

Mission Waco

“hands-on compassion” <www.missionwaco.org>

Christmas, 2011



20-Year
Anniversary
Celebration
Kicks Off
Feb. 7 at
Banquet

Your involvement
Means More Than
Ever

In March, 1992, a grant was given to “Cross Culture Experiences” by Christian Mission Concerns to expand their local ministries among the poor. Prior to then, local and global activities revolved around the lives of Jimmy and Janet Dorrell in the blighted North Waco neighborhood. Today, Mission Waco has expanded its urban and international ministries throughout the Waco area and into Haiti, Mexico City and India. Today, almost 50 staff members help empower the under-resourced and engage the resourced. It has been a purpose-filled adventure that continues to grow and serve. But we need your help!

Please consider this your first invitation to join in the banquet and activities coming soon.

You are invited to our annual:

“Advent & Accolades”
refreshments & Christmas caroling
& reflection on the Incarnation

Thursday, December 14, 4:30-6:45
World Cup Cafe & Jubilee Theatre
1321 N. 15th St.

~come and go as your time allows~

Note: “Prelude Gloria” will be playing stringed instruments during the fellowship and program



Bikers Collect
Toys From 17
Local Churches
to Fill Toy Store

Waco area churches donated hundreds of new toys, including over 150 bicycles just days before the annual Mission Waco Christmas Toy Store opened to allow lower-income parents to shop for their children. The generosity of the local community has been so encouraging this year. Over forty members of the area CMA bikers divided into two groups on

Sunday morning and rode for 2.5 hours to churches from Robinson to Woodway to Speegleville and all through Waco. They zoomed into Church Under the Bridge around 11:00 to unload a huge mound of toys, all later delivered to the Mission Waco Children’s Center. Just a few days later the store opened to throngs of lower-income parents who purchased the donated gifts for their own children with an 80% discount. Mission Waco discovered years ago that giving parents the dignity of choosing and buying their own children’s gifts gave much more dignity to the parent than traditional give-away programs. Volunteers from area churches help the “customers” navigate through the aisles and even wrap the presents. They frequently comment how thankful and proud the parents are to be included. Last year over 2500 toys were distributed.

**Christmas
Toy Store
Opens To
Serve the
Community**

Serving... Not Just
Being Served
Mission Waco
Urban Teen Program



Life can be tough for any teen, but for inner city youth there are often other challenges.

For over twenty years, Mission Waco has been involved in the lives of urban kids.



More than "fun and games," we know that empowering them means more than entertainment. It requires mentoring, tutoring, job training and even serving. There is a two track program for "M-Dub" youth. Gabe Dominquez heads out each week to the juvenile detention center, boot camp, alternative school and housing projects to hang out with the "high risk" youth who are often dismissed as "never gonna make it." Through community service, Bible study, and lots of one-on-one mentoring, Gabe has watched a lot of these students make significant changes. "They're just like I was," he says, "in the gangs and nobody at home who cared. But I made it out of the hood by the grace of God and they can, too."

The in-school track are for youth who attend the weekday after-school program at Mission Waco's youth center. Nine of those teens just returned from a weekend in Galveston serving low-income children and painting a new urban center called Galveston Urban Ministries. Most of them had never been to the coast and seen the ocean. But after a hard day of volunteering, they got to ride the ferry, walk the beach and eat out a restaurant overlooking the bay. "It was so cool!" they said, "we got to see the ocean!"




**Mission Waco
Receives Highest
Rating... Again**

Mission Waco has again achieved the highest rating a charity can receive for its fiscal management, accountability and transparency, based on Charity Navigators' annual evaluations. According to their recognition letter, "Approximately a quarter of the charities we evaluate receive our highest rating, indicating that Mission Waco outperforms most other charities in America, demonstrating to the public that it is worthy of their trust." The cost of serving the community's poor, homeless, addicted, unemployed, and others in need continues to grow, especially with State-funding cuts. Your donations are the key to our ability to help. Historically 25% of the ministry's entire budget comes in November and December. We hope you will be one of those donors.

**END OF
YEAR GIFTS
KEEP US
SERVING...**
Thanks for your donations!
Online at <www.missionwaco.org>

**Baylor Football Team's
Record Year Benefits Mission**

Waco's Ministry
 \$100/per touchdown & more
Pizza Hut donates \$16,000
to support local service to poor

At the final home game against Texas, Executive Director Jimmy Dorrell was handed a check for \$16,000 for the Baylor football team's 70 touchdowns and a special pizza roller special in Central Texas. Pizza tasted better than ever for the Alamo Bowl-bound Bears.



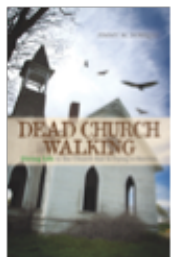
**Haitian Women Learn New
Handcrafts & Begin 2nd
"Micro-credit" Class**

**Mission Waco's Christian community
development efforts seeing results**

"Manje Chak Jou" is Creole for "eat each day." The name of the newest women's co-op is a stark reminder that feeding their families is their priority. What began over two decades ago for a few Mission Waco participants today has become an focused effort to help some of the world's poorest take care of their own families. From drilling clean water wells to a new health clinic and school, empower is the model of ministry that drives the approach. As developers know, "those with the problem must be a part of the solution to the problem." While millions of dollars are spend on relief, lasting change requires Haitians who have experienced so much disaster and instability to take responsibility with resources we can help provide. Through recent community assessments in Ferrier guided by Janet Dorrell, the residents completed hundreds of surveys to identify what they see as their priority needs. Partnering with Mission Waco/Mission World, they now have a Haitian doctor, Haitian well drillers, and Haitian women who have received small loans to start or increase their small businesses. With accountability and weekly meetings, the Christian co-ops are flourishing. 100% of the loans to the first 25 women were paid back in full. From training taught by Waco artists Betsy Henderson and Kathy Allison, the new sewing co-op made an assortment new handcrafted items that are now being sold in the World Cup Cafe & Fair Trade Market. (con't next column)



World Cup
Cafe
& Fair Trade
Market



“Dead Church Walking”
gets great reviews

Dorrell’s new book a
“must read America”

“Many Christ-followers today are disillusioned, disconnected, and disappointed with the current expressions of church. Jimmy Dorrell puts forth a compelling case that although the world is changing around us at breakneck speed, the church is often an unchanging island to itself, and it is only the churches that can adaptively change that will be the ones that thrive in every generation. This is not a book of quick fixes but a primer for bringing about the deep change that reflects the selfless heart of the gospel in every generation. Jimmy is not a peddler of doom but a prophet of hope for what the church can be today.”

-- Eric Swanson, Mission Specialist, Leadership Network, Co-Author of To Transform a City and The Externally focused Quest

Haiti community development (con’t)

Today, 201 children are attending one of two Christian schools because of U.S. sponsors (\$195/yr), including two students sponsored by Waco’s homeless men and women. Several hundred participants have gone on the 8-day “mission/exposure” trip to Haiti and been impacted to change their perspective. The next trip is March 9-17. Details on this trip and trips to MxCity and India are available online at <www.mission-waco.org> under “training.”



Haitian Director Jackson Nelson stands beside water well drilling truck purchased by Mission Waco

“So much to be thankful for...”
Homeless gather for annual worship and meal on Thanksgiving



Over one hundred homeless men and women and 75 volunteers shared how God had blessed them in 2011. The annual meal at the Meyer Ctr was followed with bingo and hygiene gift bags.



The streets of N. 15th & Colcord are thriving... fun, food, & arts



Upcoming January Activities!

January 9-15, 2012
“Perkins Seminary Intensive Class”
on Homelessness to Mission Waco for
Experiential Learning Training

Monday, January 16, 2012
MLK Program and Day of Service
Jubilee Theatre and community

Saturday, January 21, 2012
Cultural Dances and Foods Night
Jubilee Theatre (tickets on sales on)

Poverty Simulations & Work Groups

Winter/spring and summer Poverty Simulation dates are filling up. Spring break and summer work groups are also getting booked now. Last year almost one thousand participants came to Waco to attend the weeking poverty plunge, some from as far away as California, Virginia and Wisconsin. If your student or adult group is ready for a challenging experiential experience that helps them understand the reality of how 25% of the world extremely poor live and God’s heart for them, then consider this life-impacting trip. Costs, group reservation forms and details are online at <www.missionwaco.org>.

Upcoming Dates:

1. January 27-29
2. February 3-5
3. February 24-26
4. March 23-25
5. April 13-15
6. April 27-29
7. June 8-10
8. June 29-July 1
9. July 6-8
10. July 20-22

Note: Participants must have completed the 8th grad. Maximum of 75.



1315 N. 15th St. "hands-on compassion"
Waco, Texas
76707

254.753.4900

change service requested



Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 74

Merry Christmas

from the Mission Waco Staff

