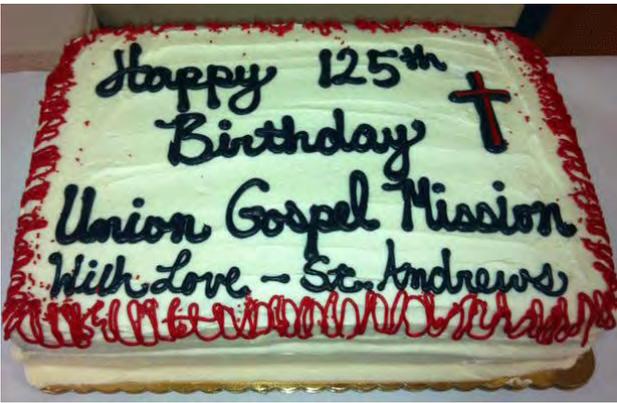


“Serving the Lord with Gladness” at Union Gospel Mission!



Saturday, July 13th, was a day of celebration and service led by teams of St. Andrew's parishioners at Union Gospel Mission on East Lancaster. The Day and all that led up to it were a gift and blessing for the Mission and those it serves. As wonderful as this collective gift was, we saw other wonderful outcomes: Longtime parishioners served along with brand new members. Some St. Andrew's parishioners met each other for the first time! Others had seen each other at church before, but in this setting had a chance to get to know each other better. Some visited UGM for the first time. Many learned the scope and nature of UGM's ministry in the community—and were amazed. For some, it was a new experience in ministry outreach — and they found it to be fulfilling. Some parishioners were given insight as to possible ministry opportunities at the Mission.

Here are some comments and impressions from parishioners who participated in this special Day:

From two parishioners serving dinner the following day at UGM: *“Numerous residents of UGM made a special point to stop us to tell us how much fun they had yesterday and how thankful they were for St. Andrew's special day UGM. The guys enjoyed the men's ministries. The women loved the women's ministries. (We heard) positive comments on chapel and children's activities, kitchen servers, cupcakes and ice cream.”*

From Meal Service and Cake-Ice Cream Teams: *“This was my first time at the Mission, ever! I was on the cupcake/ice cream service team. Such a joyous opportunity; how could I not feel so richly blessed as I walked in God's service and Grace!” ... “My favorite part of the day was when everyone in the dining room sang an impromptu Happy Birthday to a little girl named Naomi. She was nine yrs old on Saturday. She was dressed so pretty in her polka dot dress and hair bow and you could tell she was proud to have her birthday recognized. Her mother had tears. It was a super sweet experience.” ... “I was struck with just how MANY lives the Mission touches each and every day, in such a practical and tangible way. Surely this place is an arm of our Lord Himself in our busy city. I have often thought that if Jesus Himself came to town, he might head first thing to the UGM and bless the dedicated people who serve there in His name.” ... “There was a beautiful spirit of camaraderie, everyone working together for the greater good. I was pleased when one of the guests asked directions to St. Andrew's. I think he would have made it to our doors on Sunday if it hadn't rained. He had planned to come on foot.”*

From Chapel Team: *“I was so moved to see God bring together two very special ‘congregations’ to worship together. This must be what heaven is like!” ... “Every time we finished playing a song, a lady on the third row caught my eye, clapped loudly and joyfully, and said, ‘thank you, thank you!’ Then I noticed that she was singing along with all the hymns in perfect harmony.” ... A comment from one of the women Guests: “I loved hearing the music. It opened up my heart and brought me peace.” ... “I'm grateful to have been a part, thankful to work with (the Chapel music team), and grateful that it went so well!” ... “Sitting at the back of the chapel service, I thought of how lovely a moment it was to see God's forgotten children come in from the 100 degree heat and have a safe, cool and clean place to rest for awhile. God's word was spoken over them and quiet, soothing hymns were sung. It didn't matter if they joined in or fell asleep, for that moment they could relax in God's peace.”*

From the Command Central Team: *“A Meal Team member came to the Command Central room to ask St. Andrew's zip code for the mailing address — because one of the Guests was writing a thank you note to us for the grand celebration.” ... “It was an honor to be a part of the celebration.” ... “Everything about it was filled with love ~ for Christ and for one another. Thank you for this opportunity to be in Christ's vineyard. I want to do more there.”*

From Men's, Women's & Children's Teams: *“Incredible turnout for the Men's Activity Hour, and Fred Cleveland turns out to be a ringer bingo caller! Who knew?” ... “At the beginning of the women's activity, each one told us her name, a little history and her plans for the future. As they talked I could feel God's joy at His rescued lambs. What a privilege to spend some time with these women and see how they care for each other and love the Lord! I am so glad that I could be a part of this splendid day!” ... “A special moment was when I peeked into the Children's room: a 3 year old boy was streaking by, in hot pursuit of Kendall, and cackling with delight; Thomas, Laura, Kenna, Andy, Sawyer and Samer were tossing balls and jumping around with young ones of all ages; and Molly had a baby boy in a chest baby carrier (who had been wailing loudly before entering the room), sleeping now in Heavenly peace, while a toddler had her by the hand. It was if Christ's love and joy permeated the whole room!”*

A word of thanks from Dorothy Blackman, Sr. Warden, Associate Vestry: *“On behalf of the Associate Vestry, thank you for your unbelievable outpouring of support for the UGM men's clothing drive. Thanks to so many of you and your friends and neighbors, we delivered approximately ten carloads of clothing that will assist these men in obtaining employment. St. Andrew's is a body of believers who, once again, demonstrated Christ's love in a practical way and we give thanks to God for that!”*

St. Andrew's DAY AT THE MISSION Team Leaders and Members



AV Men's Clothing Drive ~ Dorothy Blackman, TL, Nick Nixon, Howard Lovett, Mike Blackman, Ethel Warren, Sawyer Blackman, Samer Majeed, many parishioners who donated LOTS of clothing

Meal Service and Cake & Ice Cream Teams ~ Chris & Andy Brown, TLs (meal) and Candy Rehfeldt, TL (cake-ice cream), Beth & Trent Prim, Pam Rhoads, Judy Mayo, Debbie Mitchell, Thomas & Karis Spooner, Steven & Marina Scarborough, Stacey Rumpf, Phyllis Leach, Rick Rehfeldt, anonymous ice cream donation angel; Sunday School children, Judy Mayo, Vicki Oram, Andy Brown, Wendy Golden & Heather Pelton (decorating placemats); McKinley's Bakery donation of 300 cupcakes and sheet cake; Chris & Andy Brown (special savings bank table centerpieces and Dining Room birthday decorations)

Chapel Service for Mission Guests ~ Dr. Bill Dickson, TL, Jim Rhea, Karen Ferrer, Scott Perry, Suzanne Hearn, Guy Pharis, Megan Breedlove, Peggy Rush (hymn sheet); St. Andrew's Worshippers - Carol King, Jane Bird, Alann Sampson, Jim & Nell Branch, Duane McDaniel, Dorothy & Mike Blackman, Nancy Pomeroy, Sawyer Blackman, Samer Majeed, Betty Rhea, Ethel Warren, Adam Hilliard, and other parishioners

Women's Activity Hour ~ Carol King and Suzanne Hearn, TLs, Karen Ferrer, Bonnie Thalman, Elaine Lambert, Alann Sampson

Men's Activity Hour ~ Howard Lovett & Steve Huddleston, TLs, Justin Allison, Phil Breedlove, Fred Cleveland, Rick Cleveland, Tim Ferrer, Adam Hilliard, William McKeachie, Guy Pharis, Dan Turner

Children's Activity Hour ~ Kendall Felton, Molly Bryant, Laura Hampton, TLs, Thomas Spooner, Kenna Felton, Sawyer Blackman, Samer Majeed, Andy Brown

Lunch for St. Andrew's Volunteers ~ Jane Bird

St. Andrew's "Command Central" ~ Ethel Warren, TL, Pam Rhoads (ID badge assembly & T shirt donations), Nancy Komatsu

Gift Bag for Guests ~ Marsland Moncrief, TL, Thursday Morning Ladies Bible Study, many parishioners who donated toiletries, Pam Rhoads, Nancy Komatsu, Julie Lee, Nick Nixon; Duane McDaniel, Jim & Betty Rhea, Megan Breedlove, TLs (gift distribution on the 13th)

Mission Kids School Supplies ~ Pam Rhoads, TL

Summer Fun at St. Andrew's for Parish children ~ Angie Felton, TL, Heather Clement, Ana Amaya, Wendy Golden

Grateful thanks to ALL who took part in this wonderful day of joyful service dedicated to the Lord!