

# Urban Connections

Connecting with Christ... Connecting with People.

## Spotlights

### Will You Come?

We are in need of volunteers to cook, tutor and mentor. These are our biggest needs. Cooking dinners before Bible studies feeds 10-20 of our students per night. Tutors read to kindergartners at the local elementary school. Mentors meet one on one with students. If you are available to fill one of these roles, please email Cathy at [cathy@urban-connections](mailto:cathy@urban-connections) or call her at 252-3726.

### Our Current Need

We don't always like to talk about it, but right now our finances are taking a hit. We can't meet all of our commitments, which means that our staff are not receiving regular paychecks. Please prayerfully consider beginning to give a monthly gift of any size. If you'd like to receive a monthly reminder about your giving, email Cathy.

### Thanks to DOVER ALLIANCE

A team of 13 youth and adults joined with UC and Hope Christian Church for a week to serve in our neighborhood. They lived with us, ministered with Vacation Bible School and served the church by replacing the roof. They worked hard, even giving up some of their free day to finish the project. We thank God for their devotion and hard work.

### INTERNET SEARCHING

Urban Connections can earn money when you search the web. If you would go to [www.goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com) and type "urban connections" into the box labelled "Who do you goodsearch for?", we will receive money for each search you run. Please consider making this small change for our support.

## Challenge

The New Monasticism movement has popularized the phrase "ordinary radical," I think it is also a good description of the people at Urban Connections (UC). Taken individually, we certainly do not look special. But taken collectively, we see a truly radical movement of God among us.

What does "radical" mean for us? Instead of avoiding the crime & poverty of the urban area, we move our families there. Instead of giving in to the fear & uncertainty that seems to paralyze us as a people, we care. Instead of competing with the 20+ churches & non-profits organizations in our community, we try to work together. Instead of just "admitting" that black & white, rich & poor, young & old will never get along, we fight for reconciliation. Instead of relinquishing our community to debris & graffiti, we plant gardens.

I believe God has blessed us here at UC with some extremely dedicated people who work hard & serve

faithfully as staff. But UC has been affected like many other Christian groups & non-profits by the bigger economic issues. In this last year, we have also lost about a third to a half of our monthly supporters. For over half of 2009, UC was not able to pay our already meager salaries. The staff & their families would much rather the mission of UC continue than to get paid, so we forge ahead. In our culture, that's pretty radical, too.

Obviously we would ask you to consider contributing to the need personally. But we would also ask you to consider how you can assist us in drawing in the larger body of Christ to support the work here. Consider being an advocate for UC at your church or among your friends. Consider volunteering as a mentor, a tutor, or as a cook. Thank you for your continued interest in this community and this ministry. Ordinary radicals like you can make a difference.

# L e t u s P r a y . . .

- Please pray for our financial situation. We'd like not only to start paying our staff again, but also to catch back up on what they are owed. Pray for our expanded contacts, meetings and presentations, that they would share our vision for the east side. Also pray that hearts would be open to sharing in our mission. And if you haven't already, pray that God would show you how you can support us too.
- Pray for the students as we kick-off the school year. We pray that students and families in our neighborhoods would have their hearts and lives touched for Christ.
- Pray for our role at Fairwood Elementary School. As we will continue to provide tutors and other needs there, please pray that the staff continues to be open to our participation and service.
- Pray for our teens. Some of them are struggling with "walking the fence" between committing fully to Christ and living the life they've always known. This is a struggle all believers can relate to, and we ask that you pray for the draw towards Christ to be greater than that to the life offered by the world around them.

## CURRENT NEEDS

- : Paper Towels
- : Napkins
- : Toilet Paper
- : Kitchen/bathroom cleaning supplies
- : Bleach
- : Liquid Dish Detergent
- : Dishwasher Detergent (dry or liquid)
- : Gallon, Quart and Sandwich zipper bags
- : Aluminum Foil
- : Sponges
- : Swiffer (Wet & Dry) (any brand is great)
- : Wet Jet Refills
- : Swiffer Duster Refills (any brand is great)
- : Canned Fruit - (peaches, pears)
- : Jet Dry
- : Kool-aid
- : Sugar
- : Broom and Dust Pan
- : Hand Sanitizer Bottles and refills
- : Hand Soap or refills
- : Ranch Salad Dressing
- : Special Need:
- : Tall Living Room Floor Lamp

### Joined our Mailing List?

Did you just start getting our newsletter? We expanded our mailing list to include more of our supporters. If you'd rather receive our newsletter by **email** please contact Cathy - this is a great way to reduce our costs! If you want to **stop** receiving our newsletters please email or call Cathy for that, too.

Urban Connections House  
Regina Burns  
251-0140  
regina@urban-connections.org

Doug Hartman, Director  
252-1376  
doug@urban-connections.org

Cathy Alexander, Resource Admin.  
252-3726  
cathy@urban-connections.org

Burt Manchester, Prog. Coordinator  
457-4550 (daytime)  
burt@urban-connections.org



## Bexley Copy Shop

Your Neighborhood Document Center Since 1950

Urban Connections  
447 Fairwood Avenue  
Columbus, OH 43205

