

April/May
2009



NEIGHBORHOOD MINISTRIES:

Putting Jesus First and Changing Lives!

The Good News

Newsletter



Volunteers Make It Possible

By Mark Samuel, Executive Director



If you have tried to contact us recently, whether by phone, email or snail mail, you may have had a difficult time getting in touch with us. This is certainly not intentional, but is a reflection

on how busy we have been. Staff have been providing transportation for those that do not have cars or money or the bus but need to get to the doctor. Staff have been attending workshops on how to better care for families in crisis. We are starting several new ministries, which involve meetings and making connections away from our centers. We are busy transporting children to and from our centers for after-school programs. We are doing our final preparations for summer programming, which includes starting a new park program for the city of Campbell. In short we have been busy caring for and loving people.

We are staying busy because more families need help than ever. Each month the number of families that receive food increases. With the West Side location the number of children we are serving has grown. Starting the Clothing Bank will increase the number of families we serve on a monthly basis. With the new park program we will be serving more meals to children than ever.

One of the greatest blessings I have is seeing the Lord work in the midst of His

people and it is only through dedicated staff and a growing number of committed volunteers that we are able to do all that we do. Volunteers run the after-school program on the West Side of Youngstown. Volunteers pick up our food from the food bank and prepare the food for distribution. Many days volunteers answer the telephone, clean our buildings, plan events, staff outreach activities, sort clothes, prepare this newsletter for distribution and so much more.

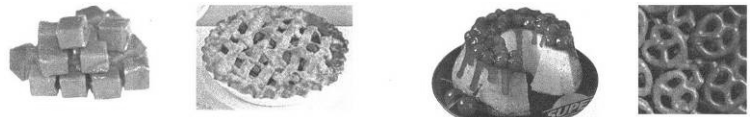
Our volunteers come to us in a variety of ways. Some have been involved with our programs in the past and help because they value what we do. Some come from churches around our centers, partnering with us as an extension of their church ministry. Some have gifts and talents they want to use for God's glory and we help them fit that talent with a need. Some visit our centers, see the children and families being served and want to help.

This summer we will need volunteers to assist with our summer park program, with our children's lunch and snack program, with our summer activities at our Rockford Village site and more. If you are able to give one day, one week or the summer, we would love to have you join us.

We are able to do all that we do because of the consistent support from many people through time and funds. Thank you for partnering with us!

Ways You Can Help

- **Donate gently used clothing, furniture and household items** for our Clothing Bank (The Clothing Bank is located at 75 Jackson Street in Campbell, Ohio and is open for donation drop off every Wednesday from 10:00am—5:00pm.)
- **Donate guitars** for a new music ministry at our Fairview Center sponsored by Top Hat Productions.
- **Get your teeth whitened and make a donation to Neighborhood Ministries at the same time.** To schedule an appointment call The Braydich Center for Advanced Dentistry at 330-534-5408. (The cost to have your teeth whitened is drastically reduced at only \$100.00 and 50% of the proceeds will go directly to Neighborhood Ministries to support our outreach to children and families. The other 50% will go towards juvenile diabetes research.)
- **Make Goodsearch.com your website search engine.** Visit www.goodsearch.com. Select Neighborhood Ministries (Campbell, OH), as the nonprofit organization you wish to support, and then do what you do already. Each year Goodsearch will send us a check based on the number of searches and the amount of shopping done.



G.E.M.S. BAKE SALE

AUXILIARY OF
NEIGHBORHOOD MINISTRIES

JUNE 20, 2009

**10:00 AM
UNTIL SOLD OUT**

**SAM'S CLUB
BOARDMAN
6361 SOUTH AVE.**

**BAKE, BUY OR BOTH
BRING YOUR FRIENDS**



We have a new mailing address!
Please update your records!



Neighborhood Ministries
PO Box 640
Campbell, OH 44405



NEIGHBORHOOD ACTION PROGRAM YOUTH CONFERENCE

Neighborhood Action Program centers of American Baptist Churches USA will be holding their first ever National Youth Leadership Conference at Franklin College in Franklin, Indiana July 9-12. "It's Not About Me" 2009 will offer youth served by NAP centers across the country the opportunity to be a part of a great week of leadership training that will focus on their relationship with God, each other and their community.

This conference will allow youth ages 13-16 from our centers the opportunity to be mentored by ABC-USA youth who have demonstrated a strong walk with Christ in their home, their church and their community. Neighborhood Ministries will be sending several youth to this conference. Individuals and churches can assist Neighborhood Ministries by sponsoring one or more youth at a cost of \$300.00 per child. If you or your church or organization is able to sponsor a child please contact Gerald Hamilton at (330) 755-8696.

Easter Celebration A Big Success

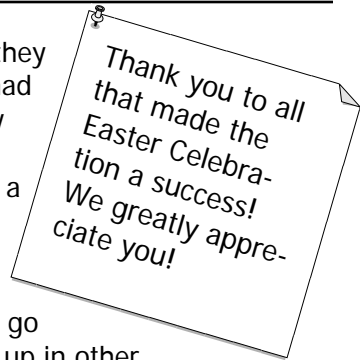
By Kim Travis, RV Program Director



We had a wonderful Easter Celebration at our Rockford Village Center on Good Friday. Sixty-five children from our Kirwan, Rockford and Westside centers attended, as well as approximately 20 parents and adult volunteers. Highway Tabernacle Baptist Church was with us again to tell "The Real Meaning of

Easter" to our children. They used puppetry, flannel art and a variety of other engaging methods. They always give the children an opportunity to accept Jesus by leading them in prayer! They also provided juice. The youth group at First Baptist Church in Hubbard donated the lovely Easter bags that each child received after their meal. They have been doing this for us for many years. Westside Baptist Church and June Lomax provided candy for the event and First Baptist Church of Girard provided 488 filled plastic Easter eggs that our teen JOBS workers did a very nice job of hiding.

were found. After the hunt, they returned inside where they had a blessing over the food they were about to eat, washed their hands and were served a lunch of hotdogs, chips and juice. After lunch, the children received their Easter bags and then it was time to go home. We had activities set up in other rooms for the children from Kirwan and Westside that were waiting for other children from their center to finish.



Prior to Good Friday the children in our after school program dyed the eggs that were added to the Easter bags. This was a double treat for many of our kids. (We learned that the red dye is the most difficult to remove from the floor!)

The extra candy bags were put to good use the week after Easter. I had seen the elementary school principal and she asked if we would see the children over break. I told her that we would. She asked if we would help our children with test preparation for the school tests that were coming up the week after break. The first day of group I had our JOBS teens and other volunteers hide empty Easter eggs and had assigned a type of problem to each

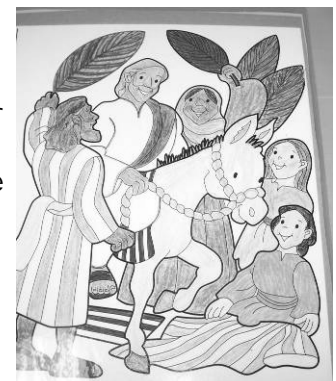


color egg. (i.e orange was addition, purple were word problems, pink was reading, etc.) After they correctly answered the number of questions in each color category they received as many pieces of candy as problems they did. Each child earned between 14 and 21 pieces of candy while practicing for the tests! The next day I challenged them to bring their school packets with them and spend just 20 minutes working on them and they would earn another treat bag. Unfortunately only 2 brought them, but the good news is that they were the two that needed the most extra practice. Who says learning can't be fun!

We divided the children into two groups, preschool through 2nd grade and 3rd through 6th graders. Each group had a lesson on The Real Meaning of Easter. We all understand that this is the most important aspect and a children were not be able to hunt for eggs until he or she heard the message. Easter gives us an opportunity to share the love of Jesus with many that we usually do not get a chance to connect with, including preschoolers and their parents. After their lesson they were each given a bag and were taken outside to hunt for eggs. Each child was to find 5 and then stop, then after each child found 5 they kept hunting until all



minutes working on them and they would earn another treat bag. Unfortunately only 2 brought them, but the good news is that they were the two that needed the most extra practice. Who says learning can't be fun!



The Good News Newsletter is a monthly publication of Neighborhood Ministries. To contact us for tours, speaking engagements or other special needs, please write or call the following:

Business Office (330) 755-8696
 PO Box 640 Fax (330) 755-8699
 Campbell, OH 44405 mark_samuel@ohionm.org

Ministry Sites

Kirwan Homes Rockford Village
 75 Jackson Street 1402b Dogwood Lane
 Campbell, OH 44405 Youngstown, OH 44505

West Side Fairview Arts and Outreach
 304 Matta Avenue 4220 Youngstown-Poland Road
 Youngstown, OH 44515 Youngstown, OH 44514

Website: www.ohionm.org

Thank You, Top Hat, for Your Ministry!

Top Hat Productions, our ministry partner at the Fairview Arts and Outreach Center, performed the passion play *The Earth Trembled* to packed houses. So many people wanted to see the play that they added an extra performance, which was quickly filled. The Vindicator, our local paper, reviewed the play for the first time. They wrote, "The selflessness, tireless dedication and yes, passion of Top Hat performers remains a thing of unparalleled beauty and boundless inspiration."

This summer Top Hat will be conducting a youth theater workshop program about the story of Jonah. For more information, please give us a call at (330) 755-8696.

For information about their upcoming season, visit www.tophatproductions.org.



Just a Reminder...

The Youngstown Foundation will provide a 5% match for any gift of \$100.00 or more given to Neighborhood Ministries. Donations can be made out to The Youngstown Foundation with a note earmarking the gift to Neighborhood Ministries. Donations can be sent to:

**The Youngstown Foundation
 PO Box 1162
 Youngstown, OH 44501**

**Thank you for considering
 this extra giving opportunity.**

Please remember your church and Neighborhood Ministries in your will.



Affiliated with the American Baptist Churches of Ohio, The Trumbull Baptist Association and the Youngstown/Mahoning Valley United Way.



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