

The Lighthouse

100th Anniversary • Fall 2011

Stories from the City Rescue Mission | New Castle, PA

Through the Years...

Just imagine bustling streets teeming with people, street cars, and carriages. Businesses were booming, but there were also many on the streets that were poor and destitute. Many families were dealing with the ravages of alcoholism and poverty. That is what it was like in New Castle back in 1911 when the City Rescue Mission was founded. During the early years, there were many challenges for those running the Mission, but there were a lot of ministry opportunities as well. In 1913, wide-scale flooding gave the Mission an opportunity to earn respect from the community by ministering to flood victims in need of clothing, mattresses and food. A Sunday School and a Sewing School were started to minister to and teach children.



The former Vendome Hotel is purchased by the Mission for \$25,000 in 1924. An illuminated cross sign was installed in 1926 to be a beacon for the lost.

A significant milestone was reached in 1921 when the



Rev. F. Dickson Marshall and wife Phyllis. The Women's Auxiliary, an organization of caring women who tirelessly supported the work of the Mission for more than 50 years, was founded by Mrs. Marshall in 1949.

Mission was officially incorporated. By 1924, the Mission was able to purchase a building located at 17 S Mercer Street for \$25,000. In 1926, 3,300 children attended the annual picnic at Cascade Park. During the years of the Great Depression, the Mission faced many difficulties, but the focus on caring for the physical needs of the poor and sharing the Gospel never wavered. In 1934, then Superintendent Benjamin Watkins held nightly services to preach and win souls.

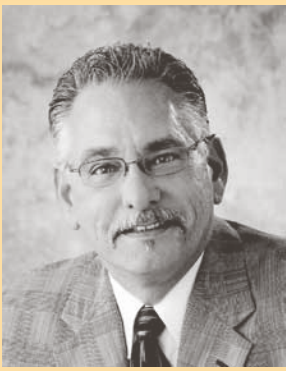
In 1941, the "Back Home Hour" City Rescue Mission radio program began broadcasting weekly on Sunday evenings and free music lessons were offered on Saturday afternoons for children attending the Mission's Sunday School.

Rev. F. Dickson Marshall was appointed as the sixth Superintendent in 1949 which began a 47 year period of leadership at the Mission. Rev. Marshall's initial goal was to have services every night where the Gospel could be shared by staff and visiting pastors. By 1950, the Mission had four weekday services, a Sunday

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"Remember the days of old; consider the generations long past."

- Deuteronomy 32:7a



Director's Pen!

From the Desk of Kevin A. Green, *Executive Director and CEO*

Dear Friends,

Words are so very important to our daily lives, and yet many times we miss the opportunity to speak encouragement, love and joy into others. Proverbs 16:24 says, "Pleasant words are a honeycomb, sweet to the soul and healing to the bones." Over the past decade that I have been in leadership here at the Mission, our four major ministries have affected many lives and families, and we want you to know them, their stories and our legacy of serving during this centennial year of 2011!

We are best known for our important Men's ministry work, serving the lost, wayward drunks of our early decades, and other men who found themselves on the street in a hopeless and helpless life situation. Today our guests are young men and women with an average age in their 30's, many with a history of alcohol and drug problems, some with mental problems, some veterans, and a large number of victims caught in our uncertain economy. As the challenges to our guests have changed over the years, so have our words, methods and programs of discipleship ministry and children's programming. But the Mission has always maintained the standard of preaching and teaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ to all who come. Those words are the most important, and shall always be a prominent part of who we are and how we serve, both yesterday and today.

We recognize that by our serving, we have remained true to the ideals of the Mission's founders in 1911, committed to meeting basic physical human needs which may lead to changed spiritual lives for an eternity. Please plan to attend our upcoming events and find out for yourself who we are, who we serve and how we serve; it might change your life!

City Rescue Mission

A Century of Serving

Changing lives in western Pennsylvania since 1911

- Family Care Ministry
- Men's Ministry
- Covenant House Ministry
- Aftercare Ministry
- Youth Ministry at Sankey Center

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Help us Feed the Hungry this Thanksgiving!

You might be thinking that it's way too early to be thinking about Thanksgiving, but we've already been planning here at the City Rescue Mission for our Thanksgiving food distribution since July. Since Thanksgiving will be here before you know it, please consider helping us by collecting food, or better yet, get your church or group involved by organizing a food drive. You can even help us "buy a bird" for \$15 each. It's never too early to start planning!

Distribution Locations

- Aliquippa
- Beaver Falls
- Mohawk Area ^{NEW}
- New Castle
- New Brighton

Please Collect the Following Items

- Stuffing Mix
- Canned Gravy
- Pumpkin Pie Filling
- Pie Crust Mix
- Canned Yams
- Cranberry Sauce
- Evaporated Milk
- Canned Veggies and Fruit

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night service and weekly Sunday School. The Industrial Department, founded in 1951, collected clothing and furniture for sale or distribution to needy families and also operated a baling machine that was used to bale paper and rags which provided much needed funds for the Mission. The Family Care Ministry of the City Rescue Mission began in 1952, but didn't gain momentum until 1956 when a social worker was hired to visit 650 families under the Mission's care, assessing each family's needs.

In 1957, a new warehouse was built on Cascade Street which housed the Industrial Department and later a thrift shop. Many men staying as guests in the Mission's shelter received "work therapy" at the Industrial Center. In 1959, at the end of the first half of the Mission's century of service, a new illuminated cross sign was purchased and installed on the Mission's building. On the sign is: Christ our Creed, Love our Law, JESUS SAVES. This cross sign still shines today as a beacon of hope to all who come.



The Lighthouse, the Mission's newsletter, was first issued in 1949

Be sure to check out our Winter issue of The Lighthouse for more on the second half of the Mission's 100 years of service. If you have been touched by any ministries or outreaches of the City Rescue Mission, please let us know. We would love to hear your stories by letter or e-mail to stories@cityrescuemission.org.

Men Called by God to Serve the Least and the Lost

Our Leaders

Rev. E. J. Berquist

Superintendent (1911-1928)

Rev. Benjamin Watkins

Superintendent (1928-1937)

Rev. A. W. Gibson

Superintendent (1937-1941)

Rev. Donald R. Wert

Superintendent (1941-1948)

Rev. Cyril Smith

Superintendent (1948-1949)

Rev. F. Dickson Marshall

Executive Director-Pastor
(1949-1996)

Rev. Jerry Marshall

Executive Director-Pastor
(1996-2000)

Mr. Kevin A. Green, MS

Executive Director and CEO
(2000 to Present)

100th Anniversary Events

Fall Open House

Friday, September 16, 2011
11:30 am – 2 pm and 4 pm to 7 pm
Tours depart for Sankey Center
and Covenant House at 5 pm

Saturday, September 17, 2011
10 am to 2 pm
Tours depart for Sankey Center
and Covenant House at 11 am

100th Anniversary Celebration of Service

Thursday, November 10, 2011

This is a free event, but tickets are required.
Tickets available beginning
September 1, 2011 by calling 724-652-4321
or visiting www.cityrescuemission.org

Many Thanks to Those Who Served . . .

This summer we had many groups join us here on the mission field. They came from near and far; one group came all the way from Wisconsin! The Senior High Work Camp made up of young men and women from Ohio Presbyterian (Hopewell) and Hiland Presbyterian (Pittsburgh) spent a week with us and helped with painting, landscaping, roofing, and even more. Other groups joined in the fun by helping us to keep our facilities in tip-top



This hard working group takes a much deserved break after landscaping at our Cascade Street warehouse.

Wish List

Practical ways you can be a **Partner In Hope!**

MEN'S MINISTRY

- Phone Cards
- Men's Shower Shoes
- Ibuprofen
- Tums
- Pepto-Bismol
- Cough Drops
- Cold Medicines (no liquid forms, please)
- Condiments

FAMILY CARE MINISTRY

- Thanksgiving Food Items
- Cereal
- Pasta & Pasta Sauce
- Canned Meat & Tuna
- Peanut Butter & Jelly
- Coffee & Tea
- Soup
- Macaroni and Cheese

SANKEY YOUTH MINISTRY

- Band-Aids
- First Aid Cream
- Cough Drops
- Hats & Gloves
- New or Gently Used Board Games
- Educational Software (Win Vista)

COVENANT HOUSE MINISTRY

- NIV Bibles (New or Gently Used)
- Laundry Detergent & Bleach
- Sugar
- DVDs (G or PG only, please)

shape, or by working in our kitchen or by offering care and kindness



Lots of fun was had by all when this Bible study group hosted a Birthday Party for the Men's Ministry.

to our shelter guests. No matter how they served, they all put their faith into action, all for the glory of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!



The Women's Group of Hillcrest Presbyterian (Volant) helped to beautify the flower beds and grounds at Covenant House.

Want To Help Too?

We welcome your time and talents to assist us with these opportunities!

Volunteer Opportunities:

- **Groups needed for the Fall Food Share Drive** – help collect, box, sort, and inventory food donated at local Giant Eagles in October and November.
- **Adult and Financial Literacy Tutors** - men and women needed for our Covenant House and Men's Ministry.
- **Administrative helpers** - assist with mailings and other office duties.
- **Groups to host special events for shelter guests** - birthday or holiday parties and activities, etc.
- **Helpers and Tutors for Sankey Youth Program** - assist with homework and book reading, lead craft classes, assist with sport and fitness activities.

If you would like to help with these volunteer opportunities or learn about others, contact Frances Booterbaugh at 724-652-4321 ext. 120 or visit www.cityrescuemission.org.

Did you know . . .



That the City Rescue Mission no longer receives direct support from the United Way? You can ensure that your United Way contributions go to help the homeless and poor by specifically designating the City Rescue Mission to receive part or all of your support when you complete your payroll deduction forms provided by your employer.