

Mission . . . POSSIBLE!

October 2008

A Quarterly Newsletter from the



Notes from the Director...

By: Rev. Roger Lutze, Executive Director

FORIVENESS...

God will grant forgiveness of our sins when we come to Him and humbly repent and that is just what happened recently at the Flint Eastside Mission.

"...Hear from Your dwelling place, in heaven; and when you hear, forgive." I Kings 8:30b

Just recently I was reminded again how God will use a place such as the Flint Eastside Mission to reach someone bound by sin and guilt and set them free. A man entered the mission on September 4th with bruises, scrapes and sores on his face and arms from a fight the night before. R... was deeply disturbed over an incident from that night, a fight that left him with these scrapes and bruises on his body. I sat with R... for a few minutes while he told me a story of an angry, violent man who had lost control, not only on the night before, but his whole life was out of control. He told me how he responded to an incident from the night before that ended with another man being beat up worse than he was; all because he was full of uncontrollable anger. He also told me how a brother had been praying for him and was the pastor of a church in Southern Michigan.

As R... talked with me we prayed together and he prayed asking Jesus Christ to enter his life and change his life, to forgive his sin and make him a new person in Christ as the Scripture says. Tears were shed and joy entered the room as a new son was adopted into the Family of God by a new birth. The angels in heaven rejoice and so do we!

Those kinds of days are why we do what we do at the Flint Eastside Mission. I tell you this in order to thank you for praying for us as often as you think of us and to thank you for the financial support we receive from you, our friends.

FOOD TRUCK COMES TO THE EASTSIDE MISSION...

Twice this quarter we were able to supply food to those in need through a food truck from the Eastern Michigan Food Bank. St. Mary's Catholic Church (located across the road) joined with us covering half the cost and sending volunteers to help with the distribution. Together we will have a total of 4 food trucks at the Mission with the last truck coming mid-October. These first two trucks brought a total of 28,500 lb of food. Potatoes, corn, canned goods and many other items were given out to feed the families who live here on the Eastside. Our volunteers were indispensable as they unloaded the food and filled the boxes of the people who came through the line. Along with individual volunteers, Kohl's Department store sent several volunteers and the Sr. High Cheerleaders from Grand Blanc High School came and helped until all the food was distributed and the area cleaned up. Mr. Jim Clark usually runs this distribution for us and as always he had everything planned out for a smooth distribution.

CBC RECYCLING...

I know that I reported that we had received checks from CBC Recycling in our last "Mission . . . Possible!" but I want to remind you that we are still taking papers, cardboard and magazines to CBC Recycling for the Eastside

Mission. You can take your cardboard, newspapers, magazines and office paper to CBC at 1801 S. Saginaw Street, just south of the I-69 Saginaw Street interchange and tell them it is for Flint Eastside Mission and we will get the points for that drop off. Please separate the types of papers into different bags and the cardboard must be corrugated and not cereal box type of cardboard. Thank you for continuing to take your recyclables to CBC and donating them for Eastside Mission.



Games at the 'Bash!

BACK-TO-SCHOOL-BASH...



We love our volunteers!!

Once again our volunteers hit the bulls eye with the Back-to School-Bash. What a resounding success! Linda Loudermilk and her leadership crew did a fantastic job of planning and executing this great day. East Flint Nazarene has taken the lead and many churches and individuals took part in bringing in the school supplies, games, backpacks and food for this annual event. The people who live here on the Eastside start asking about the Back-to-School-Bash in mid-July and look forward to all the fun and the school supplies. Backpacks and school supplies were distributed to over 800 children again this year.

Praise God for His people who care enough to **"Give the very best."**

II Corinthians 9:7,8 "...each one give as he purposes in his heart... for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound toward you..."

Since the VBS pictures were not available for the last issue of "Mission...Possible!", I'm including a couple here:



Song time!



Mad scientist song leaders...

VOLUNTEERS...

As you know, much of our operation here at Flint Eastside Mission is dependent on our great army of volunteers. One group of volunteers that come to the Mission each Monday get very little recognition and they have been faithfully coming to prepare and serve the lunch for a number of years. These volunteers come from St. Mary's Catholic Church and they give freely of their time for each Monday's lunch. We are appreciative for their help and the Eastside residents are pleased to have them serving lunch each Monday as well.

This past month we had a total of about 250 volunteers helping, including those who were here for the Back-to-School-Bash and the food trucks.

Stats...

Meals served:

June/July	2,514
August	1,557

Pounds of food from Food Bank of Eastern MI:

June/July	19,850
August	18,300

People fed through our pantry:

June/July	1,026
August	713

Clothing distribution:

June/July	320
August	245

Baby formula/diapers

June/July	34/80
August	18/49

Golf Outing Awash With Laughter...

On Saturday September 13 we got a group of about 28 of our closest friends together for a fun filled day of golf in the rain. As the day started it was only sprinkling but by the time the last team (the only team to golf the entire 18 holes came in) we had experienced at least two downpours. Some of the greens had large ponds and what seemed to be trout streams running through the middle. There were no

sand traps only water hazards around the greens and when we walked the ground squished. The ball didn't go as far as we'd like and everyone had their hair washed and a shower before we were finished. To top it off it just happened that the prizes consisted of golf towels and golf shirts – enough for every player – just what we needed. The lunch was good as usual and the staff at Genesee Valley Meadows was very accommodating. Even in the rain I did not hear one complaint – just a lot of laughter and fun. We raised \$2,800 for the Eastside Mission in the process. Thanks to all those who played and to the many hole sponsors who supported us this year. The outing for 2009 is scheduled for September 12th. The very first Saturday after Labor Day so why not make plans NOW to join us! Rain or shine!



Pastor's Corner...

I have always thought how exciting it must have been when the word got out about Jesus coming into town. People would come from all over just to see and hear the One who was claiming to be the Son of God. I can feel the hope of those who came for the chance of Jesus picking them out of the large crowd and choosing to heal them. This is what the church here at the Mission has become. It is not at the numbers that Jesus attracted, at least not yet. People are hearing about how God is here in a powerful way and when you come, you leave with the feeling of God like you have never felt before. We see healings upon healings and it is obvious that God is working here. The statement all around town is, "God is doing something." God has great plans for this Mission. His plans are continuously unfolding before our eyes and as we follow him, we are continuously amazed at what He is doing through us here. We are all on pins and needles to see what God is going to do next.