

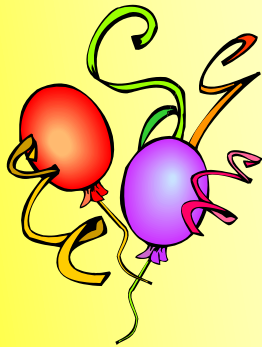
UPPER ROOM MISSION
People Helping People

**CELEBRATING
30 YEARS
1980 - 2010**

VOL. 1 ISSUE 4

FALL 2010

- We are now accepting refundable containers.
- Come to our fundraiser on October 17th!
- We are always looking for volunteers!



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YOU ARE INVITED TO OUR BIRTHDAY BASH!

You are invited to our 30th Birthday Bash! We are having a day filled with fun activities for the whole family. We are starting the day at 9:00 with a wonderful pancake breakfast generously made by the East Hill Church. We will have live entertainment all day provided by local

musicians and the Kalamalka Caring Klowns will be making an appearance as well. We will have games, crafts, balloon popping, Plinko, a bouncer and a fish pond for the kids. For lunch and supper we will be having a BBQ for a minimum donation of \$2.00, which will go towards

the kitchen renovations. Lunch will start at 1:00 and supper will be at 4:00. We will have cake cutting and speeches at 3:00. We look forward to seeing you and your family there for a day of fun.

October 24th!

UPCOMING EVENTS ...

We would also like to take this time to invite you to a fundraiser for our kitchen renovations that we will be holding at the Alliance Church on October 17th at 6:00pm. We will have worship music with Rob and Jocelyn Dinwoodie and a skit "**Going down memory lane**" with staff from the URM.

Jake Spoor will be speaking, Bobbe Mackenzie will be MC and we will have coffee, goodies and fellowship afterwards. On October 10th, we will be having a marvelous Thanksgiving Dinner here at the Mission. Decorations have been generously donated by Davison Orchards and we will



have live music from 2:00 to 3:00. A beautiful turkey dinner with all of the trimmings will be served at 3:00. Local media will be present for pictures and stories from our guests.



FROM OUR CHAPLAIN DAVE

As chaplain I serve as a “pastor” to the guests at the Mission, as well as to the staff. I am available for counsel, a listening ear and prayer. I try to be intentional to talk to guests about matters of faith, and regularly am able to. I also oversee, and often speak at, the chapel service that is held before lunch from Monday to Friday. Chapel is an opportunity to

engage the guests with the gospel. *My intention is to make the chapel more relevant and comprehensive to our guests.* We want to address the gospel to issues, struggles and questions that they might have. Presently I am showing a video series called "Addictions: A Banquet in the Grave", which is presented by a biblical counsellor, and addresses various types of

addictions with the hope of the gospel. Personally I have been speaking on the attributes of God, and how a proper understanding of the nature of God convicts, comforts and transforms us.



“Practice hospitality to one another. [Be hospitable, be a lover of strangers, with brotherly affection for the unknown guests, the foreigners, the poor, and all others who come your way who are of Christ’s body.] And do it ungrudgingly (cordially and graciously, without complaining but as representing Him”). 1Peter 4:9 Amplified version

BOUTIQUE NEWS FROM FRANKIE...

We are so blessed with the abundance of donations that we receive from our community. I often wonder if the community knows the full impact of their giving and how so many people are blessed through them. Our Boutique - so named because of the quality of our donations – has been through a valley of emptiness but we are now being filled in abundance. Well done, Vernon!! Our new location has been an additional benefit for us as

the Lord has provided space for us to spread our wings. With this added space comes the need for more volunteers as we are now able to put more merchandise out on the floor but haven’t the hands to process it all. The volunteers we have are doing an amazing service as some of them volunteer more than one day, always eager to serve and be a vessel of the Lord to others. **THANK-YOU!** On October 24th we will be celebrating

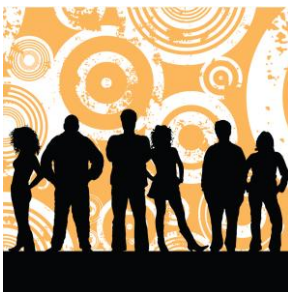
the 30th birthday of the Upper Room Mission. Over the past 30 years I couldn’t even begin to understand how many lives have been impacted from this ministry. Last night our pastor shared these Hebrew words with us -TIKKUN OLAM - “Sacred mission to repair the world.” Overwhelming but we need do it ONE person at a time according to the Sovereignty of God! **We have been blessed so we may bless others.**

HOMELESSNESS ACTION WEEK!

For Homelessness Action week, we will be having local youth groups serving our guests at mealtime. The community will be having a food drive and our Boutique will be holding special sales as well. On October 23rd, we will be hosting

“Once upon a Homeless Night” with youth groups as a challenge to raise funds for our kitchen renovations. They will find sponsors to support them as they spend the night in our back yard, making cardboard homes and having a

barrel fire to keep warm. The police will be present and we will be doing a walk about the city to give the youth a feel for what happens after dark. They will then have a pancake breakfast the next morning, to start off our Birthday Bash.



WORDS FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS...

Our Vision Statement is this: "The URM is committed to providing help to the hurting, hungry and homeless by means of evangelism and social involvement." We see these two aspects as intertwined, because evangelism has social implications as we call people to reconciliation with God, and our social involvement has evangelistic implications as we bear witness to the transforming power and grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. Our Ministry Statement, therefore, emerges from our vision. "The heart of this ministry is to share and demonstrate God's love, ease the burden of the most vulnerable, rebuild the lives of the broken, and offer dignity to those who feel cast aside. Showing Christian love through word and deed, we seek to care for the needs of

the whole person spiritually, physically, mentally, emotionally and socially." The Board of Directors is the governing body of the Mission which oversees the work and is responsible for making and implementing its policies as well as its long-term planning. Decisions about the day-to-day operations are made by the Executive Director and the General Manager in consultation with the Department Supervisors and their staff and volunteers. Board members are elected annually at each general meeting of the society. They may serve for a total of 6 years but must then leave the Board for at least one year before qualifying to serve again. The Mission Boutique, a thrift store that receives donations of clothing, furniture and other saleable items from the community,

provides the major source of revenue for paying the staff and helping to fund the feeding of the hundreds who eat each day at the mission. Generous donations of food from local merchants also help to provide meals. Gracious donations of money from friends and service clubs are tax-deductible and help with the many other outreach and life-skill services provided at the Mission. Our most valuable asset is the hundreds of church and community volunteers who so kindly and charitably donate their hours to provide these essential services. **To friends, staff, volunteers, merchants, businesses, service clubs, social agencies, police, the City of Vernon, to mention just a few – we express our heartfelt thanks.**



Front row (left to right) Mick Hughes, Vera Schipfel, Bobbe Mackenzie, Ron Morgan
Back row (left to right) Denis Nogue, Harold Young, Jake Spoor, Karl Janzen

NEWS FROM BEV IN STREETLEVEL OUTREACH...

BOTTLES AND MORE BOTTLES!

We are blessed at the URM in our newest endeavor. We have now employed two of our guests to sort, package and transport refundable containers to the bottle depot. These containers are very generously donated by the community and our guests. This "bottle business" is helping to finance our

outreach programs which in turn are aiding our guests to move forward in their lives. We also received a wonderful donation of a van and utility trailer to help in our work projects. We are praying that we will bring in enough containers to cover insurance for this van and be able to use it soon. We also have an awesome book

and movie lending library which is set up and growing. As soon as the bathroom renovations are done, we plan on having a Literacy Centre with computers, desks, sewing, and an arts and crafts area. The Lord is so good to us and has sent food for our outreach shelves and a deepfreeze to store perishables.
Thank you Lord!



***"And all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you if you heed the voice of the Lord your God."
Deuteronomy 28:2***

UPPER ROOM MISSION

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We thank you for your donations, which are tax deductible. You can make donations online @ www.vernonurm.org, by mail or directly to the Boutique or Mission @ 3403-27th Street. We accept refundable containers, food, clothes, furniture and monetary donations.

“My instruction will drip as the rain; my saying will trickle as the dew, as gentle rain upon grass and as copious showers upon vegetation”.
Deuteronomy 32:2

IT IS OUR BIRTHDAY!

Thirty years ago, we had a vision of people helping people. Today, we are definitely doing just that. We serve over 200 meals a day and provide services for even more. We are able to connect people with services in the community, help them to set personal goals, get off the street and find a place of their own. We connect

people with drug rehab services and have many success stories of people getting clean and staying clean, finally getting a place of their own and not working the streets. We are able to do this because of wonderful volunteers and generous supporters in our community. We are truly **“People Helping People”**



THANK YOU!

Thank you to all of our supporters. We would especially like to thank **Kal Tire**, who very generously donated tires and front end repair for our reefer truck. Without this gift, we would be unable to pick up all of the food donations that the business community gives to us on a daily basis.

Coopers, Shoppers Drug Mart, Starbucks, Bento and Sushi, Davison Orchards, Tim Horton’s, Cobs Bakery, Bakers Dozen and Mobile Munchies are just a few of the businesses in the community who support us with their generous donations. We would also like to extend

our appreciation to **Sleep Country**, who regularly donates mattresses for our guests. Thank you to our community for the van and refundable containers as well thanks to **Beachcomber Home Leisure** for donating a completely butchered hog for our guests.

LETTER FROM MARK...

Well the fall season has arrived so quickly, placing me back in school to get some more education. This summer may have soared by, but the lessons I have taken from my summer position will continue to have effect on me. I am truly blessed to have had the opportunity to work in such a different environment from the one that I grew up in. It was an eye opener, especially for an aspiring sociology major. I stepped into my summer feeling a slight apprehension of the unknown, uncertain of what my role would be, as well as not knowing how to relate to people who have had such different experiences than my own. After being there for a short time, the realization came

to me that the focus is not on the way we are different, but it is the similarities that we share. Every person has a story and it is through the sharing of these life experiences, that impact can be had on one another. I see a picture of the leader I want to be one day, and a part of it definitely stems from the skills that I developed from my summer at the URM. It is not the obvious helping of guests, providing the necessary services, and opening of doors for meals where I saw the most opportunity for God’s work to be done but it was through the individual interactions. I was stretched in my leadership in many ways, such as patience to wait for God’s timing and how

best to approach conflict. The summer position not only allotted me the opportunity to meet some incredible staff, volunteers and guests, who always seemed to be an encouragement, but provided me many life skills. The summer outreach worker position was a blessing in my life, and I am so thankful to have had the opportunity to partake in it. The Lord will continue to bless the Mission in its journey, and I look forward to seeing the many changes that will occur as time progresses. *Thank you to everyone who made me feel welcomed and made my summer a great experience.* I think it valuable to continue bringing in the younger generations, to pass on the knowledge of issues and struggles that continue to grow in our society.