

St. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Stewardship 2010

Each year the Stewardship chairman chooses a “theme” for the year. This year’s theme is *“Using the gifts God has given us....to the work He is calling us to do.”*

This is the second in a series of short stories about how we, at St. Mary’s, are living into this theme.

On the 4th Monday of every month St. Mary’s provides the evening meal for the **Father’s Table** operated by Open Door Ministries. The cooking is done in our kitchen on Sunday morning prior to worship and then delivered to Open Door Ministries on Monday morning. Volunteers from St. Mary’s cook, deliver, and serve the meal. The cost of the food comes from the Matthew 25:40 (our outreach committee) budget of \$8,500. In addition, St. Mary’s has a \$6,000 line item in our operating budget for direct support of the many programs run by Open Door Ministries.

ODM is located at 400 North Centennial in High Point and they provide temporary housing for homeless adult men (72 beds*) and beds (10*) for clients in the substance abuse program operated by Alcohol and Drug Services.

They have beds (6*) in an overflow dormitory where additional mattresses can be set up during the cold months. Many of you may remember that St. Mary’s was the lead entity in the funding, construction, and furnishing of the **Arthur Cassell Memorial Transitional House** – a residence operated by ODM for men (14*) who receive shelter and counseling as they move from homelessness to independent living.

In addition to operating the shelter, ODM employs case managers to help people connect with other community resources and they provide emergency monetary help for people unable to pay electric, water, and rent bills. In partnership with the Salvation Army they help clothe people and they maintain a food bank which St. Mary’s helps to stock with our **Fill the Bus** food drives.

The **Father’s Table** provides 2 hot meals a day for men, women, and children (averaging 85-100 people*.) On the fourth Monday evening of each month these neighbors enjoy the St. Mary’s meal - an entrée of meat sauce with egg noodles accompanied by green beans and applesauce.

Want to get involved? For cooking, delivering, or serving our monthly meal contact Kathy Conrad at 869-8323. Kathy can direct you to the appropriate person. For volunteer opportunities at Open Door Ministries contact Leslie Graham at 885-0191 or at lgraham@odm-hp.org.

**I mention numbers to emphasize the enormity of the need.*

Faithfully yours,

Carroll Ann Miller, Chair; Tony Bertschi, Co-Chair; and the Stewardship Steering Committee – Andrew Brehm, Evie Cottam, Jason Ewing, Elizabeth Finch, Johnny Slate, and Sandra Vernon.