



MISSION POSSIBLE

THE UNITED CHURCH DOWNTOWN MISSION NEWSLETTER - Fall 2006



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The Downtown Mission
664 Victoria Ave.,
Windsor, On. N9A 4N2
Web www.downtownmission.com
E-mail pr@downtownmission.com

Children Perform at Mission Theatre

Sounds of children singing and dancing have been echoing down the hallways of the Mission .In the past four months three youth



oriented theatre companies have performed on the Mission Theatre stage. **Windsor Dance Theatre** strutted their stuff back in August. **WOW Family Theatre** sang their hearts out in their version of

“Fame”. **Riverside Theatre Company** sponsored by the Boys and Girls club performed “Alice in Wonderland” Common to all those groups is the desire to provide children a creative outlet and a chance to develop confidence and self esteem that will carry them into adulthood.

The Mission Theatre continues to function as a place of worship. Windsor Full Gospel Church holds a service at 1:30 every Sunday.

15th Annual Polar Bear Dip - December 3rd

STILL CRAZY AFTER ALL THESE YEARS

...From the Ice to the Hot Tub



Come out and join the fun, take the plunge in our **15th Annual Polar Bear Dip**. Join over 100 crazy people for a quick dip in Lake St Clair on December 3rd. Surprisingly, the dip is not just for the very young. Polar Bears range in age from 12 to 65. Last year a group of ladies all dressed up as Penguins and took the plunge together. We won't give away their ages but many are 39 and holding. The group had so much fun, they are already signed up for this year's dip.

How You Can Help:

- ❖ call for a pledge sheet and take the plunge
- ❖ form a Polar Bear Team of friends and co-workers
- ❖ Sponsors. We need sponsors to help fund the event
- ❖ Prizes. We need door prizes to give away at the Post Dip Party

For Pledge Sheets call 519-973-5573 or pick them up at the Mission 664 Victoria Ave.

CINDERELLA
THE UNAUTHORIZED PANTO!
BY TRACEY ATIN
MUSIC BY ROBERT GODDEN

Coming to the Mission Theatre

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2
2:00 and 7:00 p.m.
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3
at 2:00 p.m.
\$15 adults \$8 kids or save
\$6.00 with
FAMILY PACK
2 adults/ 2kids for \$40.00
For Tickets Call: 519-562-3394

Cinderella Production a Joyous Experience For All

I have just seen the Korda Artistic Production of “Cinderella”, and I can truly say that it is one of the best productions I have ever experienced. The cast is amazing and the humour is fabulous.

There is wit for all ages. But the part that I enjoyed the most is that the audience got to participate.

We were invited to the ball, asked for ideas and reminders and felt part of it all. The faces of the kids when asked to dance or when the prince tries on the glass slipper were priceless.

The Mission Theatre is a wonderful setting for a play that goes beyond the boundaries of the stage and the old church venue provides great acoustics for the truly superb music and singing. It's a delightful musical I want everyone to experience: I hope you get the chance.

Karen Rockwell, Windsor

Mission Feeds 206 Children

The Mission Food Bank

distributed 243 food pacs in August. Eighty two of those were distributed to families with children.

Your support of the Mission helped us to feed 206 children. Recent layoffs in the auto industry and the casino are beginning to impact the Mission.



On the last Wednesday in September we fed lunch to 200 people.

How You Can Help

You can help the Mission by organizing a Food Drive at work, at your church or in your neighbourhood. Listed below are some of the items the Mission needs to keep up with demand.

also

If you've got a little adventure in your soul, join our Polar Bear Club and take the plunge on December 3rd this year. Get a group together and join us for the fun. Details are on page two.

Kay's Wish List

The Food Bank at the Downtown Mission is in Need of:

- Jams x 500gm
- Peanut Butter x 500gm
- Cake Mixes
- Tuna or Salmon
- Canned Pastas – Zoodles, Pokemon etc.
- Canned Stews
- Canned Mixed Vegetables 14oz
- Assorted canned soups
- Rice & Dried Pasta
- Treats for Kids lunches – puddings, jellos etc.

If you would like to plan a food drive please call 519-973-5573 and ask for a list of our current food needs.

Thank you for thinking of the Downtown Mission

WOW Family Theatre

We Build Character s!

Through each project or program W O W Family Theatre promotes a healthy respect for yourself and your community by creating an atmosphere for young people to discover their personal power whether it be talent, confidence, ability to share & create, sing, dance, act or just play well together.



Nov 4
Mission Theatre
\$5.00 + Canned Good
Share your talent!

5 week BEGINNER GUITAR & STRUT YOUR STUFF classes begin 1st week of November. Check it out!

CHARACTER BUILDING 101 starts January 2007. 12 weeks of vocal coaching, choreography and acting ending in performances and memories

KINDREDS

A CAMPY LITTLE MUSICAL ABOUT FAMILY & FRIENDS
WRITTEN BY DEBBI ABBOTT

Public performances **SAT DEC 9th 2 & 7 PM**

@ the Mission Theatre 664 Victoria
Adults: \$12.00 Students / Seniors: \$7.00

Special SNEAK PEEK PERFORMANCE FOR COMMUNITY GROUPS WED DEC 6 @7:00PM

\$2.50 + Canned Good

SCHOOL SHOW – LUNCH BUNCH THEATRE DEC 6 @12:30PM

FUMBLY BUMBLY ANGELS PERFORM DEC 6 @ 9:30AM

To be a part of this experience...

Call: (519)996-4432

Click: www.wowfamilytheatre.com

Email: anita@wowfamilytheatre.com

RISE IN HOMELESSNESS FEARED

Recent layoffs in Windsor have raised concerns about the potential for the number of homeless to increase. Banks are already reporting people walking in to turn over the keys to homes they can no longer afford.

Homelessness is often a hidden problem in Windsor. The homeless do not sleep in the streets as is often the case in cities like Toronto and Vancouver. Instead, they sleep in alleys, under porches and abandoned buildings or, they couch crash in a friend's apartment.



CHRIS HAS LIVED ON THE STREET FOR A YEAR.

Being homeless puts you in a **“Catch 22”** situation.. Take Chris, aged 30, who eats lunch at the Mission every day. He keeps himself clean and neatly dressed. You’ve probably walked by him on a downtown street and not even realized he was homeless.

Here’s Chris’s **“Catch 22”**. After leaving a rooming house because the landlord wouldn’t repair the place or kick out the “party animals” Chris was stuck on the street.

With no address, Chris’s disability cheque was cut in half. He has no money to offer a landlord. If a landlord is willing to give Chris a letter stating they’ll rent him a room, Chris can get a cheque from disability but many landlords won’t deal with that kind of bureaucratic red tape. **“Catch 22”**- no rent money, you can’t get an address, no address you can’t get your rent money.

So for now Chris eats at the Mission and washes his clothes in the laundry facility provided by Teen Health Centre at the Mission.

“The exclusion of the weak from everyday Christian Life
may mean the exclusion of Christ.
For in the poor sister or brother,
Christ is knocking at the door”

Deitrich Bonhoeffer

Beauty Tips

For attractive lips, speak words of kindness.
For lovely eyes, seek out the good in people.
For a slim figure, share your food with the hungry.
For beautiful hair, let a child run his/her fingers through once a day.
For poise, walk with the knowledge that you never walk alone.

People, even more than things, have to be restored, renewed, revived, reclaimed and redeemed; never throw out anyone.

Remember, if you ever need a helping hand, you will find one at the end of each of your arms.

As you grow older, you will discover that you have two hands; one for helping yourself and the other for helping others.

The Mission Does Not:

- 1) Sell or trade your name / address
- 2) Use professional fundraisers
- 3) Receive government grants
- 4) Solicit by phone or door to door

