

VINEYARD OUTREACH MINISTRY

AN ECUMENICAL, LOCAL CHARITY

BASED IN THE INNER-CITY NEIGHBORHOOD OF VINE

March

Newsletter

2011

Dear Readers:

Although Vineyard Outreach Ministry has been operative in the inner-city neighborhood of Vine in Kalamazoo, Michigan for more than 23 years, there are many who are unaware of this grassroots ecumenical charity's existence, activities and purpose. Others are unaware that our ministry came into being at the request and with the assistance of Vine residents who wanted support and neighborhood based activities and programs for vulnerable adults and children.

To help our readers better understand this ministry's reasons for existence and our purposes, this first newsletter of the year contains information about us that you might like to know. Later editions of our newsletter will include stories of neighborhood residents who are benefitted through this ministry's grassroots activities, programs and services with your support.

If you would like to arrange a visit with our staff or a tour of this ministry's Multicultural Community Center that is located in the heart of the Vine neighborhood, we would be happy to accommodate you.

WHAT IS VINEYARD OUTREACH MINISTRY?

Vineyard Outreach Ministry is an ecumenical charity based in the inner-city neighborhood of Vine near downtown Kalamazoo as a caring presence for its residents - most especially those adults and children who are most vulnerable to disease, hardship and strife.

WHAT ARE THE MINISTRY'S GOALS & OBJECTIVES?

- 1. Establish relationships that help to nurture the emotional, mental, physical & spiritual needs of adults and children*
- 2. Link wider community resources with needs in the neighborhood*
- 3. Create activities, programs and services that develop self-esteem in individuals, strengthen family relationships and nurture a sense of community*
- 4. Link neighborhood residents and their resources with needs in Kalamazoo (and beyond it)*

WHAT ARE THE MINISTRY'S ACTIVITIES, PROGRAMS AND SERVICES?

Activities and Services:

Community service opportunity

Community resource aid and information

Computer access

Copier and fax use

Emergency assistance

Limited transportation for program participants

Pastoral visitation to Vine residents at homes, hospitals, jails and prisons

Spiritual and Topical Growth Opportunities

Use of Ministry Multicultural Community Center by complementary groups

Programs:

Bible Study

Co-sponsored short term pilots, projects, programs with complementary groups

Daily Prayer

Daze Away & Hope for Moms

Family Outings

Fun in the Sun Recreation Program

Graduation Banquets

Holiday Celebrations for Adults and Families

Hope for Teens

Kids Evening Playtime

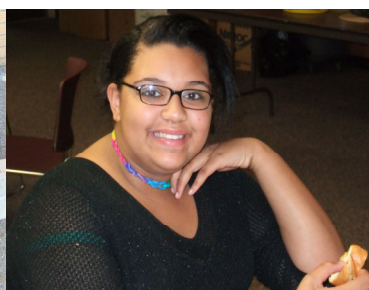
Kids Klub Supper Hour

Kids Summer Fun Arts and Crafts Program

Sunday Dinner and Prayer

Women Faith Writers

Writers in Recovery



VINEYARD OUTREACH MINISTRY
811 S WESTNEDGE AVENUE
KALAMAZOO, MI 49008
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"...for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me. I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me. I was in prison and you came to me." (Mt.25:35-36)

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

WHEN DID VINEYARD OUTREACH MINISTRY BEGIN ITS WORK?

The ministry's first full-time professional, Catherine Dance, began her work of exploring the need for a ministry of this type in Vine on January 4, 1988 at the request of the initial advisory committee that was made up of members of both the Reformed Church in America and the Christian Reformed Church in Southwest Michigan. At the end of the two year exploratory project, it was agreed by the initiators of this project that the need for an ecumenical charity existed in Vine for its most vulnerable residents.

PAID STAFF MEMBERS

1. *Catherine Dance, Director/Pastoral Worker, was hired in 1988 as outreach worker and promoted to her current position at the end of the two year exploration project.*
2. *Arlynn Spresser, part-time Administrative and Program Assistant, joined the ministry in 2003.*

BOARD VOLUNTEERS

1. *Chris Middleton, President & Treasurer*
2. *Margaret Fleckenstein, Vice President*
3. *Reverend Simon Tuin, Secretary*
4. *Kay Carter*
5. *John Huizinga*
6. *Bruce Shurtz*
7. *Mandy Sutton*

CURRENT PROGRAM VOLUNTEERS

Tuesday Kids Klub Supper Hour: Rev Joan Herbon, Melissa Keilen, Alexandra Sall, Dick and Betty VanderMolen, Marie Belleville
Wednesday Tutoring: Ken Rathert, Chuck Stroh, Gloria Henrich Meekhof
Thursday Evening Kids Playtime: Mandy Sutton, Alexandra Sall
Tuesday Fun in the Sun Summer Recreation: Patrick Dumler

2011 BUDGET & RECEIPTS

Total Budget - \$148,088.00

Y-T-D Receipts - \$ 11,015.80 thru February, 2011



Vineyard Outreach Ministry*811 S. Westnedge Avenue, Kalamazoo, Mi 49008
Catherine Dance, Director/Pastoral Worker*Arlynn Spresser, Assistant
Ph/Fax269-349-2388*vinoutmn@iserv.net*www.vineyardoutreachministry.org