

ON the SUNNYSIDE

Sunnyside Ministry
Winter 2009

www.sunnysideministry.org
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Director's Report



By: Tommy Cole

As I sat down to write this article I picked up a copy of the newsletter from last November and was surprised by not only how much had

changed but also by how little had changed. We have made many changes this past year and continue to look for ways to improve our client services and our internal processes. Some of the notable changes/achievements this past year are: some "new to us" furniture compliments of Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust (KBR), new computer software and hardware also compliments of KBR, new paint on some of our walls thanks to David Merritt, and three new freezers thanks to Clemmons and Advent Moravian Churches.

We have a new face on our staff. Susan Roediger, Assistant Director, has added another dimension to our ministry with her heart for our mission and her business expertise and experience. She is a lifelong member of Konnoak Hills Moravian Church. We have added over 50 new volunteers in the last 12 months, and now have over 120 active volunteers serving as the face and hands of Jesus here at Sunnyside. They spend time each month giving back to the poor and needy population that we serve.

We were honored and excited to have some 200 friends attend our 30th Anniversary Celebration in August. The Konnoak Hills Lions

Club provided food and drinks and the Moravian Lower Brass Band, Mt. Bethel Bluegrass Band and Brad Bennett provided entertainment. The Sunnyside Autumn Fest, held at Pine Chapel Moravian Church, gave us nice publicity and lots of food for our food pantry in addition to financial donations.

All of this activity is vital and wonderful to experience but it is not what Sunnyside is about. We are about working with families who find themselves in crisis situations and in need of help and volunteers giving of the gifts that they have been entrusted with, mainly their time, talents and substance. We are also about responding to the many prayer requests we receive every day from those seeking our assistance.

Record numbers of people are seeking assistance due to the economy, unemployment and rising food and energy costs. Several longtime volunteers have commented that in all the years they have been volunteering at Sunnyside that they have never seen so many people on our porch waiting to get in. This year we will provide groceries to over 7,500 hungry people. That is a lot of groceries and keeping food on our shelves has required a great deal of effort by many volunteers and continuing donations from churches, individuals and groups that continue to bring groceries to Sunnyside. It really is a wonder that so many are able to sleep so well when there are so many hungry children living in our community.

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Sunnyside Program Board

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Volunteer

Have you ever worked in a bank, been a teacher, worked as a nurse, owned a business, worked in retail, managed other employees, or served in food industries? If you have ever been employed in any of these businesses or even if you haven't you are a perfect volunteer for Sunnyside! Sunnyside volunteers have many different backgrounds and different gifts but they are all able to serve in some way. We have positions available in the food pantry, clothing closet, as an interviewer, as a receptionist, and on special projects. It only takes two hours a week or even two hours a month to make a big difference in the lives of your neighbors. You don't have to have any special talents, you just have to give some of your time.

If you are interested in volunteering go online to www.sunnysideministry.org or call Susan Roediger at 724-7558.

United Way Donations

Did you know that if you or the company you work for donate to United Way you are able to designate that your donation go to Sunnyside Ministry? All you have to do is mark your donation with Sunnyside's agency number **3051**. Many companies donate to United Way to give back to the community

or as a part of their charity program. You can now not only donate to United Way but make sure that money goes straight to Sunnyside. This is just one more way to give to Sunnyside so we can keep giving to the community.

Donations Needed

Clothes Closet

- Baby and Children's Clothes
- Socks and Underwear
- Jackets and Coats
- Shoes
- Hygiene Items
- Diapers and Baby Wipes

Household Goods

- Sheets, Blankets, and Bedspreads
- Towels
- Dishes and silverware
- Cooking Pots

Food Pantry

- Canned Soup and Vegetables
- Canned Meat
- Canned Beans and Fruit
- Pasta Sauce
- Crackers
- Cereal
- Pasta
- Cookies
- Macaroni and Cheese
- Peanut Butter and Jelly
- Rice
- Powdered Milk
- Dried Beans
- Toilet Paper, Toothpaste, Toothbrushes
- Detergent

Programs

Financial Programs in 2008, (through Nov.)

- Electric Assistance: \$186,083.00
- Housing Assistance: \$167,010.00
- Fuel/Gas Assistance: \$82,313.00
- Other Assistance: \$60,055.00

Scholarship Program

- Total Current Scholars: 18 students

Food Program in 2008 (through Nov.)

- Food Orders: 2,320
- People Served with Food: 6,941

Clothing Program in 2008 (through Nov.)

- Clothing Orders: 1205
- People Served with Clothes: 3,118

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...“When I was hungry and you gave me food to eat.”

We now provide free clothes to the needy from all over Forsyth County through a referral program. We receive referrals from Crisis Control, Department of Social Services, the Salvation Army, the Urban League, the WS/FC school system and many other agencies. And we never have a shortage of clothes. We have sent clothes to Africa in the suitcases of returning missionaries and hundreds of pairs of shoes to villages in Africa through a program set up by one of our scholars. This year we will put clothes on over 3500 people.

...“When I was naked and you gave me clothes.”

The Sunnyside Medical Clinic continues to serve children without insurance or money to pay for medical care. This year our volunteers, the Forsyth County Health Department nurses and three doctors will provide care for over 300 children. What a wonderful example of service and thanks go to Trinity Moravian Church for providing the space to carry out this work.

...“When I was sick and you took care of me.”

There are 18 Sunnyside scholars in college this semester, each with a laptop computer, thanks to the Sunnyside Scholarship Program funded by a wonderful woman who had the foresight to set up the program and the generosity of Home Moravian Church. We have been blessed to have 3 of the scholars serve as interns during the summer and semester breaks each year.

We are called to be concerned for “the least of these” and the need is now greater than ever. Our financial assistance is dependent on donations and we need your support more than ever. Please pray that we will continue to be blessed by generous supporters and able to meet the needs of those who come through our door. Your gift may keep a family in their home, put food on their table, clothes on their backs, provide heat, electricity or water or the medicine they need to get well. In Deuteronomy 15:11 we are commanded to “open our hand wide unto thy brother, to the poor and needy.”

Please pray about how you will use your time, talents and resources in the coming year. After all they are gifts from our Heavenly Father. We wish you a very merry Christmas and a safe, healthy and successful New Year.

**Sunnyside Ministry is a
Crisis Intervention Agency of
the Board of Evangelism and
Home Missions of the
Moravian Church in America,
Southern Province**

Sunnyside Ministry Staff

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The Mission of Sunnyside Ministry is to follow Christ by providing hope through service to those with emergency needs within our community.

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