



For Unto Us a Child is Born

Christmas is all about babies.

He was born on December 23rd and placed in the arms of his teenaged mother. About an hour later he was in the arms of God.

Last year, on the morning of December 29th, we buried our Christmas baby.

On that day we stood with her on ice crusted grass around the smallest of caskets. The young mother opened her mouth in a silent agonizing cry. We parents have all seen children do this when they are really hurt. Their faces contort in pain and their mouths open to cry—only there is no sound. It is only when we begin to actually hear their cries that we know they will be okay. And when that happens we hold them, rock them, comfort them and kiss their injuries “all better.”

On that morning our grieving Madonna was being held by our senior chaplain, Ms. Wheaton and surrounded by three very young homeless friends. Absent was her mother, who at last contact had said she wanted nothing to do with her pregnant daughter. Absent was her father, who was incarcerated for crimes too heinous to name. Absent was the father of the baby, who had recently, in a rage, threatened to kill the mother of his child.

Tonight, as I remember that day and that mother's sorrow I am reminded that tonight there are fifteen pregnant women staying with us in shelter and a host of families including 53 children.

Folks are often surprised when they visit us at the Mission to note that the atmosphere is amazingly joyful. There is a happy hum in the Christmas season. Children are delighted to be out of school and hoping for snow. Their parents are hopeful that a new year—a new decade even—will bring better times. Perhaps there will be a job or a permanent place to live. Maybe—just maybe—things will get better.

But for the young mother who just buried her only child, hope was shrouded in tears that day.

And so when I read from the scripture that “God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away” the promise is more precious than it was last year when a baby was about to be born and our focus was on celebration rather than the remembrance of a little one who could not cry. He was with us so

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Soups On!

Attend our **Souper Bowl** at the Taubman Museum, Sunday January 23, 1-4 p.m. to benefit the Rescue Mission and RAM House.

Sample signature soups by 20 local chefs in handcrafted bowls made by local potters.

Tickets are \$20 and last year they sold out, so don't wait to reserve your bowl! For information call (540) 387-0234 or Q99 fm.com

Tickets go on sale January 7, 2011



Volunteer !

Painters & Cleaners

to deep clean and paint kitchen between 8 p.m. and 12 a.m.

Pantry workers

to unload trucks and stock food donations Monday – Friday between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Shelter Desk Helpers,

Women & Children's Center:
Wednesdays & Fridays
6- 9 p.m.

Housekeeping –

general cleaning:
weekdays, time varies

Thrift Store baggers and Dock Workers:

Monday – Saturday
between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m.
Leslie@rescuemission.net
(540) 777-7651

December 2-23, 2nd Helpings
Thurs., Fridays 5 - 7 p.m.
Gift Wrapping

December 4 - 2nd Helpings 2 - 4 p.m. Artist Reception
George Shumate

December 14
Adopt-a-family Gifts Due

December 22-24
Cookiee Cake & Candy Due

December 25, Friday. 1 p.m.
Christmas Feast

January 8, 2nd Helpings
2 - 4 p.m. Artist Reception
Sally Mook, Aileen Flescher

January 13,
Thursday 5:30 -6:30 p.m.
Eve Network Meeting

January 19,
Wednesday Noon
Auxiliary Luncheon

January 20, Medical Clinic
Thursday 5:30 p.m.
Bless My Sole

January 23,
Wednesday, 2 p.m.
Friends & Family Quarterly
Event

January 23,
1 - 4 p.m. Souper Bowl
(rain/snow date January 30)

February 3,
Thursday 5:30 p.m.
MENistry - volunteer!

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 

Making Mission Possible:

- The Roanoke Woman's Foundation gave the Mission a \$58,000 grant!
- Food Lion awarded a grant in the amount of \$3,000 for food.
- The Rescue Mission was awarded the BB&T Lighthouse Project grant for 2010. They purchased 36 new metal beds, painted family rooms, purchased new sheets and provided supplies for the Back to School Blast.
- 1st Wesleyan Church youth pinned and pinned and pinned 4,000 sets of pins for the Drumstick Dash runner's bibs.
- Orvis donated 500 red plastic cups to our kitchen.
- Bonsack UMC delivered a panel van load of food for our Thanksgiving Day Feast!



To Remember and Honor, to Remember

In Memory of

O. P. Akers
Tiffany Lawhorn Allen
Bryce Allison
Don Alls
Alan L. Amos

Lucille Angle
Mary Bilbra
Ervin E Blankenship
Blanche W. Blyndon
Kenneth Borden
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Walter Dewitt

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Peaks of Otter Winery
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Julia Kelly
Gerald & Alma Eden
Margaret Grant & Gladys Thurman
Jeanette M. Clark
Donald J. & Lee Ann Monsour
Edith Garst
Wanda Hartman
Gary Conner
Janice Copenhagen
Patricia Cronk
The Schirmer Family
Sandra N. Dewitt

In Memory of

Russell Elmore
Don Forbes
Bonnie Flinchum
Leann Foster
Iris Gibson
Luther Gibson
Tommy Gills
Darrell Gills
Mr. and Mrs. A.T. Griffith
Grace Gullen
Raymond L Hall
Sam & Kitty Harris
Joe Harrison
James Harvey
Mr & Mrs Claude Henderson
Liz Hodges
Melvin J. Hubbard
Luther Holdren
Ella McConnell
Bill & Elsie Menefee Hylton
Leonard & Martha Ingram
Lois Jackson
Megan A. Jennings
Mr & Mrs J. M. Johnson
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Theresa Key
Minor Kasey's Birthday
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Lessa M. Marsh
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Don Matheny
Edward & Pearl McCarty
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Mildred & Clarence Milliron
Richard L. "Buddy" Mitchell Sr

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Wendell R. McCarty
Isabelle S. Thompson
James Michael
Betty Forbes
Florence Nero
Jack & Sandy Milliron
Betty Mitchell Children,
Richard Mitchell, Jr. and Lynne



and Honor to Remember and Honor to

In Memory of

Maude Mueschler
John W. Naff
Wilbur L. Newcomb
Lorraine Noell
Mr. Conrad Nuttemeyer
Ellen C. Owen
Herb Peak
Mary Peebles
Buck & Nellie Peggans
Nellie Peggans
S.F.C. Roy C. Perdue
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Edith P. Tomlin
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Luther Twist
Carlton Walters
Father & Mother
Buford Webster
Christine M. White
L. J. Whitmire

Given by

John H. Harris
Hazel D. Naff
Virginia Newcomb
Robert L. Noell
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Joann L. Stafford
Rita & Richard Cummins
Patricia W. Witten
Pete & Margie Craghead
Pete & Margie Craghead
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Richard Thockmorton
Ms Audrey Franklin
Royce Foster
Mary Jo Shannon
Peter Radjou
Maudie Ramsey
Dorothy Skellington
Carlton & Nancy Griffith
Joesph Sanders
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Geraldine E. Tate
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Authur & Melissa Wicker
Dianne T. Wingfield
Lynette Martin
Eloise Twist
Claire Walters
Shirley Sutphin
Bonnie Clayton
Mr & Mrs D. Blackwell Brown
Dorothy S. Whitmire

In Memory of

Teresa M. Wiley
Mary Sue Wilhelm
Mrs Jean Williams
Mr Stewart Witt
Larry Wray
Larry Yeatts
Wife & Family
Family & Friends

In Honor of

Jesus
Florence Akers
Roger Arnold and the staff at Protel
Mrs Pat Basham
Ms Judy Bower
Janie Chapman
John & Clarice Corell
Betty Michael Culpepper
Connie Guelich and the staff
at Guelich Capital Management
Dot Law
Ted Griffin and the staff
at Walters Printing
Betty Hall
Leah Hatcher
Whitney Hatcher
Guyda Hedrick
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Mary Ann Huff
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Karen Smith
Ernestine Weeks
Chad White and the
Staff at ABS Technology
Tony Williams
All Mission Supporters

My Family

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Arthur & Melissa Wicker
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Paula & Chip Vail
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James C. Akers
Colleen E. Spradlin

Given by

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A Child is Born... *Continued on back page*

briefly it was as if his life was but a single breath.

On that day another Mission worker sang a spiritual, *His Eye is on the Sparrow*. All nine of us, who surrounded that tiny casket holding our sparrow child, understood in a new way the lyrics:

*"..when songs give place to sighing,
 when hope within me dies..."*

But neither the song nor our God left us there. The song continued:

*"Let not your heart be troubled, His tender word I hear,
 And resting on His goodness, I lose my doubts and fears;
 Though by the path He leadeth, but one step I may see;
 His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me."*

Some would see this as sentimental pabulum, but for those of us who were there that day, and will be here today and again tomorrow, we know it is true.

Our friend, Bennan Manning wrote that sometimes all we can do is "whisper a doxology into the darkness." On that day our presence in the face of such loss was a doxology.

This is what I know. In the darkest of days, it is good to remember that the song is not yet finished. It is good to be reminded that Christmas is still all about babies. And that a Christmas Baby-no matter how brief his time among us – is one way we affirm God's opinion: life is good and hope is real.

Wish List

**Diapers: Size 6, Newborn
 Tampons
 Toothbrushes
 Spray on Deodorant
 Shaving Cream and Razors
 Chapstick
 \$5 fast food gift cards**

Catering and So Much More...

2nd Helpings will be open until 7:00 p.m. every Thursday and Friday night before Christmas, in December. Friendly Gift Wrappers will be available to wrap your package from 5:00 til 7:00 p.m. Watch for special promotions in the gallery, cafe and shop on our facebook page.

Enjoy shopping at "2nd Helpings" knowing every sale provides medical, dental and psychiatric care for homeless families.

Located at 1502 Williamson Rd. in the Civic Mall just north of the Roanoke Civic Center.

Let 2nd Helpings cater your holiday events.

Call Kara (540) 491-9405 to learn more.



2nd
helpings
 SHOP • GALLERY • CAFE

Meals and More...

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

	October 2010	YTD 2010
Meals served	28,032	265,268
Shelter nights	9,821	91,739
Clothing items provided	2,486	21,368
Professions of faith	100	640
Volunteer hours	8,638	67,424
Class hours of instruction	1,572	22,655
Clinic patient visits	1,219	11,692
Value of healthcare provided	207,562	\$1,963,010
Case management visits	555	4,515
Legal clinic visits	2	26