

UNITED CHURCHES' NEWS

Published Monthly by the

United Churches of Lycoming County

202 East Third Street, Williamsport PA 17701

Phone 570-322-1110 E-Mail director@uclc.org

Rev. Gwen N. Bernstine, Executive Director and Editor

*Issued mid-monthly, September through May. Items marked with an asterix may be of special interest to your congregation.
Deadline to submit articles - First of each month.*

Volume XXVII Number VII

October 11, 2010

COME TO OUR ANNUAL ASSEMBLY*

Our 64th Annual Assembly of the United Churches will be held Thursday, November 18 at St. Michael Lutheran Church, 1877 St. Michael's Road, Cogan Station. Directions: From 15 North, use the Hepburnville exit and go right at the ramp then left onto Lycoming Creek Road. Continue two miles and turn left onto 973 West. Continue two miles west, make the first right turn in the Village of Quiggleville onto St. Michael's Road. Parking lots are just beyond the church, the lower lot being handicapped accessible. Registration begins at 5:45 P.M., with the dinner at 6:30 P.M. The evening will include:

- ★ Presentation of an Ecumenical Service Award.
- ★ Election of officers and new board members.
- ★ Adoption of the 2011 Budget.

Attending from each member congregation should be three delegates, the pastor and two lay people and other interested persons.

Registration is \$10.00 and includes apricot glazed chicken breast, parsley potatoes, green beans almondine, salad, rolls, apple or pumpkin pie, coffee or tea. Each person will also receive an annual report book.

Reservations are needed by Wednesday, November 10th. Pastors will receive an information packet. Please call the United Churches office, 322-1110 or at director@uclc.org to make your reservation.

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED *

Regina Gross, President - 322-2619

World Community Day will be celebrated on Friday, November 5, when women from throughout Lycoming County will gather at the Ebenezer Baptist Church, 527 Park Avenue, Williamsport. The theme for this year is "Building the Beloved Community". A Fellowship Hour will follow. Parking is available along the street and in the lot across from the Church. The church is handicapped accessible

Christmas stockings will be collected at this service along with the \$3 donations to fill each stocking. Special donations to offset increasing costs would be greatly appreciated. These stockings will be assembled on Monday morning, November 15th beginning at 9 a.m. at Pine Street United Methodist Church, Williamsport. Women are welcome to help assemble and package the 1200+ stockings that are distributed to area nursing homes for their residents.

WEDNESDAY ECUMENICAL LUNCHESES*

Join us from 12 to 1 p.m. for the Wednesday Noon Ecumenical Lunch Program. You are always assured of a tasty \$6 lunch, warm, ecumenical fellowship and a thoughtful program designed to enrich your life mentally, physically, spiritually and socially. The parking is free in the Pine Street lot north of the church from 11 to 1:30 p.m. No reservations are necessary. To check for winter cancellations tune in to WRAK or call Gwen at 419-1464.

OCTOBER:

- 13- **Rev. Danesta Whaley**, Council Director, Yokefellow Prison Ministry, *"God Is Doing A New Thing"*.
 20- **Colonel Dawn Astin**, Co-Commanding Officer, The American Rescue Workers, *"An Overview of Saving Grace Shelter Project 2010"*.
 27- **Major Marie Harris**, Community Relations Officer, The Salvation Army, *"Spotlight Haiti: The Disaster Recovery Continues"*.

NOVEMBER

- 3- **Rev. Velinda Webb**, Sojourner Truth Advisory Board, *"From Our Hands to Yours"*
 10- **Mrs. Melissa Magargle**, Executive Director, Family Promise of Lycoming County *"A Community Response for Homeless Families"*
 17- **Rev. Tom Reeder**, Rector, Christ Episcopal Church, Williamsport, *"From Desperation to Hope in Africa: How One Small Pennsylvania Church Is Doing Something Huge for Orphans in Sudan"*
 24- **Prof. Ned Coates**, Retired, Pennsylvania College of Technology, *"Being Thankful to American Indians"*

This is a ministry that everyone in our congregations and community is welcome to participate in. Make plans to join us and you're welcome to bring a friend!

UNITED CAMPUS MINISTRY

Sharon Comini, Coordinator

Contact at: 570-419-5376 or ucm@uclc.org

Things have been busy on campus for the first part of the semester. It's hard to believe that the students are studying for their midterm exams already. We held a canned food drive in September and were pleased to fill an entire bin for the Food Pantry. We were happy to receive so much support from the students. We are looking forward to helping out with other service projects, including the Habitat for Humanity dinner and cleaning the Yokefellow Ministry house later on this month. So far in October, we have had great talks from Pastor Eric Deibler from St. Luke's and from Jim Foran from St. Joseph the Worker. Thank you both for taking the time to share with us.

If you are interested in sharing a discussion or bible study with the students at Penn College, please contact me. We are always looking for others to get involved with the

ministry. With mid terms upon us, it's not too early to start thinking about the end of the semester. In the beginning of December, we hand out study bags filled with snacks, water bottles, and a few prayers for the students to let them know that people are thinking about them and praying for them while they studying and taking their exams. If your congregation would like to collect items for the study bags, I will be happy to pick them up for you. Also in December, St. Mark's will have a dinner/theater to help raise money for UCM and Family Promise. They will be performing "A Christmas Carol" by Charles Dickens.

Thanks for all of your support. Have a wonderful fall and get outside and enjoy God's awesome artwork.

CREATION CORNER

from our Christian Social Concerns Committee

The Responsible Drilling Alliance (re: Marcellus Shale)

Many concerns about natural gas drilling in the Marcellus Shale have been stated. The regional **Responsible Drilling Alliance (RDA)** has formed ten working groups to address them. Within an examination of what an energy policy is composed of (energy conservation and efficiency, renewable sources, etc.), the following areas are receiving attention, with research, investigation, monitoring, oversight & activism, in an effort to seek the truth about the consequences of deep shale gas drilling.

1. **Air Heads:** air quality, legislation, DEP regulations, reviewing data from other shale plays
2. **Blue Angels:** pilots, plane owners and photographers compiling aerial surveillance of drilling sites
3. **Diviners:** drinking water quality, discharges into streams and rivers, legislation, regulations
4. **Foggy Bottom:** political platforms, legislators' positions, campaign funding sources
5. **Halliburton:** the now "proprietary" chemicals used in fracking, regulations of same
6. **Landsmen:** all about leases, mineral rights, protective clauses, pitfalls, and violations
7. **Lifeguards:** forced pooling, right of way and eminent domain issues
8. **Pipe crews:** from permitting to construction, the entire issue of gas pipelines
9. **Truckers:** truck traffic, road usage and damage, truck safety, regulations, compliance
10. **Zoners:** local ordinances, zoning regulations, legislation, legal challenges, compliance

See <http://responsibledrillingalliance.org>

SHEPHERD OF THE STREETS*

J. Morris Smith, Th. D.
Contact at: 322-8568

NO TURKEY BASKETS THIS YEAR

Shepherd of the Streets will **not** be giving out TURKEY BASKETS this year. When SOS began doing this, it was a novel and very spiritually centered idea...to give people a chance to have the traditional meal so they could gather and pray and offer thanks for the many blessings they have enjoyed in this land. I commend my predecessor for this vision.

But...in my tenure I have observed the baskets becoming the focal point of a spirit that is anything but thankful, but rather producing an attitude of obligation and entitlement. It is obvious that many of the families will not use the basket for its intended purpose...to promote and encourage the giving of thanks to the God of grace.

But, are we not to feed the hungry regardless of their faith? Christians support the food pantries to fulfill this righteous obligation throughout the year. And during thanksgiving week, many churches and ministries that have the facility for it, offer the traditional thanksgiving dinner (both sit down family style at their place and delivered to those who are homebound). Some even give turkeys. Food markets give free coupons for turkeys that can be passed on to the food pantries to be given to the needy.

Additionally, the recession has hit SOS in that we have had to cut back to four days a week, make cuts in administrative costs, and turn people away from time to time who need medication, transportation, etc.. To raise the funds for the baskets will be difficult, this year.

However, Thanksgiving means that the Christmas season is upon us and it is a season that has come to mean so much to all those who minister to the poor in the Name of Jesus, the One born so low non can be born lower...the Gift of God to the world.

The true Christmas spirit is one that turns our hearts to the poor who are forced to live in such a way which constantly reminds them that they are not in the "mainstream" of America. Jesus was sent...Jesus was given. This season offers us opportunity to give as God gave, not because people request it, or deserve it, or will be thankful for it, but because God gave His only begotten Son that those who walk in darkness might see the great Light, and hopefully the connection will be made with God's love.

Each year, our usual ministry continues to make demands during November and December, so it takes extra for the holidays, to give food and gifts in hope of turning hearts to God. Would it be possible for you to send what you have

traditionally given for the Thanksgiving baskets so that we will be able to secure the gift cards for the season of joyous response to the Savior. Joy to the world, the Lord has come... let earth receive her King!

Thank you for your past and continued support. May His peace be yours, now and forever.

We continue to need hygiene items, bedding, baby supplies, and finances to assist the poor with basic necessities, as well as funding for our general budget to keep our doors open, now four days each week.

Items for Babies:

<i>baby diapers in all sizes</i>	<i>baby powder</i>
<i>baby oil</i>	<i>baby shampoo,</i>

Items for Men and/or Women... **All in regular sizes**

<i>deodorant</i>	<i>shampoo</i>
<i>razors</i>	<i>shaving cream</i>
<i>toothpaste</i>	<i>toothbrushes</i>
<i>soap</i>	<i>feminine products</i>
<i>Kleenex</i>	<i>toilet tissue</i>
<i>paper towels</i>	<i>bath towels</i>
<i>wash cloths</i>	

Many churches have a "Shepherd box" in the foyer to collect such items - - others have special drives through the church or auxiliary groups.

We also have a Shepherd Kiosk that is available to place in your church for several weeks or a month if you would like to especially focus on the Shepherd ministry.

CLASSIFIEDS*

Volunteers Needed: St. Anthony's Medical Clinic is in need of volunteer Rns and LPNs to be on duty Wednesdays from 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Please call the clinic for more information at 326-2566.

"HUNGER AWARENESS MONTHS"*

People of all ages, races, and faiths - from all parts of Lycoming County - will again work especially hard in October and November to increase their awareness, prayer, action and advocacy regarding hunger and poverty in our communities, nation and the world. Special events in our county began with CROP Walks and end with Harvest Home collections.

FOOD PANTRY *

Gail Burkhardt, Coordinator 322-1657

Our United Churches Food Pantry provides a three day supply of food to those in need. This September we helped 219 adults, 119 children, and 55 elderly, for a total of 393 persons in 144 households.

By now you have read the letter from the Shepherd of the Streets. For the last 10 years I've had the privilege of coordinating the Thanksgiving Basket Project. I've met and worked with many people and learned many things. I completely understand and agree with his position and feel as badly as he does that we can't do it all this year. Our economy has caused us all to tighten our belts and charities feel it deeply just as you do. I don't have the answers and know we must pray that our elected officials soon find sensible and effective solutions to our situation. So, keep informed about the candidates and vote so your voice can be heard.

With our Shepherd Thanksgiving Basket Project not happening this year, food pantries will feel an extra push in November. The agencies and churches that serve the holiday meals do a wonderful service but don't supply the extra few days of food that the baskets have done.

So, once again, the United Churches food pantry is reaching out to you asking for help. Please add one more item to your donation. If we all do that, there will be plenty to serve regular clientele and other in need who come.

As always we continue to thank our loving God for the special people who help us to help others. We pray, too, for the people that we serve and ask that, you, too, will keep them in prayer. The items that we especially need now are:

<i>Spaghetti Sauce</i>	<i>*Chunky Soups</i>
<i>Oodles-of-Noodles</i>	<i>*Canned Fruits</i>
<i>Canned Veggies</i>	<i>*Powdered Drink Mixes</i>
<i>Tea Bags</i>	<i>Hot Cocoa Mix</i>
<i>Elbow Macaroni</i>	<i>Canned Pasta Products</i>
<i>Pasta Products</i>	<i>Sugar and Flour</i>
<i>Boxed Stuffing</i>	<i>*Cake Mix & Frostings</i>
<i>Canned Cranberry</i>	<i>Microwave Popcorn</i>
<i>Instant Rice</i>	<i>*Instant oatmeal Packets</i>

* indicates most need

Your donations are best brought Monday mornings from 9:30 - Noon. Persons needing food should call and leave their name and number on the answering machine to make an appointment to receive food on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 - 3 and at other times by appointment.

POVERTY - A FAITH-BASED RESPONSE*

from our Christian Social Concerns Committee

The Lord hears the cry of the poor. (Ps 34:2) Today we are called by our faith to reflect on the need for justice (greater fairness) in our own society. How often in the loud talk about economics and politics do we hear of the needs of the poor? What new awareness does our faith prompt us to have and what action will we take?

Lycoming County Unemployment Rate Remains High

The preliminary rate of unemployment for Lycoming County (Williamsport Metropolitan Statistical Area) for July 2010 was 9.5% which was 0.7% higher than a year ago.

Housing Facts about Lycoming County Hard working families, seniors, and people with disabilities are struggling to find and maintain homes they can afford.

39% of families who rent live on \$20,850 or less.

61-70% of families at or below 30% of the affordable housing standard face a severe cost burden.

We have 41-50 units/100 of these working families. The housing wage is \$11.96/hour, the wage needed to afford the rent of a two bedroom apartment. The minimum wage is \$7.25.

12% of renters are 75+, 23% are 25-34 years old.

Foreclosure continues to be a problem. 688 foreclosure notices were sent in 2009.

Many owners struggle to keep aging homes in repair. 36% of homes in Lyc. Cty. were built prior to 1940. The median year for rental units is 1948.

Source: Housing Alliance of PA. www.housingalliancepa.org.

U .S. Census Report:***Poverty Continues to Increase at a Significant Rate***

Children are the Most Affected The official poverty rate in 2009 was 14.3% - up from 13.2% in 2008. This was the second statistically significant annual increase in the poverty rate since 2004. In 2009, 43.6 million people were in poverty, up from 39.8 million in 2008. The poverty rate is expected to continue to rise over the next several years. The number of people in poverty in 2009 (43.6 million) is the largest number in the 51 years for which statistics have been published. Between 2008 and 2009, the poverty rate increased for children under the age of 18 (19-20.7%) and people aged 18 to 64 (11.7-12.9%), but decreased for people aged 65 and older (9.7-8.9%). Source: www.census.gov.

EDUCATIONAL EVENTS IN OUR COUNTY *

Holy Cross Lecture Series: Stewardship is the theme for this year. Monday, Oct. 18 Fr. Alexander Atty, Dean of St. Tikhons Theological Seminary will speak on “Stewardship of Faith”. On October 25 Fr. Paul Lazor, a father, parish pastor and retired dean of students at St. Vladimir’s Orthodox Seminary in Crestwood NY, will speak on “Stewardship in the Home” Lectures begin at 7 p.m. in the church. A free-will offering will be received. Refreshments will follow in their Fellowship Center. For more information call 322-3020 or visit www.holycrosswilliamsport.org.

Day of Dialogue on Telling the Christian Story in the 21st Century: On Monday, October 25, 2010 the Lutheran-Anglican-Roman Catholicity Coordinating Committee invites you to this day of dialogue.

The presenter for the day is Rev. Dr. Elias D. Mallon, SA. Fr. Elias’ will have two presentations during the day, “How the World Has Changed”, and “How we Move Toward the Future”.

This program will be held at the Cardinal Keeler Center, 4800 Union Deposit Road, Harrisburg. The cost for the day is \$20 and registration must be received by October 18. Lunch is included in your registration. Mail to Deacon Charles Clark, Diocese of Harrisburg, 4800 Union Deposit Road, Harrisburg, PA 17111-3710. Phone - 717-657-4804x 265.

Woman’s Day-long Retreat: Pine Street United Methodist Church, 441 Pine St., Williamsport, will be holding this retreat for women on Saturday, November 6 from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. “Shaped, Formed and Molded by God: You are His Masterpiece” will be led by Rev. Danesta Whaley and her team. The cost for the retreat is \$20. Reserve your seat by Oct. 30. Make checks payable to Pine Street UMC. For details call 570-323-4604.

Pennsylvania Pastor’s Conference 2010 will be held November 8-10 at the Holiday Inn Harrisburg East. The theme of the conference is *“Gifts of Generosity and Gospeling: Rethinking Evangelism and Stewardship Today”*. Plenary speakers and workshop presenters will help clergy rethink the core practices of evangelism and stewardship, reframing them in more faithful and celebrative ways.

Plenary speakers are Shane Claiborne, founding partner of The Simple Way, a faith community in inner city Philadelphia that has helped to organize and network radical faith communities around the world, and Episcopal priest Eric H. F. Law, founder and director of the Kaleidoscope Institute, established to develop com-

petent leadership in a diverse, changing world.

The \$150 registration fee A brochure and registration form is available from our United Churches office or can be printed from the Council’s Web site at www.pachurches.org, which also offers the opportunity for secure online registration. This is one of the best continuing education events for pastors in Pennsylvania. We have people attending from our area, so there is an opportunity to share housing or travel expenses. If you are interested in making connections, contact our office.

DIAL - A - DEVOTION *

Have you called yet?

The number is 322-5762.

It’s available 24 hours a day.



Devotions are three minutes or less, change weekdays and once on the weekend, and are designed to lift your spirits and help you to have "A Closer Walk with God." The devotionalists this fall include:

- 10/11-17 - Rev. Gwen Bernstine
- 10/18-24 - Rev. Shane Kirby
- 10/25-31 - Rev. Nessie Whaley
- 11/1-7 - Revs. Jim/Kathy Behrens
- 11/8-14 - Rev. Gwen Bernstine

Listen today and tell others about this ministry!

SPECIAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR MINISTRY*

Festival of Trees: The Salvation Army would like to invite area church musical groups, choirs, children’s choirs, etc., to participate in this years “Festival of Trees” by performing at the Lycoming Mall near the display of Christmas Trees between November 22nd – December 9th. Area businesses and organizations have decorated Christmas trees which will be on display at the Mall and then auctioned on Friday, December 10, at 7pm. This would be a wonderful opportunity for area churches to minister to the public through the music of their church. To schedule a time for your musical group to perform or for more information please call Marie Harris at 326-9187 ext. 109. Email address marie_harris@use.salvationarmy.org website: www.salvationarmywilliamsport.org

YOKEFELLOW NEWS

Rev. Danesta Whaley, Yokefellow Center - 326-6868

It is always an exciting journey when the Lord Jesus beckons us to partake of the feast of opportunities HE has! Indeed, the Lord is allowing our volunteers to partake of HIS feast as we share in ministry together to those who are deemed 'the least of these'.

Since my appointment of August 2, the feast has been ever increasing as we see the Lord open wide the doors of opportunity and spreading the table before us. Our recent volunteer retraining/picnic held at Bethany Lutheran Church on 9/18 was a success as our state chairperson, Dave Manos shared some of his experiences in prison ministry and took us through the volunteer training manual for Yokefellow Prison Ministry (YPM). As the volunteers were retrained/refueled for prison ministry, there was opportunity to share, ask questions and make suggestions. There was a definite gleaned experience for us all. This will be quite beneficial as volunteers go into the prisons weekly to share in the gospel with the men and women behind the walls.

Our statewide area conference will be held at Lewisburg Country Cupboard 10/15-16. Many gifted speakers are coming to share with us as we once again have an opportunity to partake of HIS feast together. If you are interested, you may go online at www.yokefellowship.org to check session times. There will also be a banquet on Friday night.

Saturday, October 23 from 9am to 12N, there will be a **volunteer training** for all of those who may be interested in being a part of this vital ministry. The training will be at the **Yokefellow Center, 1200 Almond St., Wmspt.** (Parking in rear). We have volunteers who are currently going into Lycoming County Prison, the pre-release centers (for men and women), Clinton Co. Jail, Tioga County Jail, S.C.I. Muncy, and even a volunteer in Elmira, NY for our area, the Upper Susquehanna Valley.

There are so many opportunities for you can get involved with us. There is room for you. Come and share in the feast! Don't let any opportunity pass you by. The Lord needs YOU and so do we!

PRISON MINISTRY REMINDER

Clergy: Please check your Prison Green Card - Pastors in our county are provided with access to the Lycoming County Prison for professional counseling of inmates and to provide ministry within the county. However they expire every two years, so check your card today. Our office has the forms available to update your card.

SPECIAL EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES IN OUR COUNTY *

Making Strides Against Breast Cancer: This inaugural event will be held Oct 15 at the Riverwalk, South Williamsport with the opening ceremony at 10:30 and the walk at 11 a.m. It's a chance to make a difference. When your foot hits the pavement, you'll be making strides toward a world with more birthdays - a world where breast cancer never steals another year of anyone's life. For more information call 888-227-5445 - - 3 or go to Lycoming.strides@cancer.org.

Band Concert: The Liberty Classic Community Band hosted by the Repasz Band of Williamsport invites you their First Annual Concert at the Community Arts Center on Sunday, October 24, at 1:30 P.M. Musicians from New England through Georgia will rehearse all weekend and perform a FREE concert under the direction of Col. Arnald Gabriel, conductor of the U. S. Air Force Band, (Ret.)

Choral Concert: The Williamsport Civic Chorus will present Gilbert and Sullivan's Pirates of Penzance on Sunday, Nov. 21 at 3 p.m. in the Klump Auditorium on the campus of Pennsylvania College of Technology. This concert version will be presented with soloists, chorus, costumes and two pianos. Tickets are \$12 general admission and \$10 for seniors and students, children under 12 are free with a paying adult. A \$2 discount per ticket applies for tickets bought prior to the day of the concert. Tickets will be available by 10/20 at Robert M Sides Family Music Center, Otto Bookstore and from chorus members. Refreshments will follow.

Thanksgiving: East End Cluster of Churches have planned a community service of praise - a national service of Thanksgiving. This is our one true national holiday that simply focuses on being thankful for all that we have. There is a service that has been created that is based on our constitution of the United States. This service will celebrate the diversity of our nation and the tie we all have with God. Various readings will be read from various Holy Books and some very special music has been planned. This service takes place on Sunday Nov. 21 at 7 pm at the Pennsylvania College of Technology Campus - the Mountain Laurel Room.

NOTE: A full listing of Ministerium arranged Thanksgiving Services will be in our November newsletter.

NEEDS	AGENCIES	PHONE
4. When persons need emergency fuel assistance....	A. <u>Department of Welfare (LIHEAP, Regular and Crisis Programs)</u> 400 Little League Blvd, Wmspt 8:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. weekdays B. <u>United Churches Fuel Bank</u> Administered by STEP 9:00 -5:00 weekdays (Person must have applied for State Funding) C. <u>STEP Office of the Aging</u> For persons over 60 years old 2138 Lincoln Street, Wmspt. 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. weekdays D. <u>STEP Outreach Office</u> 2138 Lincoln Street, Wmspt. 9:00 -5:00 weekdays	327-3497 327-5485 323-3096 327-5485
5. When persons need furniture...	A <u>Sonlight House</u> 130 Carpenter Street, Muncy <i>(When available)</i> 10-12 Wed., 6-7:30 p.m. Thurs. Open every other week by appointment B. <u>St. Anthony Center</u> 125 E Willow St., Wmspt. <i>(Limited)</i> C. <u>American Rescue Workers Store</u> , 643 Elmira St, Wmspt. Monday - Friday 9-4 D. <u>Salvation Army</u> , 530 Lyc. Mall Dr., Pennsdale M-F 9:30-6, Sat 9:30-5 (vouchers)	546-3585 326-2244 323-8401 546-5509
6. When persons need utilities assistance....	A. <u>STEP (Limited)</u> 2138 Lincoln St. 9 - 5 weekdays (Cap for gas) B. <u>PG Energy</u> program (Must be on a payment plan) 1-800- C. <u>PP&L-CARE</u> (electric) (Must be on a payment plan) 8-5 weekdays 1-800- D. <u>Salvation Army</u> , 457 Market Street <i>(By appointment only)</i> E. <u>Consumer Credit Counseling Svs.of NE PA</u> , 201 Basin St. Suite 6, Wmspt. Mediation - advocacy - budgeting M, T, W & F, 8:30-4:30, Th. 11-7, Sat. by appointment 1-800- F. <u>American Rescue Workers</u> , 643 Elmira St, Wmspt Fridays - 9-4 by appointment x 12 G. <u>ARW "Love Center"</u> , 115 Howard St, Jersey Shore, 9-3 Weekdays H. <u>Shepherd of the Street</u> , 669 Center St, Wmspt. 9-12, 1-3 Monday - Thursday	327-5485 820-8620 342-5775 326-9187 323-6627 922-9537 323-8401 398-1551 322-6538
7. When persons need medical help....	A. <u>St. Anthony Free Clinic</u> , 125 E Willow St., Wmspt 7-8:30 p.m. Mon., and 11-12:30 Wed.; Physicals <i>(appointment needed)</i> on the 1 st Thursdays 11:30 - 1 B. <u>Susquehanna Health System-Community Health Center</u> , 471 Hepburn Street Mon-Fri - 8-11:30, 1-4:30. appointments required C. <u>SHS Community Dental Clinic</u> 469 Hepburn Street, Hepburn Plaza, 7:45 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. (Accepts medical assistance) Appointments required D. <u>Healthy Kids Help-Line</u> Medical info and help for uninsured children 1-800- E. <u>Healthy Baby Help-Line</u> for infants and pre-natal 1-800- F. <u>Adult Health Insurance</u> information/referral or basic insurance 1-800- G. <u>Lead Information Line</u> 1-800- H. <u>Bi County Office of the Aging</u> , 2138 Lincoln St, In home services and referral for elderly I. Hepatitis Testing and Care - Susquehanna Health System - Call for information J. <u>Pennsylvania Department of Health</u> , 1000 Commerce Park Drive K. <u>Hearing Aids Lions Club International Hearing Pgm.</u> - Art Girio	326-2566 567-5400 567-5430 986-KIDS 986-2229 462-2742 440-5323 323-3096 321-1000 327-3400 326-1793
8. When persons need prescriptions...	A. <u>American Rescue Workers</u> 643 Elmira St, 9-4 M-F <i>(Limited)</i> B. <u>Salvation Army</u> 457 Market Street, <i>(Limited)</i> Appointments necessary C. <u>Shepherd of the Street</u> , 669 Center St, Wmspt. 9-12, 1-3 Monday - Thursday D. <u>Williamsport Hospital Social Services Dept.</u> , \$20/year on SHS Prescriptions if available	323-8401 326-9187 322-6538 321-2151
9. When persons face HIV/AIDS	A. <u>AIDS Resource</u> , 500 W 3 rd St, Wmspt. 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Weekdays (Support services for those infected and affected with HIV or AIDS)	322-8448

NEEDS	AGENCIES	PHONE
10. When persons need transportation	A. <u>American Rescue Workers</u> , 643 Elmira St, Wmspt. Emergencies only (By appointment) B. <u>STEP Transportation</u> (Step Van) 1-800-222-2468 or C. <u>Shepherd of the Streets</u> , 669 Center St., Wmspt, 9-12, 1-3 Monday - Thursday D. <u>Bi County Office of the Aging</u> , 2138 Lincoln St, Free bus pass for seniors 60-64 E. <u>American Cancer Society</u> , Road to Recovery Program 1-800	323-8401 323-7575 322-6538 323-3096 ACS-2345
11. When persons have serious drug & alcohol problems....	A. <u>West Branch Drug and Alcohol Abuse & Tobacco Addiction Commission</u> Case Management Unit, 213 W. 4 th St., Wmspt 7:30 - 4 M-F (call anytime) B. <u>Psychological Services</u> (Outpatient therapy only) Bloomsburg 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Weekdays C. <u>Alcoholics Anonymous - District 48</u> PO Box 303, Williamsport 17701 D. <u>AlAnon and AlaTeen</u> 1-800- E. <u>Narcotics Anonymous</u> , PO Box 1161, Williamsport 17701 F. <u>Alcohol and Drug 24 Hour Referral Line</u> 1-800-	323-8543 389-1249 327-2860 344-2666 327-2678 821-4357
12. When persons need rent... (all services extremely limited)	A. <u>American Rescue Workers</u> Fridays 9-4 (families a priority) By Appointment B. <u>STEP Outreach</u> , 2138 Lincoln St, 9-5 weekdays (Must have eviction notice) C. <u>Dept. Of Welfare Emergency Housing Funds</u> 8-5 Weekdays 400 Little League Boulevard, Wmspt. 1-877- D. <u>ARW Love Center</u> , 115 Howard St, JS, 9-3 weekdays by appointment Priority: families	323-8401 327-5485 327-3300 867-4014 398-1551
13. When persons need jobs or Employment Skills and Services...	A. <u>Career Link Lycoming and Vetrans Services</u> , 145 W 3 rd St. Wmspt. M, T Th, F. 8:30-4:30, W 8:30 - 7 B. <u>Counseling/Career Disability Svs</u> Penn College, 1 College Ave., Wmspt. 8-4:30 Weekday C. <u>Office of Vocational Rehabilitation</u> (for eligible persons with disabilities) 208 West Third St. - Suite 102 8 am. - 4:30 p.m. Weekdays E. <u>Experience Works</u> , 903 Diamond St. Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.	601-5465 327-4765 327-3600 321-5811
14. When persons have a specific need...	A. <u>Linkage Lycoming</u> 2138 Lincoln St., (Information & Referral/Clearinghouse/ Telephone Reassurance Cathy Stopper B. <u>Crisis Hotline</u> 24 hour National Crisis Service 1-800 C. <u>Special Kids Network & Parent to Parent Information and Referral.</u> Help for kids with disability/health conditions State office, Harrisburg 1-800 D. <u>STEP Inc.</u> 2138 Lincoln St, PO Box 3568, Day Care / Head Start, Weatherization, Training Programs. E. <u>STEP Inc.</u> 2138 Lincoln St, Funded Child Care. F. <u>Center for Independent Living</u> 210 Market St. Suite A. Serves disabled, M-F 8-4:30 G. <u>North Penn Legal Svs</u> 329 Market St, Wmspt. 8:30 - 4:30 Weekdays Civil cases only. Eligibility based on income and household size. H. <u>Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Hotline/Shelter</u> - 815 W 4th St. Wmspt. For victims of crimes - in crisis - With transient services for Women and Children 1-800 I. <u>Expectations Women's Center</u> 854 W 3 rd St (Counseling. Care & Supplies) M & F - 10 am-5 pm, T & Th - 10 am-2 pm, 6-8 pm 24 hr hotline 1-800 J. <u>West End Christian Community Center</u> - Vouchers for diapers and formula 901 Diamond Street, Williamsport - call for appointment K. <u>Campbell St. Family, Youth and Community Assoc.</u> 600 Campbell St, Wmspt Recreational, financial, educational programs, for children-youth-adults-seniors L. <u>N.W.PA Optical Clinic</u> 909 Diamond St, Wmspt. Mon-Th 9-2 appointments preferred New prescription classes to low/moderate income persons, \$36 starting price M. <u>North Central Sight Services</u> 2121 Reach Road, Williamsport, Weekdays 9 - 4 Serves those with vision loss.	323-8555 601-9510 784-2433 986-4550 326-0587 601-9703 327-9070 323-8741 323-8167 326-8483 321-8240 395-HELP 323-6297 322-5515 601-3399 323-9401

NEEDS	AGENCIES	PHONE
15. When persons are <i>homeless</i> ...	A. <u>American Rescue Worker's Men's Shelter</u> 643 Elmira Street, Wmspt B. <u>YWCA</u> (single women only) - 815 W 4th St., Wmspt. C. <u>Liberty House</u> (women and children) 815 W 4 th St. Wmspt D. Family Promise (For Families) 804 Sherman St, Wmspt E. Saving Grace Homeless Shelter (<i>Target Opening 12/10-1/11</i>) 324 Campbell St, Wmspt	323-8401 322-4637 322-4637 567-7103 323-8401
16. When persons are <i>mentally or emotionally disturbed & or suicidal</i> ...	A. <u>Lycoming/Clinton MH/MR and Children and Youth</u> (24 hr.) 200 East St Wmspt. B. <u>Catholic Social Services - Lycoming</u> 1201 Grampian Blvd, Suite 2G 9-5 Weekdays, evenings by appointment (Counseling/ Pregnancy & Adoption Svs) C. <u>Diakon Family Life Services</u> , (formerly Tressler) 435 W 4th St (by appointment) Monday - Thursday 8-8, Friday - 8-4. Family, Individual, Marital & Suicide Counseling D. ARW "Love Center", 115 Howard St, Jersey Shore (Counseling)	326-7895 322-4220 322-7873 398-1551
17. When persons need <i>pastoral care</i>	A. <u>Shepherd of the Streets Ministry</u> 669 Center Street, Wmspt. Monday - Thursday, 9 a.m.-Noon and 1-3 p.m. (Both counseling and referral) B. <u>Sojourner Truth Ministries</u> , 501 High Street, Wmspt. 9-3 Weekdays	322-6538 323-1797
18. When <i>Veterans</i> need assistance	A. <u>The Vet Center</u> (Counseling, therapy & referrals) 805 Penn Street Weekdays 8-4:30 (Employment Services see 13-A.) B. <u>V A Medical Clinic</u> - Wenner Bld, 1705 Warren Ave Suite 304, Weekdays. 8-4:30 C. <u>Lycoming Cty Veterans Affairs</u> , 48 W 3 rd St, Suite 104, Don Cohick D. <u>American Legion Post #1</u> , 10 E 3 rd St.	327-5281 322-4791 327-2365 323-9409
19. Another Resources	A. <u>Lycoming County Health Improvement Coalition</u> : A comprehensive online listing of human resource providers in Lycoming County: www.lchic.org	323-0390

AMAZING GRACE TOUR REFLECTIONS

We were indeed blessed this August as a community to be able to enjoy a tour of six beautiful and historic worship sites in Williamsport. Several hundred people from our county and beyond toured..

- Christ Episcopal Church
- First United Methodist Church
- First Baptist Church
- Temple Beth Ha Shalom
- Shiloh Baptist Church
- St. Joseph the Worker Parish - Annunciation Church

Over and over again we heard folks exclaim, "Each so different....each so beautiful....each so amazing..." Every congregation went above and beyond the call of duty to make sure their facility sparkled on this day as we enjoyed the beautiful architecture and stained glass. The historical lectures helped people get a feel for the congregation and our faith journey as a community. No one went hungry either, enjoying different refreshments at each stop.

Several busses circulated to help folks get from site to site and we were all very happy to have a reprieve that day from the hot and humid weather.

Packages of note cards were on sale at each of the sites.

They were designed by Bud Thomas, a member of First United Methodist Church Williamsport, and professionally printed. These cards continue to be available.

The funds earned, (currently a little over \$3,000) were split between The Center and our Shepherd of the Streets General Operating Budget.

For Sale: **Amazing Grace Tour Note Cards**
 - created by **Bud Thomas**
 Cost - \$5.00 for 6 cards

Available in packages of all one house of worship or assorted, with all six houses of worship together

- Christ Episcopal Church
- First United Methodist Church
- First Baptist Church
- Temple Beth Ha Shalom
- Shiloh Baptist Church
- St. Joseph the Worker Parish - Annunciation Church

Available at United Churches - 202 E. 3rd St., Wmspt.
 Reserve yours at 322-1110 or director@uclc.org.