

Bountiful Blessings News

The official newsletter of Bountiful Blessingssm

Winter 2010



Mark Your Calendar

Recipients needing to do their volunteer time will have additional opportunities to get their time in at the Bountiful Blessings office and warehouse.

Saturday March 20th and Saturday April 10th have been designated as monthly volunteer days. The office and warehouse will be open from 9AM to Noon both days.

Recipients MUST call the Bountiful Blessings phone line in advance to reserve their times.



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



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.

What's New

Bountiful Blessings is growing, not only in the number of sites but also internally. The web site lists 14 sites as either open or coming soon. We are also in negotiation with several other locations. As soon as the formal agreements have been made, we will list them on the web site and include them in our quarterly newsletter.

Internally, BB is growing as well. We have a few new board members who have agreed to serve in various capacities. And, we have several volunteers serving on "sub" committees to assist BB in its efforts.



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

www.bountifulblessingsinc.org



The Bountiful Blessings office

Wish List for the upcoming season

As we prepare for future sessions at our full service sites, 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



The Shamokin / Coal Twp. Site has relocated to the Oak Grove Methodist Church on Marley Rd in Paxinos. The site will keep the same day and time they are open.

Bountiful Blessings, Inc. P.O. Box 299 Mechanicsburg, PA 17055
717-802-1222 www.bountifulblessingsinc.org

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HELP

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.



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

Old Dominion Trucking
Bread of Life Outreach
Wal-Mart – Harrisburg, PA
Bethesda Mission
Wal-Mart – Mechanicsburg, PA
Mission Central
Pepsi – Pottsville, PA
Karns Food Stores –
Allentown Blvd. location
Presbyterian Homes Inc.
Wal-Mart – Coal Twp.



Message from the President

At a time when there is so much need all around the world, it can sometimes be difficult to determine exactly where God wants you to place your offerings. But, as with all things, I encourage everyone to pray first – last – and always knowing God will direct your offerings.

Bountiful Blessings has been provided God's grace in 2009 with the generosity of corporations and individuals who have found it in their heart to select us as one of those to receive their offerings. Thank you all for allowing us to expand into more churches, so that the churches can serve more families within their communities.

We are looking forward to 2010 and all the wonderful things that God has in store for us as we expand with more sites, meet with more supporters, and touch more lives. Praise be to God!



Happy 9th Birthday
Bountiful Blessings

Upcoming Events

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

Pittsburgh Area Golf Outing
– May 1st
Highmark Walk – May 22nd

Looking for New Sites

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

We are also looking to expand, adding additional 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.

Contributions

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

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Featured

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New Song Community Church



*Volunteers at the
Bethel Park site*

The Bountiful Blessings Bethel Park, PA site is located inside New Song Community Church. The Bethel Park site is open the 2nd and 4th Saturday of every month from 1:00PM to 3:00PM.

New Song Community Church is located at 4767 Library Rd. (Route 88) in Bethel Park.

The Bethel Park location is serving a variety of cultures and nationalities. Shannon Farley, the Bethel Park Site Coordinator says, "We have families from Uzbekistan, Russia, Mexico, and Africa as well as people born and bread here in the U.S. We serve Muslim and Christian families at our site."

The Bountiful Blessings program serves people who are in need. And, that need-based situation can be for a variety of reasons.

Ms. Farley notes one family who recently moved to Pittsburgh's South Hills area. Both the husband and wife were professionals, one being a lawyer, the other a teacher. Not long after their relocation, the family found themselves in a situation where both income earners were unemployed and their savings was depleted trying to live day to day.

"They came to us in tears," Shannon says. The Bethel Park volunteer staff prayed with the family each time they came to Bountiful Blessings.

Farley said, "We noticed that they had stopped coming for a while. Then the woman showed up during a session to tell us that her husband had gotten a job. They could not thank the Bountiful Blessings staff enough for being there when they were in need."

Shannon also said that several of the families who had no home church are now attending New Song.

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

Meet the Board Member



Kristi Orendi

Kristi Orendi is this issue's Meet The Board Member. Kristi serves as the Treasurer on the Bountiful Blessings board.

Kristi graduated from Cumberland Valley High School and earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Delaware Valley College with a major in Agronomy. Her minor was in Computer Information Systems Management.

She is employed by Nationwide Insurance as a Personal Lines Underwriter.

Kristi has been involved with Bountiful Blessings from day one. She volunteers her time with BB doing all the site data entry, a task that averages 25+ hours a week. She also helps train volunteer site staff at all the BB locations.

Kristi was nominated for the 2010 Jefferson Award for her volunteer involvement in helping change communities. She also was a Peace Corps volunteer serving in Armenia.

Most recently, Kristi was named one of the Harrisburg area's top Women of Excellence for her leadership skills in the workplace and in the community.

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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.

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



The difference we are making

Bountiful Blessings by the numbers

Number of BB sites 14

In 2009 BB served a total of 4,647 families.

Total number of items that were distributed through all sites in 2009 79,565



Warehouse News

The shuffling of items in the BB warehouse just became a lot easier with the donation of a pallet jack. New signage was also added in the warehouse to keep everything more organized.



Bible Fund

Bountiful Blessings offers each new family at its sites 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 that 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.



Haiti Relief

Bountiful Blessings sent an assortment of items to Haiti in mid January through the Northwest Haiti Christian Mission. Although the items needed are constantly changing, the need for assistance will be there for a long time. Please remember the Haitian people in your prayers as they try to rebuild from the devastating earthquake.



BB Tote Bags

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.

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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 213,000 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, gasoline, insurance, routine maintenance, etc. To contribute to this fund, please mark in the memo line of your check "truck fund".

Send a Gift

While on Facebook, send a friend or family member the gift of Joy, Cheer, Zest, Love, or even send a Hug



Send a Facebook Bountiful Blessings Cause Gift to a friend today. It's easy and fun!



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 1K walk starting shortly afterwards. Both walk courses are paved and handicap accessible.

Registration forms will be available soon. More info will be posted on the Bountiful Blessings web site.

It's not too early 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.



West Virginia

Bountiful Blessings is in the process of completing the paperwork necessary to open sites in West Virginia.



Pittsburgh Golf Outing

The Bountiful Blessings Pittsburgh Area Golf Outing will be held on Saturday May 1st, 2010 at Butler's Golf Course in Elizabeth, PA. Shotgun scramble start will be at 8AM with a luncheon to follow.

A variety of prizes will be offered including a **\$10,000 prize** for a hole in one. Visit the BB web site for a registration form and more detailed info on prizes.

A registration form is available on the BB web site.



Next Newsletter

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

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

ronorendi@comcast.net

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Board of Directors



Jesus Christ
CEO



Terry Orendi
President



Ruth Massey
Secretary



Kristi Orendi
Treasurer



Sarah LeDuc

No photo
available

Mark Carson



Dave Batten, Esq.



Dr. Don Hamilton



The following BB sites will be opening soon:

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

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



The BB site in St. John Lutheran Church 5820 Riverdale Road Riverdale, MD is open the 2nd Wed. from 2PM-4PM and the 4th Wed. from 5PM-7PM



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 do a Bountiful Blessings drive. We can offer flyers and advice on how to mark the drive a huge success.

New Site!



The BB site in Capital Area Christian Church located at 1775 Lambs Gap Rd. in Mechanicsburg, PA will be open the 1st & 3rd Saturday from 10AM-Noon