

THE LIGHT

Touching the Roanoke Valley With Love



About Our Ministry:

Provide for the homeless

Provide food

Teach the Bible

Serve our community

Partner with others in being the presence of Christ.

www.umrr.org
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“IN TIMES LIKE THESE...”

There is an old gospel song I remember from my childhood. It is called: “*In Times Like These.*” It speaks of the by passed era of World War II and is a song of encouragement to people to turn to Christ, “*In Times Like These.*” It speaks of hanging on to God who is our anchor and the fact that He is the only one who can help us during “*Times Like These.*” I can’t help but think that old gospel song has merit during these current times in which we face as a community. I am thankful that I can turn to God for help during the current financial crisis.

She came into our lobby ready for a fight. She was angry and had taken enough abuse from people in different agencies offering help. She told us that she was not up to fighting over whether she qualified for help and that her family needed food. She had been told this was the place she was to come to get her food box. As we talked,



Volunteer helping prepare for our food distribution

Wilma began to realize that we were not some social service agency, but were here to be her friend. When we asked her about her relationship with God she looked shocked. “No one has ever asked me about that,” she replied. As we talked with Wilma she opened up some of her past memories of her grandmother and began quoting scripture references she had learned as a child. “Do you have a Bible?” “No,” was her reply.

As Wilma left Union Mission she carried with her a 50 pound box of food, a smile on her face, and a brand new Bible that will give to her spiritual food in the days to come.

The song says: “*In Times like these we need the Bible; oh be not idle; be very sure your anchor holds and grips the Solid Rock. This Rock is Jesus...the only one.*” Physical food and Spiritual food are offered at *Union Mission*.

WE ARE 60 YEARS OLD!

This summer Union Mission celebrates her 60th anniversary of Touching The Roanoke Valley With Love. We are pleased to announce a Birthday Celebration to take place on **September 22** at *The Centre* (located on the campus of *Halifax Community College*). Our theme this year will be “*In Times Like These....*”

One of the highlights of this year will be to hear **Mr. Michael Dore**, of the *Raleigh Rescue Mission*. You may remember Michael was a part of the *Union Mission* Staff at one point in his career. He also was a part of the *Union Mission* as a resident in the men’s program. Michael states: “*Union Mission saved*

my life...I thank God every day for *Union Mission.*” We believe Mr. Dore is just the right speaker for our *60th Celebration* banquet. **Mr. Bruce Manning**, Board of Directors’ Chairman is heading up the steering committee for our banquet. He states that everything is moving along nicely to have a great event.

“IN TIMES LIKE THESE”... THERE IS ADDITIONAL NEED....

Announcing
Vacation Bible
School
At Union
Mission

June 26- July 1

If you haven't been to Union Mission in a while, you might notice something different as you enter our lobby...More People!

On most days our lobby is completely full with people who are desiring to receive a monthly food box. Thanks to



the Food Bank of Central and Eastern NC, we are able to provide much more food to the residents of our community who qualify for a food box. Recipients of the food box receive meat, canned vegetables, cereal, juice, and other basic items to help a family in need.

“The Food Bank items are not enough to help with our task, but they help greatly in meeting the needs of our community,” said LaCount Anderson who serves as Executive Director. “We are also grateful for the many donations that come our way from individu-

als, school groups, churches, and civic organizations,” said Anderson in a recent discussion on the needs of our community.

Union Mission is on track to give out 6 times the food that was given out in 2010.. By the end of 2011 Union Mission predicts a distribution of nearly 15,000 food boxes to residents of the *Roanoke Valley*. The philosophy behind this large number is that when people give food, we will pass it out immediately. Donations can be made in our lobby located at 1310 Roanoke Ave., Roanoke Rapids, NC.

“We are able to turn even a torn and tattered shirt, pants, and jacket into dollars...”

IF YOUR CLOTHES AREN'T BECOMING TO YOU, WE WOULD LIKE THEM TO BE COMING TO US!

We receive daily donations of clothing and other items that we sell in our clothing store and our thrift store. These donations provide income to help us carry out ministry to the *Roanoke Valley*. You may think your clothing is not good for resale. Don't let this line of

thinking keep you from bringing your items to us for processing. If an item is torn or not usable, we are able to recycle that piece of clothing too. We are able to turn even a torn and tattered shirt, pants, and jacket into dollars to help us minister to others. Certain thrift store items we are not

able to take. For example we just can't sell an old piano. We hope you will understand our position if we refuse an item. If we take an item we cannot use, then we have to pay money to take it to the dump. That is not good stewardship of God's money.

WORKING WITH WOMEN AND CHILDREN

In a recent decision, our Board has agreed to partner, informally, with *Faith House of Enfield, Inc.* Women and Children who are in need of help may come to Union Mission and receive a place to stay at Faith House. Our program will work in concert with Faith House. Today we have women staying at *Faith House* working hard to move forward in their lives, this time with God's help.

Recently *Union Mission* acquired a mobile home as a donation. This mobile home is in process of being repaired and set up in a safe neighborhood in Roanoke Rapids. Our plan is to place one or two women or one family in

the unit which will serve as a transitional home for a specific period of time. Our counselors will work with the family using the Bible to help the family discover God's direction for their lives. For more information, please contact Rev. Anderson.



Gloria Caudle, Executive Director
Faith House of Enfield, Inc.