

# Urban Connections

Connecting with Christ... Connecting with People.

## Spotlights

### Mountview Baptist Mission Team

Last month a group of 17 adults came to spend the week ministering with us. For some, this was their second trip to Urban Connections (some came in 2008 for a week) and others who came are weekly volunteers with us. The week was made up of service projects, science camp, VBS and devotionals.

The week was a huge success and God blessed us in many ways. The weather for science camp and VBS were great. We had the privilege of ministering to about 30 children, sharing with them the love Christ. Check our website and our FB page for some great pictures.

Special thanks to Dave Skelton who made the video on our webpage!



### ServeFest Columbus

ServeFest is coming up on October 16th. Please mark your calendar and check [www.servefestcolumbus.com](http://www.servefestcolumbus.com) to lead your small group, church or friends in adopting a service project!

## Challenge

CONTINUED COMMITMENT

As mentioned above, Mountview Baptist sent a team of people to work with us in June. It would have been easy for some groups to come and make an impact and then walk away, but this church is different. The people at Mountview are committed to seeing what God is doing in our neighborhood, and God is blessing their devotion.

Here is a very brief summary of two years working together: Two years ago the leaders of the youth group were looking for a local mission trip. They brought a group of teens to stay with us for a week, one of whom decided to become a weekly volunteer. And then a friend started coming every week, and then her dad joined them. And then another teen friend came with the group. A couple of the regular volunteers became mentors to some of our inner city youth. And because of the existing connection, the church's small groups started looking for ways to volunteer for special work days and so more got involved. Because of how God is moving, the pastor began a scripture series on "the least of these" and invited us to come and speak. And, most recently, when unrest and violence in Thailand forced them to cancel their trip overseas, they chose to minister with us locally instead!

As a result of their time teaching some of our kids this June, they asked if they could take a few kids to the church's week-long summer camp. So three of UC's elementary kids went to northern Ohio for a week with some youth from Mountview. While there, two got baptized (with parental permission and checking to make sure they understood and didn't feel pressure) and one recommitted her already existing decision for Christ. They had so much fun that they wanted other kids to go, so two weeks later four of our middle schoolers went to camp with a pastor and youth from Mountview. During their week those four also expressed desire to be baptized and got to do that at camp! I'm happy to say it's on video for the parents to see so they can participate in this part of the kids' lives.

God is using the faithfulness of the people at Mountview is having an impact on our neighborhood. If any one person in a long chain had simply said "no, thank you", many lives would be sadly lacking. We are glad they haven't walked away and blessed to call them our partners.

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

- Our finances are still falling behind our needs. Pray for provision for UC, and pray about how you might be able to assist us.
- The opportunity to partner with the schools is coming quickly. Pray for our continued relationship with Fairwood Elementary and also for our new opportunity at Ohio Avenue Elementary. We hope to assist in any way we can, so pray for openness and plenty of willing volunteers.
- We will travel to Chicago in early September for the Christian Community Development Association conference. Pray for times of encouragement, training and refreshing among our staff.
- Pray for our fall KidZone Clubs and Teen Nights, for the students with whom we have relationships and also for the students we will meet. Pray also for the students who have been baptized over the summer as they return to school as committed followers of Christ.

Urban Connections House  
251-0140

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

Cathy Alexander, Development Dir.  
252-3726  
cathy@urban-connections.org

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

## Updated Website

Have you checked our website lately? Our new videos, blogs, and updated newsletters are available there as well as finding volunteer and support opportunities. Check it out, and check it often!



[www.facebook.com/urbanconnections](http://www.facebook.com/urbanconnections)

## INTERNET SHOPPING

Urban Connections can earn money when you search the internet or shop online. Please go to [www.goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com) and enter Urban Connections in the "who do you goodsearch for?" line. It costs you nothing!



Urban Connections  
447 Fairwood Avenue  
Columbus, OH 43205