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OCTOBER 2008

CHRISTIAN SERVICE

XIII, Issue 1

The Good News



Randy Cassell, Emcee

I was so honored to be asked to emcee such a noble event. So many distinguished people have had this honor in the past and I am glad to be apart of this wonderful program.

Poor Man's Supper Celebrates 25 Years!

In the beginning we thought that we would have this first Poor Man's Supper in some church hall. We didn't know if anyone would come. Back in the 70's Shreveport had been a city where there had been a lot of racism, a lot of division between religious faiths, and here we were going to try to bring together people of all faiths in a common concern for persons in poverty.

The wonderful thing about it, in spite of everything, was that we did have 600 people come when we opened in February of 1971. I remember one man who had been in Shreveport for years saying that in the middle of the night he woke his wife and said "I cannot believe this happened in Shreveport, La."

Words of Sister Margaret McCaffrey, 1971



"The Poor Man's Supper should be a means of bringing an awareness of the local poverty problem"...

Sister Margaret McCaffrey 1971



Tickets Now On Sale \$5.00

Christian Service will hold his 25th Poorman's Supper, November 9th, at the First United Methodist Church, Hunter Activities Building between 5:00pm – 7:00 pm.

Emcee will be Randy Cassell.. Entertainment will include local youth and volunteers from area schools.

To Get Your Tickets Contact:
Bro. Giovanni @ 221-4857



Father Murray Clayton, 1971, makes presentation at the first Poor man's Supper to individuals who've made outstanding contributions to the Christian Service Program.



Margaret Warwick, performer at the Poor Man's Supper 1982.

2008 Annual Meeting Schedule November 9th

We invite you to join in with us in our official Annual Meeting to be held at 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, the 9th of November, during the *Poor Man's Supper*, in the Hunter Activities Building at First Methodist Church, Texas and Common Avenue, downtown Shreveport. We would like your assistance in promoting this special gathering amongst your friends, neighbors, working associates, and Church community.

The *Poor Man's Supper*, initiated by the late beloved Sister Margaret McCaffrey to call attention to the needs of the hungry and homeless, was an annual event to the 1970's—until we began to celebrate it again six years ago. We were heartened by the great turnout the past six years, and hope to continue with a wonderful celebration again this year. The message of the *Poor Man's Supper* is just as timely today. There is still a need to raise critical funds, renew old ties, and make the community aware of the continuing ministry of Christian Services to the hungry and homeless of our area.

The meal will consist of a bowl of soup, bread and water, and will depict what it is like to go to bed hungry. Participants will be asked not to eat anything else for the rest of the evening. What could be more appropriate an occasion to recognize the on-going challenge of hunger and homelessness in our area. As we express our gratitude for the blessings we have in sharing with those who have not.

Andre McGrath



Fr. Andre' McGrath
Chairman,
Christian Service
Board of Directors

Fr. Kenneth W. Paul named the 2007 Margaret McCaffrey Award Recipient



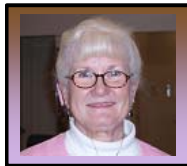
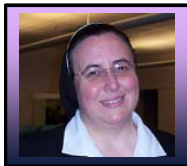
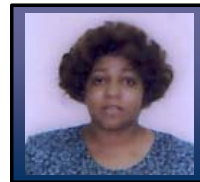
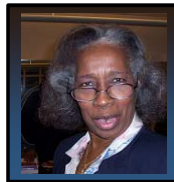
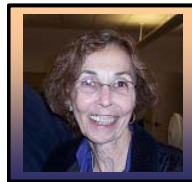
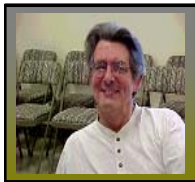
Every year, Christian Service names a person that has shown outstanding support to the aid of people living in poverty in the Shreveport area. This award is given in the honor of it's founder, Christian Service is proud to announce Father Kenneth Paul for the 2007 Margaret McCaffrey Award.



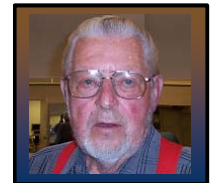
Local talent and area schools bring back the tradition of the first Poor Man's Supper. Beonte Gilbert, Percussionist, Sunset Acres dance Troop, New Bethel Missionary Baptist Tots Drill Team, NBBC Tots praise team and many more. Among the volunteers were The Loyola College Prep Key Club and the Northwood High School Z- Club, St Joseph's Church and the Oak Terrance, J.B. Harville Alternative School Honor Guard.



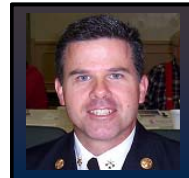
2008 – 2009 Christian Service Board of Directors



- * Father Andre' McGrath
- * Willie Bradford
- Joan Carthrum
- * Mary Blalock
- * Telesa Mitchell
- Tom Pace



- * Sister Sharon Rambin
- Dotye Sue Stanford
- Jane Snyder
- Russell Woodman



Not Pictured:

- Margaret Brown
- Rev. Harry Black
- Cynthia Jenkins

- Al Moore
- Kirk LaVigne
- Chief Brian Crawford

* Executive Committee



Yes YOU Can Help \$ \$

Our work is not possible without your continued support and you can make a difference like you done so many times in the past! Your tax-deductible donation can help us continue to foster the homeless, to feed the hungry and to meet so many other needs. We offer our services with hope and with love and we ask you, please join in with us while we tread new waters. Call us and offer your support to our new program, Christian Services' Learning Center (ASCAL) "A Second Chance at Learning".

Contact Christian Service
318-221-4857 to see how you can help

Since 1970 Christian Service has shown that with opportunities and support, homeless people can become community assets, rather than liabilities. By offering the homeless opportunities – not handouts, respect – not pity, and empowerment - not control, our programs enable the homeless to end their cycle of dependence and regain the dignity and self-sufficiency to which we are all entitled. Christian Service believes that people can and will change their own lives, provided they are expected to do so and given the tools they need to meet that expectation.

We own over 11 units of quality affordable housing for families and seniors. We prepare and serve over 250 meals each day to participants in a structured community-based program. We distribute over \$50,000 of donated gifts of clothing, food, human service assistance each year to those in need in emergency situations. We are an asset to our community – we are not a place to get a handout.

Achievements

- 1970 – The Breakfast Program
- 1971 – The Poor Man’s Supper
- 1983 – The Hospitality House
- 1985 – The Christian Service Telethon
- 1988 – The Mother Stewart House
- 1988 – The Herbert House
- 1992 – The Samaritan Housing Project
- 1999 – The Margaret McCaffrey Award
- 2001 – Relocation of the Hospitality House
- 2008 – The Learning Center - A Second Chance at Learning



Christian Services welcomes a new Franciscan Brother, Cletus Riederer, ofm. Bro. Cleteus is the Vicar for the Shreveport Friars and new Director of Housing

Mother Stewart House – Est. 1988

Our transitional home for single homeless women opened in 1988 and accommodates 15 women in small private rooms while we work with them toward their personal goals. *1 live-in Staff Resident Supervisor*

Herbert House – Est. 1988

Our transitional home for single homeless men opened in 1988 and accommodates 15 men in small private rooms while we work with them toward their personal goals. *1 live-in Staff Resident Supervisor*

The purpose of these facilities is to provide temporary shelter while each resident is encouraged and guided to pursue goals which might involve employment, independent living, schooling, job training, or personal adjustment counseling.

Residential out patient Program for Men & Women in Recovery

Men and women with a prolonged period of homelessness, a severe addiction, and no income require more than a few months to transition successfully into the workforce. To decrease recidivism Christian Service encourages men and women to continue on to Samaritan Homes, where they begin Step 2. This step focuses on advancing employment skills by adding additional support that includes job training Step 3 also provides educational opportunities including high school and computer workshops for GED and other Literacy programs provided in collaboration with local charter schools.

Clients participate in recovery and reside at The Transitional Shelters, but their responsibilities increase and clients save a minimum of 50% of each paycheck into a savings account. The Transitional Shelter clients are ready to graduate once they save and met all of their outset goals.

ANNUAL CHRISTIAN SERVICE TELETHON DECEMBER 7TH ON THE SHREVEPORT CHANNEL (CABLE CHANNEL 6) SPONSORED BY COMCAST CABLE

Please contact:

Al Moore, Production Coordinator at (221-4181) if you or your organization is interested in participating this year



Charitable Giving

You can help Christian Service in many ways with your support.

Leave a Legacy, through your will, life insurance, retirement plan charitable reminder trust, and other vehicles.

Gifts of stocks, bonds and mutual funds that have increased in value are good gifts. You can deduct the entire value from your taxable income to avoid capital gains tax.

Gifts in cash or by check are the most popular ways of making charitable gifts.

Movable property; a car or truck to help a family in need of transportation.

A charitable gift of annuity is a gift of cash, stock or some other security. In return for the gift, Christian Service pays you a fixed annual amount of money for the remainder of your life.

Share in the Ministry of Love

I would like to share in Christian Service's ministry by pledging _____ on a monthly basis.

I would like my money to be used for: Mother Stewart House ____ Hospitality House ____:

Herbert House _____ : Samaritan Homes _____ : Direct Service to families _____ .

Learning Center _____ .

I cannot give money at this time, but I will support the ministry with prayers_____ .

Name _____

Address _____

Fill out and mail to Christian Service, Post Office Box 21, Shreveport, LA 71161-0021

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