



Wesley Community
Service Center, Inc.

Wesley Works

Newsletter Winter 2011

Our relocation is complete and Wesley Community Service Center is operating from newly renovated facilities at 1701 Elm Avenue, Portsmouth, Virginia 23704. Our contact information remains the same. Preferred mailing address P. O. Box 1396, Portsmouth, Virginia 23705. Telephone (757) 399-0541 Fax (757) 399-0054. We are soon to change our internet provider. You may continue to e-mail us at wesleys@exis.net or begin to use the new address: wesleycenter1@verizon.net.

We owe a deep debt of gratitude to the Pastor and congregation of **Cottage Place United Methodist Church** for allowing us to share their facilities these past four and one half years and to the **Portsmouth District of The United Methodist Church** for making the former Elm Avenue/Martin Luther King Church facilities available to us. And of course we are grateful to the **United Methodist Women** of the Virginia Conference and especially its Portsmouth, Norfolk and Peninsula Districts for their continuing sponsorship and support.

By action of our Board of Directors, we welcomed **Brighton's Solid Rock Inc.** into our facilities as a "partner in ministry." Plans are underway for several joint program thrusts including a **reading program** with neighborhood children, a mid-year **school supplies** distribution and an eventual "**Kids Caf **" program in cooperation with the area Foodbank.

Summer plans include a "**Camp Celebration**" fine arts program in cooperation with the **Urban Arts Ctr of Portsmouth**. Our Board Vice President, Pat Burns, will direct this six week program.

Since December of 2009, Wesley has partnered with The City of Portsmouth and the **Portsmouth Homeless Action Consortium** to address homeless prevention issues of Portsmouth residents. Staff member Diana Chappell-Lewis manages this federal stimulus-funded program and reports that, since its inception, 204 individuals in family units

A Word from the Executive Director

have been qualified and assisted with over \$27,000.00 of financial assistance with rent and utility accounts, preventing

them from becoming homeless.

As renovation plans continue, we are focused on installing a functioning heating/cooling system within our sanctuary/educational wing. **We are desperately in need** of a commercial kitchen stove and sink to expand our capacity to serve our children's and other food related programs. Please call us for details if you can help in this area. Indeed, Wesley continues to work because of its works and we are forever grateful to our many friends and supporters for your confidence, encouragement and support!

We gratefully acknowledge 4th Quarter Donors



Wesley Community Service Center, Inc 2011 Board of Directors

Officers:

President - The Rev. Robert Parks
Vice President - Ms. V. Pat Burns
Secretary - Mrs. Margaret English
Treasurer - Mr. Donald L. Anderson

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Wilma and Iann Washington
Lydia Weeks
Mary Wenger
Otha and Bertha Wright

Baylake United Methodist Church – VB
Bethany UMC – Gloucester Point
Broad Street UMW – P
Centenary UMC - P
Central UMW - Matthews
Charity UMW – VB
Club Deporres Catholic Club - P
Community UMW – VB
Covenant UMW – S
Dana Tyson Circle/Aldersgate UMC – P
Female Usher Board #1 of New Mt.
Vernon Baptist Church - P
First UMW – Elizabeth City, N.C.
First UMW - H
Great Bridge UMW - C
Marsh Memorial UMW
Mary & Martha Circle of Mt. Vernon UMC
- Toano
Mary & Martha Class/
Centenary UMC - P
Monumental UMC - P
Morrison Comprehensive Learning
Center – P
New Creation UMC - C
Newsom's UMW

Our Summer Place
Peninsula District UM Clergy
Portsmouth District UMW Annual Mtg
Salem UMC - Matthews
Sentara Nursing Center Outreach
St. Andrew's Lutheran Church- P
St. Andrew's UMC - P
St. Mark UMW – P
St. Paul UMW – Woodbridge
Trinity Episcopal Church – P
Trinity Episcopal Church Women - P
Virginia Conference UMW
Wesley Bible Class/St. Johns UMC- N
Wesley Chapel UMW
Wesley Class of West End UMC – P
West End UMC – P
Westhaven Baptist Church - P
Edna Yankovich Circle of Clarksbury UMC
– Deltaville
Zion Baptist Church - P

C-Chesapeake P - Portsmouth
H-Hampton S - Suffolk
NN - Newport News VB- Virginia Beach
N-Norfolk



Wesley Community Service Center, Inc.
Director, John Hatcher
Office: 1701 Elm Ave, Portsmouth, VA 23704
Mailing Address: PO Box 1396 Portsmouth, VA 23705
(757) 399-0541 email: wesleys@exis.net

The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me, because the LORD has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness the prisoners, to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn, and provide for those who grieve in Zion, to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair. They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the LORD for the display of his splendor. They will rebuild the ancient ruins and restore the places long devastated; they will renew the ruined cities that have been devastated for generations. *Isaiah 61:1-4 NIV*

Annual Meeting Highlights!

At its 73rd Annual Meeting on December 19th, 2010, the Board of Directors of Wesley Community Service Center:

- Welcomed approximately 200 attendees for the dedication of the newly renovated facilities at 1701 Elm Ave with a dedication liturgy conducted by the Rev.

mouth City Treasurer, The Rev. Marvin Leathers, Pastor of Faith Evangelical Church in Portsmouth and Mr. Donald Anderson, retired Postal Manager, to membership in the Class of 2013.

- Elected the following officers for the year 2011: The Rev.



Dr. John Vest, the Rev. Brad Phillips, and The Rev. Myrtle Hatcher, Superintendents of the Portsmouth, Norfolk, and Peninsula Districts of the United Methodist Church.

- Enjoyed a lavish reception and building tours!
- Elected The Rev. Robert Parks, Pastor of Main Street UMC in Suffolk, Mrs. Margaret N. English, Chief Deputy Ports-

Robert Parks - President, Ms. V. Pat Burns, Vice President, Mrs. Margaret English, Secretary, and Mr. Donald Anderson, Treasurer.

- We honored the service of retired President, Mrs. LuAnn Trumble with a financial gift in her honor, presented to the Habitat for Humanity house being built by the Portsmouth District UMC.

The following items are needed by Wesley Community Service Center on an ongoing basis and would be welcomed at any time.

1. School back packs for elementary to middle school students
2. School supplies (all variety)
3. Trash can liners - 13 gallon and 48 gallon
4. Bathroom tissue and paper towels
5. Wal-Mart and/or Food Lion Gift cards of any value (for after school snacks and emergency food baskets.)
6. Canned/package food (especially meat products i.e. tuna, soups, salmon, stews etc.)
7. Copier paper (assorted colors)
8. New and/or gently used children's books

In addition, there continue to be renovation and improvement needs which we commend to groups for consideration as we settle into our new quarters. These include:

1. Round or rectangular tables seating six to eight
2. Industrial buckets and mops
3. Counter top can openers for #10 size cans
4. Paper towel holders/dispensers
5. Commercial size entrance doormats
6. 13 gallon trash cans for offices/restrooms
7. Commercial cookware and utensils
8. Four drawer file cabinets with locking capability
9. Installed water fountains
10. Outdoor installed flag poles
11. Three compartment sink for kitchen

Wesley Community Service Center thanks each of you for your efforts for the neighbors we serve.



**Wesley Community
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PO Box 1396
Portsmouth, VA 23705
Return Mail Requested**

Non Profit Org
U.S. Postage
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Portsmouth, VA
Permit No.



On January 8th, **Wesley Center** hosted a **Lion's Club** sponsored **"Sight, Hearing and Health Fair,"** in the newly renovated

facilities. More than forty homeless men, women and children participated, and received **vision screenings, diabetes, cholesterol and blood pressure checks.**

Diana Chappell-Lewis of our staff coordinated the event for Wesley as a follow up activity to the Portsmouth Homeless Assist Day event she co-chaired in September 2010 .