fashion. All gifts are custom pulled for every individual...no one-size fits all. When it comes to gifts for the youth, Sue Clarkston knows all of the youth and their likes and each child has specially selected gifts for them...it is a job! We now have parents returning that were once our youth, sharing their memories and joy of their time at the mission and now bringing their children to have joyful memories as well.

The ultimate gift is always shared...the gift of Christ. We pray that many will accept that Gift this year.

To the only *wise*
God our *Saviour*,
be *glory* and *majesty*,
dominion and *power*,
both *now* and *ever*.
Amen.



Camp Jabez Just Ahead

Registrations are now taking place for another exciting summer at Camp Jabez. We have added some new camps: two Junior Camps, a three day Express Camp and now a Teen Camp. The website schedule will give all of the details. Of course there are three Equine Camps, one each month of summer. This year we have our fully operational Education and Recreation center to add to the activity list. Among all of the fun



and excitement, we keep a good focus on Jesus. Camps start at age five and will begin on June 5th. It will be a wonderful and memorable experience. Consider providing a wonderful week at Camp Jabez for some youngster...they will be very grateful! www.CampJabez.org

Boy Scout Troop 72-First - Presbyterian Church of Fairborn

The care and upkeep of Camp Jabez continues despite the cold and sometimes inclement weather. In December, BSA Troop 72, sponsored by First Presbyterian Church of Fairborn, spent several hours clearing out some of the pesky honeysuckle that has invaded the Camp Jabez tree line. The brush was then converted into woodchips that will line our walking paths this spring/summer.



We thank God for the energy and enthusiasm these young (and old!) men brought to the project, and we look forward to their next visit.

Cedarville University - Integrated Business Core Class

The Gospel Mission has long enjoyed a relationship with Cedarville University, whose students have volunteered in several capacities for many years. In October, 30-40 students from the Integrated Business Core Class devoted two days to scraping and painting many rows of fencing at Camp Jabez. Additionally, the class made a nice donation to the Gospel Mission as they completed their fall semester. We praise God for His continued support of the mission through Cedarville University.

A side note...a small world. Bro. Jeremiah, Founder of Cedarville University was Pastor Clarkston's first pastor when he was a child. Pastor Clarkston went on to teach at Cedarville in the 1980s shortly after being called to the Gospel Mission as Director.



Dedicated Volunteers

In order for the Gospel Mission to operate every day in the myriad of things that we do, many volunteers are needed. Most

volunteers work at least one shift per month...many work multiple times per week. We are so thankful for their dedication to serve as volunteer missionaries here at the Gospel Mission. Shown here is a dedicated group from Salem Church. From food service, to truck driving, to maintenance, to technology, there is something for you. Send us an email for more information.



City Hunger

The Gospel Mission is able to provide quality meals seven days a week both for adult and youth. The Lord has moved the hearts of many people to see that we get the needed supplies to the table. *Can God furnish a table in the wilderness?* (Psalm 78:19) Yes, He certainly can! We would like to point out that the mission does not take food from the local food bank because the Gospel is not permitted in conjunction with their food. The mission could not hold a service before a meal or even have prayer without individual permission! We don't even give those resources a second thought; God will always provide where He is given preeminence in all things, even furnishing a table.

As you know, the real meal is the Gospel of Christ. Without the Gospel we would be just another feeding place. Our first commission is the ministry of the Word of God and it cannot take second seat to anything. When He is first, all other things will be in place. Most important, are that souls are fed the Bread of Life.



The Gospel Mission, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. All gifts to this ministry are tax deductible.

