



BERRIEN COUNTY
ASSOCIATION
OF CHURCHES
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BCAC NEWSLETTER
PUBLISHED MONTHLY
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JULY/AUGUST 2010

**NEXT BCAC BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING**

MONDAY, JULY 12, 2010

**BENTON HARBOR STREET MINISTRY
200 EMPIRE, B.H.**

**4:00 P.M. (COMMITTEE MEETINGS
3:00 P.M.)**

**IF UNABLE TO ATTEND, PLEASE CALL
YVONNE WOOD (269) 429-4071**



**AUG. 9 BOARD OF DIRECTORS
4:00 P.M. MEETING**

**SEPT. 13 BOARD OF DIRECTORS
4:00 P.M. MEETING - BHSM**

**Oct. 11, 2010 - ANNUAL MEETING -
PLEASE KEEP THIS DATE ON YOUR
CALENDARS - MORE INFORMATION
COMING IN THE NEXT NEWSLETTER**

THANK YOU!
THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Pioneer Memorial Church, B.S.
St. Peter's Church S.J.
United Methodist Women, Stevensville



NEWSLETTER

A fresh spirit of cooperative ministry moving across Southwest Michigan.

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT...

I think of summer as a time for rest from the busyness of activities associated with the school year, however for many the demands are greater. In this area supported by tourism the hours are extended and summer festivals and activities are plentiful. Hopefully we will all take time to nourish our souls with God's word daily so that we can meet those demands according to God's plan.

As I studied the book of John this past year, I received a better understanding of Jesus in his humanness. He really modeled just what we need to do for others. As he chose his friends from different walks of life and spent time with sinners sharing God's grace he did this as a human being just like us. I realized that we can rely on God's power through prayer just the way Jesus did. The key that I saw was that he spent time often in prayer with his father. When he needed to be filled up he spent time alone in prayer. With busy summer schedules and so many activities available I'm sure we need this example of taking time to be filled up from God the Father also.

We just shared our yearly listing of churches that wanted to advertise in our Summer Worship Opportunities brochure with area hotels and businesses so hopefully visitors this summer may find a place to worship and be filled up. We're blessed to be in an area where there are a variety of denominations and worship styles to choose from. Hopefully as Jesus group of diverse followers came together under his leading we as many different churches will continue to come together in Christ. We did demonstrate our unity in this year's annual Blossomland CROP Walk as a diverse group walked to raise money for local ministries as well as those throughout the world. We continue to help with the needs of the community through the Benton Harbor Street Ministry which serves the entire county. Our local clergy also continue to reach out to those who may not come to worship but may be inspired through the Insights column in the Herald Palladium.

As we live in a country where we are free to share the gospel message as we demonstrate Christ's love with our actions I pray that we will be bold this summer in doing so.
Yvonne Wood



**CROP WALK 2010
GOOD NEWS!!**

We have wonderful news to share with all of you. The 2010 Blossomland CROP Walk received \$48,000 and more is still coming in! There were 461 walkers and many volunteers to make the walk safe and enjoyable for everyone. Once again, 25% of the income from the walk will come back to our area and support a number of agencies who are helping alleviate hunger. The following agencies are:

- Benton Harbor Street Ministries
- Catholic Community Center
- Fairplain Presbyterian Food Pantry
- Salvation Army
- Benton Harbor Soup Kitchen
- Bread of Heaven Food Pantry in Berrien Springs

It is wonderful to see our churches coming together to fight hunger and the related issues in our own backyard as well as around the world. We unite in helping our brothers or sisters who do not have running water or whose children are starving to death. Such crucial food needs mean literally life and death for people. Some have to decide who will get food and who will not, while you and I decide which meal we want or which restaurant we will go to.

You continue to make a difference through this cooperative effort. Our walking is a response to Jesus' teachings that call us to think about someone else and help relieve their suffering. Walking and raising the

financial support is part, but the more important reality is our learning about hunger conditions and thinking about what we can do about it. Our actions go far beyond walking a few miles on a Sunday afternoon.

Thank you all so very much for your participation 2010!! Blessings,
Rev. Gordie Barry,
Blossomland CROP Walk Coordinator



**DOUBLE BLESSING FOR
THE STREET MINISTRY**

Monday, June 12, 2010 was a day of blessings for the Benton Harbor Street Ministry

Early in the morning, the Al Stockman golf outing benefitting the Ministry started at the Berrien Hills Golf Course. While registering, Panera Bread served Bagels, sweet rolls, coffee and orange juice. Seventy two players and several helpers enjoyed a great morning of golf and wondering if the rain would dampen our fun. God was good and it held off until the last hole or holes. No one really got too wet. The luncheon, auction and awards were held inside and before starting Panera was again present to present to Elder Hester a check for \$2,850, for the GED program. That is collected in canisters at the cash registers all year long.

The outing was blessed in its fifteenth year to have several major donors, so the net amount to the ministry for the operational funding was \$55,400. This is the largest amount every made at the outing.

Many people worked to make it a great success. The committee was Chris and Beth Brooks, Barb Globensky, Liz Damiani, Scott Schalk, Dr. Shirley Stansberry, Carol Fasbender and Carol Stockman. There were many hole sponsors, prize donors and auction donations that completed the day. Big thanks to all who contributed.

**BILLY GRAHAM RAPID RESPONSE
SHARING HOPE IN CRISIS**

When tragedy strikes, how can you share the love of Christ? What should you do? What should you say? What should you not say?

Billy Graham Rapid Response Team will present training on how to respond when tragedy strikes. The training will be:

Saturday, September 11, 2010,
First Assembly of God - Family Like Center
3804 Niles Ave., St. Joseph, Michigan
Registration: 8:00 a.m.
Teaching: 8:30 - 4:15 p.m.

If you are interested in attending this training session and need an application or want more information, please visit the Billy Graham Rapid Response Team at www.billygraham.org/rrt



Once again, local Panera Bread bakery-cafes have demonstrated that the Universal Spirit of Bread is Sharing by supporting local community members with contributions collected year-round. Throughout 2009, the St. Joseph Panera location and their customers donated a total of \$2,850.00 to the Benton Harbor Street Ministry, Panera Bread's Operation Dough-Nation recipient. Since the partnership began, Panera Bread donations to this organization is now over \$10,000.00. The money will be used to further the Benton Harbor Street Ministries missions.

For the past 15 years, Panera and its franchisees have helped dozens of charitable organizations through Operation Dough-Nation, a program that allows Panera Bread to make a positive impact in the community in several ways. For example, a portion of all customer donations made in Community Breadbox containers near the registers are matched with cash by participating Panera Bread locations for distribution to local charities, such as Liz's House. And at the end of the day, local Panera Bread bakery-cafes donate unsold bread and baked goods to local hunger relief agencies through the company's Day-End Dough-Nation program.

"We are proud to share 'Panera Warmth' with members of our local community throughout the year" said Brian Campbell, Marketing Director.

BENTON HARBOR STREET MINISTRY NEEDS LIST

GED PROGRAM

WILL RESUME ON TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 7, 2010
THE PROGRAM MEETS MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY
FROM 8:30 UNTIL 12:30
SUBJECT AREAS ARE MATH, LANGUAGE ARTS READING,
LANGUAGE ARTS WRITING, SCIENCE AND SOCIAL

NEEDED

STUDIES TUTORS ARE NEEDED TO ASSIST STUDENTS SMALL
GROUPS AND ONE ON ONE

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

THE PROGRAM MEETS MONDAY THROUGH
THURSDAY FROM 3:00 UNTIL 6:00.

MENTORS NEEDED - ASSIST YOUTH K-5 HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS,
SMALL MEALS PROVIDED, ASSISTANCE IS NEEDED WITH READING,
AND SCIENCE. SPECIAL

ITEMS NEEDED -

- JUMP ROPES - • BASKETBALLS
- FOOTBALLS - • SIDEWALK CHALK
- BOARD GAMES (CONNECT FOUR, MONOPOLY, CHECKERS, CHESS,
OPERATEON, TROUBLE

**PLEASE CONTACT BEESM OFFICE AT (269) 925-4333
ELDER YVONNE RESTER**

**JUST A REMINDER
BENTON HARBOR STREET MINISTRY
WILL BE CELEBRATING IT'S 6th
COMMUNITY DAY CELEBRATION
ON AUGUST 21, 2010
12:00 UNTIL 3:00 P.M.**

**WE ARE REQUESTING DONATIONS OF SCHOOL
SUPPLIES FOR THE COMMUNITY DAY CELEBRATION
PLEASE KNOW THAT WITHOUT YOUR SUPPORT
THIS DAY WOULD NOT BE A SUCCESS**

ITEMS NEEDED

- NOTE BOOKS, PENCILS, INK PENS
- CRAYONS, COLORED PENCILS
- MARKERS, PENCIL HOLDERS
- PAPER, BINDERS



- BACKPACKS
 - PENCIL SHARPENERS
 - FOLDERS, ERASERS
 - GLUE AND GLUE STICKS
 - GIFT CARDS, CERTIFICATES, DONATIONS
- PLEASE SEND ALL DONATIONS TO BHSM BY
THURSDAY AUGUST 19, 2010 @ 4:30 P.M. IF YOU NEED
ITEMS PICKED UP PLEASE CONTACT ELDER HESTER**

AT (269) 925-4333

