



University Community News

Volume 7

Restoring hope . . . one life at a time.

Issue 3

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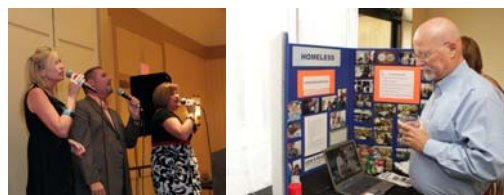
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University Community Ministries, Inc.
 10948 Central Avenue
 P.O. Box 280024
 Tampa, Florida 33682
 813-930-2088 / 813-968-4140FAX
info@universitycommunityministries.org
www.universitycommunityministries.org

Thank You!
¡Gracias!
RingraziarLa!
Merci !

On behalf of University Community Ministries, Inc. we would like to say a big "THANK YOU" to all of you who contributed to our fifth annual "2011 Restoring Hope Banquet" held on June 23rd at the Tampa Airport Hilton Hotel. This year's banquet was the most successful one yet. We could not have done it without your prayers, volunteer service, and financial support.

This year's banquet started off with some delicious hors d'oeuvres prepared and served by the staff from the beautiful and wonderful Tampa Airport Hilton Hotel. As everyone began to fill the banquet room we were all blessed by the beautiful music provided by Ray and Stacey Kilgore along with Andrea Strickland. What a treat!



*May the LORD bless you
 and protect you. May
 the LORD smile on you
 and be gracious to you.*

*May the LORD show you His favor
 and give you His peace.*

Numbers 6:24-26 (NLT)

UCM is all about *"Restoring
 hope . . . one life at a time".*

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This year's Operation Jumpstart "Volunteer of the Year Award" went to Sandy Fox. Sandy is a wonderful asset to the OJ Program. Sandy along with her helpers make sure that the Benevolence House, where we provide showers, hot meals, and clean clothes to our homeless and needy friends in the North Tampa community, is kept clean and orderly. Sandy also serves on various prayer teams, occasionally joins with a group of ladies from citylife church to visit our precious friends at Rocky Creek Village Nursing Home, and is always looking for a way to help someone else. Sandy is a truly deserving of this award and more. She is definitely a blessing to our volunteer team. Thank you Sandy for all you do for God's Kingdom.



The Friendship Bridge "Volunteer of the Year Award" was presented a little different this year than in the past. This year Molly Cox, Director of the Friendship Bridge Program, could not just pick one person for the award. She has a whole team of women who work very hard in the kitchen twice a month to prepare a wonderful delicious meal and serve it to the senior citizens who attend the bi-monthly meetings at citylife church. They all work equally hard together. So with this said, Molly decided to give an award to each member of the kitchen team. What a great idea. They are all deserving of the award and much more. Thank you all for your sacrifice of time, love, and service.



PCAT recognized Rochelle Fertig as Christene's "right-hand". Rochelle works side by side with Christene Worley and does a fabulous job administrating the PCAT Program. Christene would be lost without Rochelle. She loves the kids and it shows in her work. Thank you Rochelle for your hard work and love for the PCAT Program.



The PCAT "Volunteer of the Year Award" was presented to Nakesha Buie. Nakesha is ninety pounds of power packed energy. When you get around Nakesha the enthusiasm and energy she exhibits with the kids of the Sulphur Springs community is contagious. She makes you want to get up and dance or do something. It is very hard to stay sitting when Nakesha is running the show. She also serves as the youth pastor for All Nations Outreach Center in Sulphur Springs. Thank you Nakesha for your love and commitment to the Lord and to the kids of Sulphur Springs.

Last but certainly not least, Reverend Jay Molina, Director of Outreach and Community Partnerships for Metropolitan Ministries, was our speaker. Reverend Molina did an outstanding job. People are still talking about his message. He emphasized the importance of each program and their role in restoring hope to the individuals they served throughout the year. He also spoke to those in attendance about the importance of their involvement with University Community Ministries and how their financial, prayer, and volunteer support was what enables us to continue to reach out to the North Tampa community and restore hope...one life at a time. Thank you Reverend Molina for allowing God to use you to bless us with such an encouraging message that was obviously from the Lord.



We hope to see you all at next year's sixth "2012 Restoring Hope Banquet".

In His Love and Service,

The University Community Ministries Board
James 1:27 "Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this: To look after the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted

from the world".
Isaiah 58:6 "Is this not the kind of fasting I have chosen; to loose the chains of injustice and untie the cords of the yoke, to set the oppressed free and break every yoke? Is it not to share your food with the hungry and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter — when you see the naked, to clothe him, and not to turn away from your own flesh and blood?"

**OPERATION JUMPSTART
(Homeless Community Outreach Program)**

**My Story
By Kelvin Sails**



Welcome to our newest Operation Jumpstart volunteer, Kelvin Sails. He is a native Floridian born and raised in Tampa, Florida. Here is Kelvin's story as told in his own words.

"I was born and raised in Tampa, Florida. I grew up in a partying environment so I thought that is what life was all about. At the age of thirteen, I started experimenting with drugs, first Marijuana and eventually with other drugs. I started hanging out with the wrong crowd wanting to fit in and be accepted. Around the age of eighteen I started drinking and I liked the affect of alcohol and eventually it became a problem. I found myself getting into trouble because of alcohol. I tried moving to other cities thinking if I would change my environment maybe I could stop drinking. But through 20 years of partying it would always come across my heart that there has to be more to life than this. I ended up going to jail and I had no one else to turn to but God. So I cried out to the Lord and he came in and changed my life.

Since then I have been living for Jesus. I always knew something was missing in my life and it was the love of Jesus. I have been a part of different ministries and I was introduced to the homeless ministries in

Who in the Bible kissed Heaven's door but did and went to hell? (see page 3 for answer)

Mobile, Alabama. I moved back to Tampa a year ago and the Lord lead me to citylife church and a friend introduced me to Jerome and America. I got involved in the UCM Operation Jumpstart (OJ) ministry and it's been a blessing".

Kelvin has and is a blessing to us. He enjoys working with people and learning from others. The Lord is using him to help and minister to our homeless neighbors. He is faithful and willing to do whatever is asked of him. We are praising the Lord for what He has done in Kelvin's life and for sending him to us.

We pray God's blessing on Kelvin Sails and we thank God for his service to UCM.

Expressions of help and donations for the homeless may be dropped off at University Church Benevolence House or Family Life Center. You can also call the UCM office at 813-930-2088 or contact the OJ Program Director, Jerome Van Gorp at 813-334-3709.

PARENTS AND CHILDREN ADVANCE TOGETHER (Family Literacy Program)

School Year in Review By Christene Worley

The PCAT after-school literacy program in Sulphur Springs will be opening its doors for the 2011-12 school.

Last school year, sixty-five (65) students and forty-two (42) tutors enthusiastically walked through those doors each week. Each student enjoys the one-on-one tutoring they receive from dedicated USF, UT and HCC students. The tutors volunteer their time to assist these underserved children to read. The children look upon these university students as teachers and mentors. A wonderful trust develops between them – they work together and interact well together as they discuss issues that affect their day to day lives.

It is obvious these volunteer students care about the success of our PCAT children. Most met and exceeded their reading level goals:

- 97% of students increased their reading levels by at least one level or higher.
- Twenty-one students increased their reading levels by eight reading levels or higher.
- Ten students increased their reading levels by twelve reading levels or higher.

A special, thank-you to all PCAT volunteer tutors and staff. These remarkable reading levels are due to your steadfast desire to see our children succeed in school.

For more information on PCAT, call the UCM office at (813) 930-2088.

FRIENDSHIP BRIDGE (Senior Adult Connection)

Changing Times By Molly Cox

For the past several months, Friendship Bridge hasn't been able to meet because of the wonderful construction that is taking place at citylife church. I say "wonderful" because I believe that God has favored this church and the Charter School that is housed in our facilities with such tremendous growth that we have to make "changes" to accommodate this new season of change.

When there is change, there is always a process that we must walk through to reach the ultimate goal that God has placed before us. We have missed our friends at Friendship Bridge and we have tried to stay connected with them by letters and now I am writing this article for the UCM Newsletter. The part of this process of not being able to be with our Friendship Friends has been tough for all of us. We miss the fellowship and, of course, the great food.

I have seen some of our members in the malls, in restaurants, and various other places and our "Friends" always want to know when we will be meeting again. I wish I had the "right" answer for this question, but I hope to have it within the next few days. In my last letter I had stated that we would meet in October . . . Here's

believing! However, I am working on a plan to meet again even if we meet off campus. Change is good! The process is sometimes tough! The one thing I have learn is that if I am patient and sensitive to God's Voice, the process always takes me to a new level that is even greater than the last. Let's celebrate "CHANGE" AND LOOK FORWARD TO A GREATER FRIENDSHIP BRIDGE.

For more information about Friendship Bridge, call the UCM office at (813) 930-2088 or contact the Friendship Bridge Director, Molly Cox at (813) 933-3991 ext. 227.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

If you prefer to receive the UCM Newsletter via email, then email us at newsletter@universitycommunityministries.org to be placed on the emailing list and removed from our mailing list.

NEEDS

UCM needs your time and talents – volunteer today! Call the UCM office at (813) 930-2088 or email us at info@universitycommunityministries.org and let us hear from you!

CHECK US OUT!

Visit UCM's website at www.universitycommunityministries.org for the latest news and updates. Your comments are welcomed and encouraged.

If there is anything that you would like to see posted on the website or in the quarterly newsletter, email us at info@universitycommunityministries.org or fax to (813) 968-4140. We would love to hear from you!

A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Division of Consumer Services by calling toll free 800-435-7352. Registration does not employ endorsement, approval, or recommendation by the state.



YOU CAN HELP

Join UCM in *Restoring hope . . . one life at a time*. As a supporter, you will receive our quarterly newsletter with important messages about our programs as well as success stories about the people we serve. UCM is a non-profit organization. All contributions are tax deductible.

YES, I would like to partner with UCM in *Restoring hope . . . one life at a time*. Enclosed is my gift to UCM in the amount of:

\$500 \$100 \$250 \$50 Other \$ _____
 One Time Monthly Quarterly Annually

Name _____

Mailing Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Telephone/Fax _____ E-mail _____

I am interested in becoming a volunteer.

Planned Giving Options

Please consider a gift to UCM in your will or estate plan.

Please send me information about naming UCM in my will.

I have already made provisions for UCM in my estate plans.

**Thank you. Make checks payable to:
University Community Ministries, Inc., PO Box 280024, Tampa, Florida 33682.**

University Community Ministries, Inc.

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10948 Central Avenue

P.O. Box 280024


Tampa, Florida 33682

info@universitycommunityministries.org



Question –

Who in the Bible kissed Heaven's door
but died and went to hell?



Go to www.universitycommunityministries.org for answer.

