

# In Touch

Summer 2009

Community Missions CORPORATION  
The InterServ Foundation  
*Investing in Faith and Service*

Faithfully Serving People  
**InterServ**

A publication for Friends and Supporters of InterServ and its Related Organizations

## Senior Services--Always ready to serve!

InterServ' Senior Services program reaches out to help older adults remain safe in their homes. People like Ralph,\* who came to us this past year from South Missouri.

Never having lived in a home with electricity or indoor plumbing, Ralph's home was an old school bus parked on the farm where he grew up. Ralph suffers from tremors resulting from Parkinson's disease, and made the decision not to drive a car to keep himself and others safe on the roads. So instead, Ralph drove a team of horses and a covered wagon whenever he needed to go to town for supplies.

One day, while making his way to town, a semi truck hit him and his wagon. Both horses were killed and the wagon destroyed. Miraculously, Ralph escaped without serious injury and was soon able to return home. Living alone and on a limited income, Ralph was unable to keep up the payments on his land—land he had lived on all of his

life—and the bank foreclosed. Ralph was left with no place to go. Hearing about the foreclosure, Ralph's niece, who lives in St. Joseph, went to check on her uncle. Astounded at the conditions in which her aging uncle was living, she packed his meager belongings and brought him to St. Joseph to live. She called InterServ Senior Services for help.

Now living in the senior apartments at East Ridge Village, Ralph is learning to live the "high tech" lifestyle with the help of his InterServ homemaker. He enjoys watching western movies on the first television he has ever owned, and is especially proud of his over-sized remote control! A visiting nurse from InterServ helps him with medications and bathing. He receives Mobile Meals every day, and tells us he looks forward to seeing his Mobile Meals volunteers each day because they are always very friendly and cheerful. Ralph is quite pleased with his new home and his new lifestyle.



*Ralph looks forward to his daily visit from his Mobile Meals delivery volunteer.*

If you or someone you love can benefit from the kinds of services Ralph receives, call us at 232-8080 or 1-800-794-0007.

## It's a Party!

...and you're invited!  
Join us for InterServ's  
100th Anniversary  
Celebration

**WHEN:**

November 7, 1-4 p.m.

**WHERE:**

Wesley Center  
200 Cherokee Street  
St. Joseph, MO

**For more information, call us:**

Laurie Spalding,  
816.238.4511, ext. 41 or  
lspalding@inter-serv.org

## Celebrate 100 Years with InterServ!

Plan to join us in November as InterServ celebrates 100 years of service to the community. Already we have gotten the party underway, first with our float entry in the Apple Blossom parade and then with the publication of the book, Expressions of Faith, and its unveiling at our annual meeting in May. Many thanks to the Archer clan for their expertise in float construction and to David Lewis for his beautiful book on the architecture of churches and history of the faith community in St. Joseph!

An unexpected surprise that added to our excitement was a spring visit from Mary Longstreth, a Deaconess who served at InterServ during the Joyce Raye Patterson era and who regaled us with

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*Join us for cake and reminiscing on November 7 at Wesley Center!*

## Board of Directors

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# DAVID HOWERY

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

*“Building a legacy”*

Mark your calendar for our anniversary celebration commemorating InterServ’s 100th year of service to people in need—November 7th, 1-4 p.m., at our Wesley Center.

Currently in the process of developing our new long-range plan, we have invested time listening to staff, volunteers, donors and the community in order to develop the strategies that will see us through to 2012. Our history and experience in the community have set the agenda for future planning for InterServ. With that in mind, our responsibility is to determine what we must do in order to effectively accomplish what we are called to do: 1.) Meet the basic needs of people—food, shelter/housing, inclusion into society, access to health care; 2.) Provide comprehensive supportive services to assist the aging and their care givers; 3.) Help children and youth be successful in school and life; 4.) Work in collaboration to address unmet needs of individuals and families.

Where do we begin to tackle these and other challenging issues that affect the human family? In writing our hundredth year anniversary book, Expressions of Faith, David Lewis brought to light, through research, the hopes and beliefs of our founders, dedicated men and women whose philosophical ideals in 1908 made InterServ the vital advocate for people that it continues to be.

In order to fully serve our mission, these things must be on our “to-do” lists every day: To act with justice; to love tenderly; to serve one another; to walk humbly with God, giving hope in word and deed so that all may prosper. For when we strive to fulfill these social teachings, then, to quote the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., “all the other shallow things will not matter,” and we simply leave behind the legacy of a committed life.

Throughout our 100 year history, the support of people of faith have continually shaped this ministry called “InterServ,” helping us to lessen the consequences of the difficult circumstances affecting the human family. As you read this August 2009 issue of InTouch, you will see how, with your support and commitment, our mission is being accomplished. Let us continue to pray for one another.

Peace

*David*

*Expressions of Faith is a beautiful testament to the history of faith & the faithful in St. Joseph and would make a lovely gift. Call the Foundation (816.238.4511, ext. 41) to purchase a copy for yourself or someone special. The cost is \$39 or a \$100 gift to the Century Fund.*

*Book signing schedule: September 23, 6:30 p.m. (East Hills Library)  
October 14, 1:30 p.m. (Joyce Raye Patterson Center)  
December 16, 12:00 noon (East Hills Library)*

**Mission** “Through the sharing of God’s love, we reach out and assist those in need so that all may live their lives more fully and more capably.”

**InterServ**

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In Touch is written, designed and edited by InterServ staff.

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Visit us on the web:  
[www.inter-serv.org](http://www.inter-serv.org)



**In Honor of**

*Tribute Gifts Continued from page 3...*

IRENE SAULAN

Charlie and Patti Burri

MS SHIRLEY STEINER

Dolores E Reeder

HERB AND TAMMY WANDFLUH

Herb and Sondra Wandfluh

RICHARD AND LOU ANN WARNER

Norman and Karen Akers

TERRY WICKHAM

Tony and Verda Barnes



Partners with: The General Board of Global Ministries of the United Methodist Church; The Missouri Conference of the United Methodist Church; The Heartland Presbytery (PCUSA); The Missouri Mid-South Conference of the United Church of Christ; St. Joseph Community Development; and the United Way of Greater St. Joseph.

# InterServ's T.A.G. Girls Host Mother's Day Luncheon for Moms at Wesley Center!



A picture worth framing!



TAG Girls and their Moms demonstrate their Girl Power!



Smiles all around!



Ally Browning, right, watches the festivities with her mom, Connie (center), and her sister, Abby (left).



TAG Girls know it's all about the mayo!



Nothing like a little paint to bring a mom and daughters together!

## Tribute Gifts

*With Love and Appreciation*

### In Honor of

- SUECILLA ADWELL
- Charlie and Patti Burri
- SARAH AKERS
- Hyde Valley Alpha Joy Circle
- ISABELLE ALBRIGHT
- Hyde Valley Alpha Joy Circle
- LEN AND JEANNE ARCHER
- Ms Barb Bigelow
- Chris and Mary Black
- Charlie and Patti Burri
- Mary Jane & Jim Chamberlain
- Richard & Barbara Crumley
- David L and Sue A Duke
- Patricia and David Eyler
- Mary Griffey
- Ryan and Juanita Hausman
- Larry and Virginia Lambing

- Nancy and Dennis Lyman
- Bill and Agnes Meyer
- Gary and Rose Meyer
- Leo and Mary Ann Schmitz
- Ms. Susanne Teel
- Bill and Virginia Thedinga
- Gerald and Sandra Zweerink
- CHERYL AND TIM BAYLESS
- Herb and Sondra Wandfluh
- RAY AND CARMEN CANCHOLA
- Paul and Linda Becerra
- Joseph and Lupe Canchola
- Doris Corless
- PAT AND JOANN CATON
- Ms Cheryl Anderson
- CHRIST OUR SAVIOR
- Bill and Betty Rich

- HARRY ELDER
- Charles W and Nancy Clisbee
- DR KATHRYN ELLERBECK
- Drs. Carlyn and Edmund Kline
- BOB AND DEANNA HATTEN
- Norman and Karen Akers
- JOSEPH G HERSHEWE
- Robert Swymeler
- BILL HINDE
- Marsha Boggess
- RALPH AND MARY KIESER
- Ralph and Mary Kieser
- REV KATHRYN L MORRISON
- Hyde Valley UMC
- OUR CHILDREN
- Ray and Jacquelyn Stufflebean

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# Memorial Gifts

*A memorial gift is a lasting way to express sympathy & remembrance for a friend or loved one. These donations become a gift of hope*



## Honor Gifts

*Many individuals choose to recognize friends and relatives at special times during the year. A gift in honor is a mem*

### In Memory of

RALPH AND CLARA ACORD

Dolores E Reeder

MARY LOU ALEXANDER

Genie Hecker

HOWARD ALLGAIER

Catholic Order of Foresters-

St Josephs Count 1130

MR RAY BARKER

Mrs Lillian Barker

JOHN AND ELAINE BARNES

Sophia Ward

MR ARTHUR BUCKINGHAM, JR

P Gordon and June Robaska

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Anonymous

Harry Archer

Mike Burns

Rita Burns

Margaret Burns and Michael Burns

Dave Delaney Family

District One Highway Credit Union

Krumme Cousins

Lanny and Debbie Krumme

John and Mary Logan

MO Dept of Transportation Employees

Morton Reed, Counts & Briggs

Mrs Iris K Parsons

Ray & Sandy Prescher, and

John & Becky Dunlap

NORMAN BURNS

Mary C Burns

Greg and Mary Delaney

MR M. ROGER BURRI

P Gordon and June Robaska

MR ARLO BUSH

P Gordon and June Robaska

MR. CHARLES BUSH

Ms Dorathea Polsky

FORREST BUTLER

Mrs Roxie North

FREIDA HUNTSMAN CASTLE

Fritz Hirter III and

Linda & David Drollinger

JEFFREY C CATON

Ms Cheryl Anderson

ROBERT J CLAASSEN

Tom and Julia Schneider

ESTHER COCHRAN

Bob and Barbara Robinson

MR WAYNE S COLBORN

Ramona Colborn-Boatright

BETTY M COOPER

Warren Cooper

MR DONALD CORREU

Sandra Correu

BETTY COTTER

Hyde Valley Alpha Joy Circle

ARTHUR CROUCH

Ms Catherine Crouch

NAOMI CULP

Wesley Senior Twrs Council & Friends

Wesley Senior Towers Council

ELIZABETH "BETH" CURRY

Chris and Mary Black

The Fairman Family

Charles W and Nancy Clisbee

Stephanie S Files, DDS

The Glenski and Pawlowski Families

Dr and Mrs John Hague

Mrs Mary Morton Hillix

Phillip and Linda Holmes

David and Twila Howery

Ms Suzanne Meierhoffer

Missouri Dental Association

Dean and Nancy Mulvaney

David and Ann Newman

Mr Richard A Optican

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Charles W and Nancy Clisbee

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MARION FOURNIER

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JAKE GERHARDT

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MRS. CATHERINE GEWIN

Reith Gewin

LOUISE GEYER

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CLARK GOODELL

Roman and Dorothy Magaña

LUELLA HANSEN

Thomas and Janet Hansen

LOREN HEIMSOTH

Drs. Carlyn and Edmund Kline

MR JOHN T HENDRA

Helen Hendra

WILLIAM HERZOG

Lois Lucas

*to the children, youth, adults and seniors who grace InterServ's steps each day.*

*orable way to remember special occasions like birthdays, anniversaries and holidays.*

|                                                  |                                  |                                |
|--------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| MR TOMMY HIGDON                                  | MARK MCCAN                       | FRANK SOPTICK, JR              |
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| Roger and Sandra Sadler                          | Mrs Mary Morton Hillix           | Barbara Savage                 |
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| Stan and Doris Worl                              | P Gordon and June Robaska        | ROBERT STEINAKER               |
| ANN MARIE HURLEY                                 | STEVEN MCLAUGHLIN                | Jerry and Ellen Kneale         |
| Ms Dorathea Polsky                               | Class of 1973                    | MARGUERITE THOMAS              |
| LOUISE JOHNSON                                   | JERRY MEEKS                      | Ms Patricia E Wright           |
| Jeanne Shelton                                   | Louise Meeks                     | MR. JACK TOOTLE                |
| DONNA JOYCE                                      | HELEN MELVIN                     | Mr George Richmond             |
| John Albee                                       | Thomas and Janet Hansen          | P Gordon and June Robaska      |
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| Stacy Bye                                        | Mable Smith                      | SHAWN TULLIS                   |
| Dennis and Pam Campbell                          | Virginia L. Wilson               | Earl and Mary A. Tullis        |
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| HERBERT KURTZ                                    | Bill and Mary Jane Sonner        | Hyde Valley Alpha Joy Circle   |
| Ivan Kurtz Trust                                 | CAL AND VERA PARMENTER           | LK GLEN ZAHND                  |
| EDNA LESTER                                      | Irvin and Joan Parmenter         | Ronald E and Charlene Bachman  |
| Suecilla Adwell                                  | WILLIAM REEDER                   | DOROTHY ZEILER                 |
| Charlie and Patti Burri                          | Dolores E Reeder                 | Ms Thelma Wyrick               |
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| Darrell and Ardath Haggard                       | KATIE (RAKOWSKI) SOLTYS          |                                |
|                                                  | Kenneth and Marilyn West         |                                |

## Under Our Roof— Stats and Stories from



### Haven Moves Ahead!

St. Joseph's Haven played host to people from all walks of life at its Dedication on June 25. Community Missions' Board members cut the ribbon to officially open the Haven as a crowd of more than 100 people watched, staying on to participate in the dedication of the building and of Dierkes Hall, named in honor of Monsignor Rick Dierkes who was instrumental in rallying the community around the plight of the homeless in St. Joseph.

Haven staff has begun evaluating and selecting the men who are the best candidates for the program. The Haven will eventually house 18 men in nine semi-private rooms. Each man who is chosen will work with a case coordinator to determine what he needs to do in order to keep from returning to life on the streets and then put together a plan to address each identified issue. Case coordinators and staff from various organizations, including the Veterans Administration, The Center and Family Guidance, and the Career Center, will work with each man to implement his plan.

After seven long years of waiting and making do with street outreach and a cold weather shelter, Haven staff and volunteers are excited about being able to help these men they have come to know and love--and those still to come--to put their lives back on track and be all that we know they can be!

To learn more about available volunteer opportunities with Community Missions at the Haven or with Juda House, contact Barb Bigelow, 816.390.8884.

### Interested in helping with Haven?

Friends and supporters of Community Missions can help open the Haven by donating funds to furnish rooms, buy bedding and towels, and by volunteering to help with meals. A donation of \$1,500 supplies furnishings for one man; \$35 houses one man for one day & night. All contributions are appreciated!

Donating in memory of a loved one who has died or in tribute to those celebrating birthdays, retirement, graduation or anniversaries is a lovely way to honor someone special in your life. Call Laurie for more information, 816.238.4511, ext. 41.

## WELCOME...

*To our new Haven staff!*

**Mechelle** A long time volunteer at My Brother's House, the cold weather shelter, Mechelle comes to us with many useful skill sets of which we plan to take full advantage! Most recently, her experience includes working as a vocation evaluator and teaching computer skills.

**Trish** Trish interned at the Salvation Army Booth Center and brings with her a background in mental health and social work, along with a desire to help people and animals!

We are very fortunate to have two great new staff people to help the men at the Haven. Welcome, Mechelle & Trish!

### Celebrate 100 Years...

*(continued from page 1)*

many inspirational--and humorous--stories of her time here in St. Joseph and at Wesley Center (including stories of JRP riding her motorcycle through the streets of St. Joe!) Next on the celebration agenda is participation in the Southside Fall Festival in September; book talks at the library with author David Lewis in the fall and winter; and InterServ's 100th Anniversary Celebration at Wesley Center in November. We even have a brainstorming session coming up in early August to make an invitation list of people who grew up at Wesley Center! For more information about participating in any of these events, or to make your reservations for one or more of them, call Laurie Spalding, 816.238.4511, ext. 41.

### Commemorate InterServ's 100th year of Service

Sponsor a child in the Wesley Center South Side Youth Program for \$35 or give a young weightlifter the gift of character for \$250.

Assure the future of programming at Wesley and Calvin Centers with a \$100 contribution to the InterServ Foundation's Century Fund and receive your copy of *Expressions of Faith*.

Support Senior citizens in living safely at home--\$25 assures home delivery of nutritious meals by a friendly volunteer every day for a week; \$75 ensures the care needed to remain safe and healthy at home.

Help a single parent struggling to raise a family without receiving welfare by donating \$125 and providing a week

of childcare for a working mother or feeding a family for a week.

Eliminate homelessness in our community. \$50 pays to reconnect water service and prevent eviction. \$225 helps a family behind on bills due to illness or layoff to pay its rent.

Honor a family member or special person in your life with a donation to InterServ in his name:

*Tributes are special ways to celebrate anniversaries, birthdays, retirement, or the birth or adoption of a child;*

*Memorials commemorate the life of a friend or relative upon his death or the anniversary of a death.*

Use the enclosed envelope to make your donation today!