

Bountiful Blessings News

The official newsletter of Bountiful Blessingssm

Spring 2010

Featured

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Charlton Methodist Church



Volunteers at the Harrisburg North site

The Bountiful Blessings Harrisburg North, PA site is located inside Charlton United Methodist Church. The site is open the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of every month from 5PM to 7PM and on the 3rd Wednesday of the month from noon to 3PM.

Charlton UMC is located at 5920 Jonestown Rd in the Paxtonia area of suburban Harrisburg, PA.

In the four years the Harrisburg North site has been open, they have seen a growth in the number of

families served. In addition, the commitment of the congregation to meet the needs of the community has increased. "Through the Bountiful Blessings program, the eyes, ears, and hearts of the congregation have opened to those in need," says Vida Franklin, site coordinator. "We have seen an increase in product donations as well as monetarily. We also have more volunteers from the church," Vida adds.

Charlton UMC has added a clothing ministry, a flea market with household goods, and a back pack drive for school supplies to coincide with the Bountiful Blessings program. Additionally, the church provides meals for the recipient families through their Helping Hands Ministry. They also provide gifts for the children at Christmas time. "This past Christmas, the church helped 45 families with a total of 70 children by providing gently used toys," says Ms. Franklin.

Families have begun attending church and a Bible study at Charlton UMC.

"Vida Franklin does a tremendous job at keeping the Bountiful Blessings program in the forefront of the minds of the congregants," says Terry Orendi, Founder and President of BB.

Charlton has a volunteer staff of 26 people involved in the collection of items, drives, and site operation with an additional 10 people

"on call." The site conducts its own drives with neighboring Karns Foods where patrons to the grocery store generally donate approximately \$1,000 in items.

Vida says, "Bountiful Blessings has helped awaken a 'sleeping giant' at Charlton Church."



Books and Stuffed Animal Drive

Many BB sites offer a brand new or gently used stuffed animal and a brand new book for each child under 18 years of age at the holidays. Because of the magnitude of this collection, BB conducts the drive for these items throughout the year.

We are grateful for the dozens of people who have donated brand new books and gently used stuffed animals.

Upcoming Events

Bountiful Blessings is scheduled to participate in the following events this spring:

Highmark Walk – May 22nd



The Bountiful Blessings office

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When doing a search on the internet, go to the Good Search web site powered by Yahoo. If you name Bountiful Blessings as your charity, BB will receive money for each internet search done.

www.goodsearch.com

Be sure to bookmark Good Search as your search engine of choice.

And, please remember to share the Good Search web site with friends and family.



The Shamokin / Coal Twp. Site has relocated to Oak Grove UMC on Airport Rd. in Coal Township. Hours and days of operation are still the 1st and 3rd Friday of the month from 6:00PM to 8:00PM.



BB on FB

Do you have a Facebook account? If so, why not join the Bountiful Blessings Facebook Cause?

BB events and happenings as well as announcements are posted on our FB page.



Bountiful Blessings wants to thank the following groups organizations and businesses for their generosity and support:

Old Dominion Trucking
Bread of Life Outreach
Bethesda Mission
Pepsi – Pottsville , PA
Presbyterian Homes Inc.
New Hope Ministries
Fairview Bethel Church of God

Wish List for BB

As we prepare for future sessions at our full service sites and for the growth of the BB program we are currently collecting the following:

- Brand new books for children and adults
- New or gently used stuffed animals
- School supplies, such as: tablets, loose leaf paper, pens, pencils, crayons, and erasers
- A projection system that can be linked to a laptop to do presentations

Leave a legacy

Remember BB as part of your will or trust. For more information and assistance, call the BB office at 717-802-1222



Entry in to the Bountiful Blessings warehouse has become a lot easier. The new garage door hardware has been installed. A big THANK YOU goes out to PHI for making warehouse life a little easier.



Bountiful Blessings is always looking for volunteer help in the office, in the warehouse and in the field. No matter what a volunteer's talents and gifts – we can match them up with a task.

Help is needed to do light duty administrative chores, to pick up items from suppliers, make deliveries to BB sites, as well as light maintenance jobs.

Contact us at 717-802-1222 and we will coordinate times and tasks so you can be on the BB volunteer support team.



Bookmark the BB web site for easy reference on where to send people who are in need.

www.bountifulblessingsinc.org

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Meet the Board Member



Sarah LeDuc

Sarah LeDuc has served on the Bountiful Blessings Board of Directors for over 2 years. She has lived in Westminster, MD for almost 13 years and is originally from Berks County, PA. Sarah & her husband, Paul, have 3 grown sons and 2 grandsons. Sarah is an administrative assistant, which keeps her busy during her work day. Sarah enjoys gardening and traveling to New England where her family lived for 15 years. Sarah also is a Certified Real Estate appraiser in the state of MD.

Sarah has traveled with the youth of her church in Westminster on Workcamp mission trips in NY, PA, RI, and WV. While participating on the week long Workcamp trips, the youth and adults complete home repairs for elderly and low income families, but more importantly, they share their Christian faith with each other and the families they serve.

“Serving on the BB board is another way I can share Christian love with others. We can help many families and communities month after month, year after year. We are not only providing non-food items, we are helping introduce these families to God by encouraging them to attend services at the host churches,” says Sarah when asked why BB is important to her. She hopes to continue supporting the vision of BB by spreading the word about its mission, working “behind the scenes” with the board to expand and grow, and doing whatever is needed to further the mission that God has laid out for us at BB.

Speaking of Bountiful Blessings

To schedule someone from Bountiful Blessings to speak to your church group, scout troop, civic organization or school – simply call our office at 717-802-1222. Our staff will be happy to schedule a speaker for your next event.

Contributions

Monetary contributions can be made payable to Bountiful Blessings Inc. Because BB is a 501c3 charity, your contributions are tax deductible.



Bible Fund

Bountiful Blessings offers each new family a brand new Bible in their language. As fast as we get Bibles in, we are distributing them out. So – we are in need of donations for our Bible Fund.

We prefer purchasing the Bibles ourselves so we can obtain bulk discounted pricing. Additionally, the families can receive a Bible that is accurate, written at a reading level they can understand, and offers a large enough print for elderly folks to be able to read without a magnifying glass.

If you, your Bible study group or your church would like to contribute to this fund, please send your check to the Bountiful Blessings P.O. Box. Be sure to mark “Bible Fund” in the memo line.

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Want to go GREEN? Then go ORANGE!

Bountiful Blessings is selling Tote Bags. These reusable bags are suitable for taking to the grocery store, farmer's market, carrying knitting or school books, or just carrying your stuff around.

The bags are tangerine colored with the BB logo and web site in black ink. Contact the BB office if you would like to order some.

Psssst. The BB Tote Bags make ideal gift bags.



The difference we are making

Bountiful Blessings by the numbers

Number of BB sites 14

In the 1st quarter of 2010 BB served a total of 1,056 families.

Total number of items that were distributed through all sites in the 1st quarter of 2010 14,450



Next Newsletter

Look for the Summer 2010 edition of the Bountiful Blessings Newsletter to appear on the BB web site August 1st.

Deadline for submissions will be July 15th. Please e-mail all information and submissions for the next BB Newsletter to:

ron@ronorendi.com

Looking for New Sites

Bountiful Blessings is in the discussion stage with several new sites.

We continue to expand, adding new sites in Pennsylvania, Maryland and West Virginia. If you know of a church with a heart for outreach, we would be happy to meet with them and share what we do as well as the impact Bountiful Blessings has on the community and the church. Feel free to e-mail us with the name and phone number of the church clergy, and the person in charge of outreach.



Message from the President

Time is a precious gift we never seem to have enough of. Jesus talks about time throughout the New Testament. He never wasted time nor took it for granted. Time has value!

So, to each of Bountiful Blessings' nearly 100 volunteers, let me say thank you for the gift of time you have given to help your brothers and sisters in need. You exemplify "being your brother's keeper."

You have done this by serving at a site (face to face with the families), sitting on the Board of Directors (guiding the charity into the future), serving on a committee (ensuring our funding and research), and individually by talking about Bountiful Blessings with your families, co-workers and church family.

In the first quarter of 2010, Bountiful Blessings added two new sites: Mechanicsburg, PA and Riverdale, MD. Over the next few months, we will

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be adding several more sites.

The need for Bountiful Blessings continues to grow, and the calls for our trainers to bring Bountiful Blessings sites to an area, are unceasing. It is truly amazing what God has done and continues to do.

Again, thank you all so much for the time you are giving to Bountiful Blessings.

Terry Orendi



Bountiful Blessings is one of 35 charities that will be participating in the Highmark Walk For A Healthy Community.

The walk will be held on Saturday May 22nd on Harrisburg's City Island. Check-in will be at 7:45AM. The 5K walk will begin at 9:00AM with the 1 mile walk starting shortly afterwards. Both walk courses are paved and handicap accessible.

Registration forms are available on the BB web site.

It's not too late to get your coworkers, church group, neighbors, and family ready to enjoy a warm day in central PA while walking for a cause.

A link to the Walk For A Healthy Community form is on the BB web site.



BB Truck Fund

We are in need of a cargo van or 14' to 16' box truck. The pick-up truck, currently being used to deliver items to the BB sites has over 221,000 miles on it. If you, or someone you know has a box truck or van, that is inspected and in good running condition, please contact the BB office at 717-802-1222.

We have set up a "truck fund" to cover the costs of operating a truck i.e. license, gas, insurance, routine maintenance, etc. To contribute to this fund, please mark in the memo line of your check "truck fund".



Please note: We are always collecting NEW children's books at all reading and grade levels.



Board of Directors



Jesus Christ
CEO



Terry Orendi
President



Ruth Massey
Secretary



Kristi Orendi
Treasurer



Sarah LeDuc

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No photo
available at
this time

Mark Carson



Dave Batten, Esq.



Dr. Don Hamilton



Stephanie Warmer



The following BB sites will be opening later in 2010:

.....Agape Love From Above Bloomsburg, PA will be opening later in 2010

.....Safe Harbor Presbyterian Church Stevensville, MD will be opening later in 2010



Conducting a Drive

Are you:

...interested in conducting a goods drive at your church, place of employment or in your neighborhood?

...wanting to teach your scout group, school group or Sunday School class about servant hood?

It's easy, fun and rewarding. AND, you are making a difference in the lives of a families who have fallen on hard times.

Contact our office, and a staff member will offer their advice and expertise on how to conduct a Bountiful Blessings drive. We can offer flyers and advice on how to mark the drive a huge success.



Part 1

An article featuring Bountiful Blessings appeared in the April 9th edition of The Sentinel. The main purpose of the article was to make the public aware of the BB site in Mechanicsburg, PA. The article also featured comments from the Lemoyne site coordinator, Dennis

Stark. The Sentinel newspaper serves the Carlisle, PA area as well as all of Cumberland County.

Part 2

Bountiful Blessings was mentioned in the March issue of 717 Magazine. The article featured The 2010 YWCA Women Of Excellence award winners.

Kristi Orendi, Bountiful Blessings treasurer, was recognized for the difference she is making in the many communities served in the 717 area code.

In addition to the magazine article, an awards banquet was held in April.

Congratulations Kristi!!!!

Part 3

Bountiful Blessings received some wonderful press in the Pittsburgh area with several articles announcing the Bountiful Blessings Western PA Golf Outing held on May 1, 2010.

Part 4

The announcement of the opening of the Bountiful Blessings in St. John Lutheran Church in Riverdale, MD was covered in their local newspaper.

Part 5

Bountiful Blessings was featured in the Religion section of the Friday April 16th edition of The Patriot News. The Patriot News serves the greater Harrisburg, PA area.