

ON the SUNNYSIDE

Sunnyside Ministry
Fall 2007

www.sunnysideministry.org
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Director's Report



By: Tommy Cole
Tommy was appointed Director of Sunnyside effective August 15, 2007. He is a member of Home Moravian Church and retired after working over 30 years in large corporations.

Housing, utilities, medical care or groceries to feed our families are choices that most of us never have to make; yet they are exactly the hard decisions that many of our clients struggle with every month. Poverty is one of the most serious problems facing our country today. The poverty rate in our country is above 12 percent, which results in more than 37 million people being directly impacted by these types of decisions. Sunnyside Ministry serves one of the poorest areas of Winston-Salem/Forsyth County and the poverty and hunger we see every day is heart breaking.

An article I recently read clearly explained that making a difference in our community is not a matter of fame or wealth. Making a difference starts with one's attitude toward others, listening to our Lord and letting Him create within us a caring and giving heart. It is the difference between "knowing and doing." That gap was recently described by my Pastor at Home Church as being "as wide as the Grand Canyon" for many. The volunteers at Sunnyside are making a difference in the lives of those who come through our

doors every day. The donors to Sunnyside are making a difference by giving of their abundance to enable us to assist our neighbors who are facing crisis situations. It is our goal to help, in some way, everyone who enters our door. We pray each morning for God to give us the grace to be His face to these hurting people and to send them away with a greater hope for their future and a renewed faith in Him. We in turn are blessed in our serving and giving every day.

The Holiday Season is always a difficult time for those facing crises and brings with it increased needs for those whom we serve. We ask that you pray for Sunnyside Ministry, its volunteers and staff during this special time. Please pray that we will be able to make a difference in the lives of our hurting neighbors and meet their needs during this Holiday Season. May God bless you in many ways during this special time of the year and may we be grateful for the opportunity to serve and give.

Perhaps this quote from Melody Beattie, a writer and journalist, says it best.

"Gratitude unlocks the fullness of life. It turns what we have into enough, and more. It turns denial into acceptance, chaos to order and confusion to clarity. It can turn a meal into a feast, a house into a home, a stranger into a friend. Gratitude makes sense of our past, brings peace for today, and creates a vision for tomorrow."

Sunnyside Program Board

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Volunteer Profile

Recently retired and still raring to go? Many of our volunteers at Sunnyside have recently retired from their career but are not ready to retire from an active and fulfilling lifestyle. They choose to donate their time to Sunnyside Ministry.

Powell Winstead, a retiree from Wachovia for four years, now spends his Wednesdays serving the less fortunate and needy with his time, valuable experience, and his compassionate heart. Every volunteer comes from a different pathway but Powell, a member at New Philadelphia Moravian Church, has said that volunteering here is a great use of his time and talents. Powell especially enjoys the volunteers he works with weekly.

Don't let your time and talents go to waste. Don't ignore the opportunity to serve the Lord by helping those in need. Whether you are a stay-at-home mom, a retiree, a senior friend, or have a flexible job schedule please contact us to see how you can make a difference!

If you are interested in volunteering, please call Jennifer Clark, Volunteer Coordinator at 724-7558.

Programs

Financial Programs in 2006

- Electric Assistance: \$168,173.12
- Housing Assistance: \$157,614.17
- Fuel Assistance: \$36,768.19

Total Interviews in 2006: 4,334

Scholarship Program

- Total Current Scholars: 17 students

Food Program in 2006

- Food Orders: 2,024
- People Served with Food: 4,442

Clothing Program in 2006

- Clothing Orders: 751
- People Served with Clothes: 1,612

Operation Relax

Have you ever walked into a room with soothing oceanic hues on the walls and complimentary lighting and felt yourself relax a bit?

Sunnyside has been at it's present location for 11 years and we have helped thousands of people. We have a steady increase of traffic in and out of our ministry. Our focus has been on serving families efficiently and offering volunteers an opportunity to emulate God's love through service. Work, as you can imagine, is sometimes stressful and intense. We feel we could make a positive impact on our volunteers and clients by freshening up our facility. People enjoy working in and coming to a place that is bright and cheery not dingy and depressing. We feel our ministry needs a face-lift!

Fortunately, we have been blessed with the talents of Tori Hagerman, a highly recommended designer from Arbor Gate Interiors and member of New Philadelphia Moravian Church. She has

pulled together paint, fabric, wallpaper, vinyl, and carpet samples that would support a calming scene while maintaining a professional appearance. We want to pull together funding to make as many changes as possible although we understand monetary limitations.

We are postponing the collection of any funds for this project until after the holidays to not interfere with our much needed holiday giving. However, we want an early start on this huge coordinated effort to pull together painters, craftsmen, artists, and general laborers. I am available to speak with your church groups after January 1, 2008.

We take pride in our ministry and want it to look it's best so please pray for our project.

Submitted by: Anne Marie Stott

Contact her at 336-724-1029 or
ams@triad.rr.com

Donations Needed

Clothes Closet

We stock one of the best closets in the county.

- **Volunteers to sort clothes and serve clients.**
- Clothes for school-age children
- Work boots for men

Food Pantry

We accept all non-perishable food items.

- Cans of Soup
- Juice
- Cans of Corn and Green Beans
- Paper Grocery Bags
- Toilet Paper

Second Chances

Michael W. Smith, a leading contemporary Christian singer, released a movie called *The Second Chance* in 2006 that didn't make much of an impact in the theaters but did impact my heart.

The Second Chance is a story of a young, know-it-all minister who is part of a mega-church called the Rock. Their goal is to start new churches in impoverished areas. They began a church in their own city, in the sixties, called the Second Chance. The minister of this poor, outreach congregation has had a difficult past and was raised on the streets that he now ministers to. Anyone who watches this movie leaves with a better understanding of Christ's calling for all people to serve others. Smith makes the point of serving others with loving and giving hearts and not just sending money to "places you've heard about." Every character in the movie must make difficult decisions about where God is calling them but the minister of Second Chance makes a very powerful statement. "Compassion is experiencing sympathy for the suffering of others, with a compulsion to help."

Sunnyside Ministry is a second chance for many of the clients who walk through our doors. We aren't just providing our clients with food, clothing, or financial assistance. We are giving them the opportunity to share their story, relieve some of their stress, and a time to pray. Just as the Second Chance church in the movie is working with those in

the neighborhood giving them food, providing space for rest, and giving out clothing; Sunnyside is committed to similar assistance programs. The Second Chance church often struggled with funding and the best way to serve their clients. The Rock, the mega-church that supported Second Chance, was continuously looking for ways to energize people with the love of Christ. They looked to worldwide needs like tribes in Africa and weather-torn areas in Asia. The minister of Second Chance reminded the Rock's congregation that there is a crisis in their own community.

There is a crisis in YOUR community also. Moravians are called to serve, give, and donate to those who are less fortunate. That calling doesn't have to be answered only in a hurricane-torn area or a third world country. There is severe crisis here in Winston-Salem caused by a lack of education, unequal work opportunities, a lack of jobs and a void of compassion. You might not be able to see mass destruction like that left behind from a hurricane but the battered houses, torn yards, and lack of clothes, food, and basic needs are all present.

Peter tells us in 1 Peter 3:8 "live in harmony with one another, be sympathetic, love as brothers, be compassionate and humble." Sunnyside Ministry gives every person the opportunity to live out their Godly calling by serving those who need a second chance.

-Submitted by Jennifer Clark

**Sunnyside Ministry is a
Crisis Intervention Agency of
the Board of Evangelism and
Home Missions of the
Moravian Church in America,
Southern Province**

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The Mission of Sunnyside Ministry is to follow Christ by providing hope through service to those in need within our community.

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