



Lord, Hear Our Prayers

by Jon Kara Shields

Everyday I receive e-mails about the men and women who request prayer in our evening chapel services at the Rescue Mission. Volunteering in the shelter, I rarely attend chapel myself, and when I do, I am usually doing a head count. "Who's not in chapel tonight? Who do I have to scold or deny a bed?" I am a modern Pharisee, watching to make sure the rules are followed, but not admitting myself to scrutiny.

Before dinner (if I remember), in the midst of the grumbling sick, the impatient children, and the frustrated parents, I make sure we have said a prayer of thanksgiving for food for which we are (sometimes) thankful, but which is rarely satisfying in a complete way. Even on the days when the Mission food competes with the best restaurants, it is still a cafeteria--not a home --and I am reminded that food is only one element of a meal.

Almost every evening in the women's shelter there are two women who demand prayer--not as the others do by requesting it during the chapel service, but by their mere presence. I don't really know much about Ann and only a little more (by hearsay), about Rose, but every night they stay at the Mission's shelter, and everyday they walk the streets of our, relatively, small city.

They both suffer from mental illness, although in dramatically different ways. Ann is fairly functional. If you saw her walking on the street you might mistake her for an average hitchhiker, or an older college student. She wears a backpack and headphones, and walks at a good clip. She isolates from the other guests and except for occasional courtesies and quick outbursts of temper, she is usually pretty quiet, using her headphones to shut out the world. Quiet, that is, until everyone else is sleeping and then you can hear her sobbing from her mat in the corner until she falls asleep.

Rose, on the other hand, is more visibly disturbed during the day. She carries three to five bags all around town, walking with a limp and a strange forgotten expression. She would carry more, but we bend the rules and allow her a small amount of storage space here in the shelter. She looks more like the stereo-typical "bag lady," and she seems to get more disheveled, more absent-looking each year.

When I first started working in the shelter in 2006 she routinely asked for six Ibuprofen at night. Sometimes she would get up in the middle of the night to ask for more. It is as if each day a little more of the person is wearing away, but the shell keeps going. I wonder, what will or what could salvation look like for her? Will I recognize her in heaven?

At night she lashes out at any one who disturbs her unself-conscious routine (she likes to bathe in the common sink instead of in the shower, she always sleeps in the same bed and uses a sheet like a curtain to wall

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Live Your Life Well! - Start at 2nd Helpings

A Lecture Series brought to you by Mental Health America of Roanoke Valley will be hosted at 2nd Helpings Gallery each **Wednesday at 9:30 a.m. in October.**

Speakers will offer their perspectives and recommend creative tools for coping with pain or loss as people age. Join this unique event as the speakers demonstrate and discuss how their own art mediums: drawing, wearable arts and metal working, working in clay, and writing have helped them move through life.

Oct. 6 Bill Beamer: Art as an Instrument to Relieve Chronic Pain

Oct. 13 Nancy Weekly: Making Wearable Art to Overcome Loss

Oct. 20 Kelly Sisson: Finding One's Center Through Clay

Oct. 27 Dr. Hayden Hollingsworth: My Writing as an Artistic Outlet

A delicious complimentary brunch will be provided by 2nd Helpings Cafe. Admission is free, but pre-registration is required. Call:

540-344-0931 or mharv@infionline.net for reservations.



October 2 - 2nd Helpings
Bald Knob Artist Group
2-4 p.m. Artist Reception

October 2 - 2nd Helpings
American Craft Week
10 - 4 p.m.

October: Wednesdays
2nd Helpings
Live Your Life Well!
Lecture Series 9:30 a.m.

October 16
Our Lady of Nazareth
Crafts Fair Bake Sale
2505 Electric Rd. Roanoke
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

October 18 - 22
Christmas Card Stuffing
9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

November 8 - 2nd Helpings
2-4 p.m. Artist Reception
Jane Stogner - Oils

November 11
E.V.E. Network Meeting
5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

November 15 - 12 midnight
Drumstick Dash
Early Registration Deadline

November 17 - 12 Noon
Auxiliary Meeting

November 25
StellarOne Drumstick Dash
9 a.m. Register now at
rescuemission.net.

For More Information
Call (540) 343-7227
rescuemission.net
drumstickdash.net

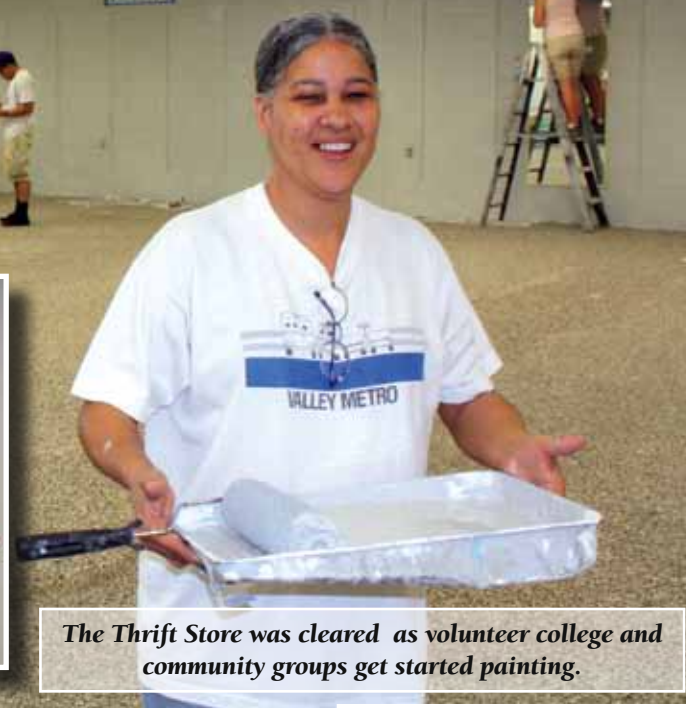
2nd Helpings
(540)491-9405 Shop/Gallery
(540) 491- 9409 Cafe
2ndhelpings.org

to receive this newsletter
online visit
rescuemission.net

Find us on Facebook 



UPS volunteers ham it up in front of our new logo wall to take group picture



The Thrift Store was cleared as volunteer college and community groups get started painting.



Coke and E.V.E. Network team were a blue blur during the Saturday shift!



After an amazing 3 days of BLITZ, and hundreds of tasks later the Rescue Mission Thrift Store has a refreshed look thanks to the above and beyond hours worked by our volunteers!

Special Thanks to UPS, Coke, Norfolk Southern, Roanoke College, Hollins and Radford Universities, Virginia Tech, Virginia Western Community College, Rosalind Hills Baptist Church, E.V.E. network, and all the individuals who helped!

Thank you!

Making Mission Possible

- Thrift Store gets an amazing new facelift thanks to a marathon week-end Blitz - painting, building, remerchandizing, fellowshipping!
- Hollins and Washington & Lee Universities, plus Ferrum and Roanoke Colleges all sent students to volunteer in the kitchen prior to starting school.
- The WMU Baptist District ladies made fancy table favors and placed them on the beds in the Family Shelter.
- New Century Church youth helped weed the grounds at the Family Shelter
- 232 Volunteers helped make the Back to School Blast on August 15th a success!



In Memory of

Earl T. Agee
Lucille Angle
Connie Bagbey

Nancy Bias
Thelma & Floyd Blount
Alberta Brammer
M.L. (Bill) Buck
Garnet & Lacy Cronk
Richard Cundiff
Dorothy Dent
Douglas Glen Divers
Margaret & Ricky Dooley
Mary & Green Edmiston
Ed Emons

Dorothy Ezzelle
John P. Fishwick

George MacAfee (Max) Frye, II

Bill Garner
Iris Gibson
Hugh Giles
Mrs. Evelyn Glenn
Vivien Glidden
Jason Hall
Ray C. Hambrick
Norris Hamilton

Mr. & Mrs. Claude Henderson
Liz Hodges
Tom Hubbard
Gertrude & Raymond Hubbard
Blanche H. Hudgins
James W. (Bill) Hufton
Jane Hurt's Sister
Evelyn Jamison
Bertha & Homer Johnston
Dorothy Blanche Parsell Jones

Joyce Jones
Steve Kasey
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Kjeldsen
Sonny Lower
Ron W. Mattox
Ella McConnell

Gray & Jimmy Michael
Maude Moeschler
Kathy Mogavero
Ron Mohler

Stewart Murray

John W. Naff
Mary Peebles
Buck & Nellie Peggans
Roy C. Perdue
Bill Preston

William (Bill) Pritchett

Given by

Marian H. Agee
Glenn Angle
Mrs. J. Robert Justice
Bill & "Flo" Fahrbach
Paula & Chip Vail
Lucian T. Bias
Kathleen Stuart
Larry & Debby Gibson
Jalene K. Buck
Kathleen Stuart
Frank H. Mater, Jr.
George O. Dent
Carl & Mary W Akers
Kathleen Stuart
Kathleen Stuart
The W's - Joy, Kim,
Helen & Nancy
Carl & Mary W Akers
D. Blackwell Brown
Mrs. J. Robert Justice
William L & Lucy S Neal
Associated Citizens Employees
Community Solutions Inc

Carl & Mary W Akers
Dixie & Lynn Davis
Jack & Betty Dillon
Roland & Phyllis Jones
Elmer & Brenda Arrington
Aunt Carol & Billy Woods
Jean Ridenhour
Mr. & Mrs. Clair Sykes
Larry & Debby Gibson
Mr. & Mrs. Vernon Jamison
Catherine Brown
Olin Glidden

Mr. & Mrs. Richard Hall
Genetta H. Lewis
Steadfast/Crusaders Class,
Melrose Baptist Church
Allan Kjeldsen
Mr. & Mrs. Guy Kidd
Charlotte Hubbard
Kathleen Stuart
Genetta H. Lewis
Cliff & Mary Ann DeMars
Paula & Chip Vail
Rebecca Davis
Kathleen Stuart
Mr. & Mrs. Cranston Williams
Clifford A. Nottingham III
Donald Jones
Susan Richardson
Allan Kjeldsen
Sarah Lower
Chuck Mattox
Anne Sipple
M. Noel Sipple
Mary Lee Farrier
Mr. & Mrs. James Michael
John Harris
Mr. & Mrs. Jay Moorman
Steadfast/Crusaders Class,
Melrose Baptist Church
Mr. & Mrs. Vernon Jamison
John & Helen Richardson
Hazel Naff
Carl & Carol Jensen
Pete & Margie Craghead
Bonnie J. Perdue
Steadfast/Crusaders Class,
Melrose Baptist Church
Paul F. White
Park & Mary Dickerson

In Memory of

William (Bill) Pritchett
Mr. & Mrs Alexis Radjou
John B. Richardson
Dan Rose
Galen D. Saul
James Saunders
Mary E. Saunders
Elizabeth Scholz
Dr. Bill Short
Loraine Sigerich
Judy Riley Sink
Clyde B. Sink
Joetta Smith
Mary Stables
Eva A. St. Clair
Louise Strickler

Rear Admiral John Summers
Vic Thomas
John Tickle
Marian Watkins

Jean Bane Williams



Brandon Oaks Men's Choir sing at the Ladies Auxiliary Luncheon.

Otis Williams
Richard L. (Dick) Williams
Joyce Wilson
Mike Wright

In Honor of

Nelson Alderman
Dorothy C. Breeden
Dr. Daniel Camden
Gerald Carter
Robert Cooper
Elaine Fall
Barbara Farnham
Norris Hamilton

Charles C. Harris, DVM
West Lynor McMillian
Jenn Meyer
John H. Miller
Wilma Miller
Mr. & Mrs. Sidney Miller
Sidney Miller
Ron Mohler

Paul Murphy
Bill Preston
Josh Pugh
Andy & Liz Reel
Bettie Senter's 90th Birthday
Karin Shuck's 40th Birthday
John Tickle
Joanne Thornhill
Pat Wade's Birthday
David Stewart Wiley
Gene & Mary Wilson
Soldiers

Given by

Mr. & Mrs. Bobby Aldridge
Peter Radjou
Cabell & Shirley Brand
Fannie Rose
Margaret H Saul
Ruby S. Saunders
Joseph Saunders
Mary Scholz
Pat B. Davidson
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Sigerich
Mr. & Mrs. Jack Riley

Edward & JoAnn Davis
Doug & Wanda Powell
Mr. & Mrs. Frederick A. St. Clair
William L. & Lucy S. Neal
Mr. & Mrs. Charles C. Vail
Marianne McDowell
Mr. & Mrs. Eric Thomas
Steadfast Crusaders Class, Melrose Baptist Church
Mr. & Mrs. Charles C. Vail
Edith Garst
Mr. & Mrs. Vernon Jamison
Mildred Porterfield
John G. Rocovich, Jr.
Susan M. Saul
Bill & Ruth Sibley
Marc & Cathy Swanson
J.A. Hagy
Helen Shumate
James M. Weiss
Dr. & Mrs. F. Joseph Duckwall
Odessa Poff
Mary Jamison
Mr. & Mrs. James T. Woolwine
Blue Ridge Model A's Club - Christiansburg, VA
Mrs D.M. Williams
Cliff & Mary Ann DeMars
Nancy W. St. Clair
Mr. & Mrs. Richard F Wright

Mr. & Mrs. Charles C. Vail
Edith Garst
Mr. & Mrs. Vernon Jamison
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John G. Rocovich, Jr.
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Blue Ridge Model A's Club - Christiansburg, VA
Mrs D.M. Williams
Cliff & Mary Ann DeMars
Nancy W. St. Clair
Mr. & Mrs. Richard F Wright

Given by

Glenn & Sandra Lowe
Joseph B. Camper
Bettie Baecher
Nancy H. Greer
Jean S Wade
Walnut Grove Ladies Sun. School Class
Drew Gibbons
Steadfast/Crusaders Class,
Melrose Baptist Church
Dan & Nancy Karnes
Mr. & Mrs. Vernon Jamison
Lynne Pope
Geraldine Brumberg and Bunch
Walter Miller, Jr.
Dennis Miller
Dennis Miller
Stedfast Crusaders Class,
Melrose Baptist Church
Lucille Bell
Stedfast Crusaders Class, Melrose Baptist Church
James Thompson
Johnathan & Bonnie Apgar
Bill and Flo Fahrbach
Lynne Pope
Stedfast Crusaders Class, Melrose Baptist Church
Ann D. Snead
Drew Gibbons
Donna Dilley
Harold M. Bell
Shirley Sutphin

Prayers continued from front page

herself off from the rest of the room.) Unlike many of the other women in shelter, because of her attitude and an unconscious rudeness, she has no friends in the dormitory. They ask me, "Why isn't she in an institution? I thought the state was supposed to take people like her. Where I come from she wouldn't be loose."

My only answer is, "The Rescue Mission provides a place of welcome and safety for people who have nowhere else to go."

The hearsay is that someone, a husband or boyfriend or an acquaintance, dropped Rose off at the Mission one night with a promise that he would pick her up again the next day. I don't know if the story is true, or who the man was, but I know it must have been over 8 years ago now, maybe more than a decade, and she's stopped looking. She is still waiting, but I don't think even she knows what she is waiting for.

I don't know what, or who, happened to these women to make them this way. But I know they must feel trapped in a cycle of depression, loneliness, anger, and fear. It is moments like this that demand prayer.

**In August 2010
the Rescue Mission saw a 30.3% increase
of women and children seeking shelter.**

This prayer is not optional. It is not something that gives me warm fuzzies or a tingling up my spine. This prayer is the only thing that gives me hope. Hope that God will restore the people, the children, whom God has created. Because for some of the people, for all of the people, God is the only one who can. Ministries like the Rescue Mission are necessary, but they can never be enough.

Today I am praying for Ann and Rose. Today, instead of working in the shelter I am working in the cafe that benefits the Rescue Mission. Every cookie I wrap, every bagel I sell, each time

I greet a customer I try to remember: We are God's people, loving God's people. What I do here matters.

Only by faith that God is with us, that God's promises will outlast the institutions (even the best ones), are we given the strength of spirit to walk in the way of the saints. Today, Ann and Rose are my saints and I pray for them and with them. I pray for their perseverance in such a hard life that God will reward them richly, today and tomorrow, and always. I don't expect to see much, (*maybe that is part of the problem*) but perhaps if you pray with me God will answer our prayers and confirm our faith.

WANTED!

Volunteers!!

- **Food Prep:** Thursdays or Fridays from 1:30 – 4:30 p.m.
- **Breakfast Volunteers:** Weekdays, 5:30 – 8 a.m.
- **Pantry Worker:** Weekdays, 3 hours per day.
- **Transporter:** Saturdays, 9 a.m. - 12 noon
- **Christmas Card Stuffers:** Oct. 18-22, 9 a.m.–12 noon and 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.
- **Two Team Leaders** to run the Christmas card room during same time.
- **Drumstick Dash Race and Walk Volunteers:** Road Marshals, Crowd Control, and Cheerleaders on Thanksgiving morning.
- **Custodian Groups:** 4 to 8 people to sanitize and make 118 Men's Shelter beds on Saturday mornings.

Leslie Littlefield, Rescue Mission Volunteer Coordinator
Leslie@rescuemission.net (540) 777-7651

StellarOne Drumstick DASH 5K Race and Family Walk!



Move your feet, so others can eat!

Make our 5th annual race our best and biggest yet! Running! Walking! Babies in strollers and well-behaved dogs! Be a part of Roanoke's largest family reunion and enjoy downtown Roanoke with music along the route and end with an enthusiastic reception on the historic city market.

Register your group if you are a part of a family, business or church organization! A prize will be given to the largest group.

Early Registration Deadline is November 15. Register online at rescuemission.net, or use the enclosed registration form!

Wish List

Paper Plates, 5 oz. Dixie Cups

Baby Wipes

Toilet Paper

Moving Out Baskets

(Laundry basket full of paper goods and cleaning supplies for guests who have found housing.)

Toothbrushes

Spray on Deodorant

Shaving Cream

Chapstick

Men's socks, T-shirts, and Briefs

Meals and More...

These numbers represent lives changed through God's blessings and your generosity!

| | August 2010 | YTD 2010 |
|------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Meals served | 30,893 | 210,226 |
| Shelter nights | 9,801 | 72,538 |
| Clothing items provided | 2,298 | 16,649 |
| Professions of faith | 79 | 481 |
| Volunteer hours | 8,158 | 52,154 |
| Class hours of instruction | 2,203 | 18,502 |
| Clinic patient visits | 988 | 9,417 |
| Value of healthcare provided | \$207,088 | \$1,570,149 |
| Case management visits | 531 | 3,568 |
| Legal clinic visits | 2 | 20 |

