Urban Connections

Connecting with Christ... Connecting with People.

Spotlights

Calendar of Events

June 12 - Work Day at UC House (email Cathy to sign up) June 14-18 - VBS 6pm-8pm June 25-26 - Leadership Retreat

Summer Schedule:

Monday & Tuesday KidZones will combine to meet on Tuesdays in June and August. Wednesday's Middle School Group will take place in June and August. Thursday's High School group will take the whole summer off.

Congratulations

We're happy to announce a new member of the Urban Connections family. Sophie Hartman was born to Doug & Jill Hartman on April 19th. She's beautiful and we pray for health and rest for the whole family!

INTERNET SHOPPING

Urban Connections can earn money when you shop at Amazon, eBay, Target, Gap, Best Buy and hundreds of other online retailers. Go to www.goodsearch.com/toolbar/urban-connections and download the toolbar for UC and we automatically receive a percentage of your purchase!

Challenge

"for we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works..." (Eph 2:10)

When I got married one of the presents was a beautiful handmade picnic basket. It was a brandname, quality, craftsmanship treasure, and I'm sure it wasn't cheap. It was made to carry up to 30 pounds of goodies and to be enjoyed. It is in my kitchen, on top of my cabinets where I can see it, but sadly I don't think we've ever used it. I wonder how the person who bought it for us (who might read this newsletter) would feel to know about the lack of use.

I mention this because there are very few things in our world that are handmade, but this basket is one thing I think of when I read the word "workmanship" in this verse. The word itself feels awkward because we don't use it often, but it conveys the art of skill, or the quality given when something is made. But in Ephesians, Paul isn't talking about a basket, he is talking about believers. He has just reminded them that they are saved by grace, not of

their own works; they are God's workmanship. We often think of creation as a "it all happened back in Genesis" kind of way, but I think this means they are each re-created new in Christ for a purpose. The same is true of us as believers. We are newly created and we have a purpose. Are we doing what He created, saved, and re-created us to do?

In 1Peter 2:12 we read that we should live such amazing lives among non-believers that they can't help but glorify God when Christ returns. So let me ask: do you know any non-believers? (If not, go meet some.) If you do then you have to ask: do you think they will praise God because of the good you do?

Ephesians tells us there is good to be done, good that was put here for you to do it. As part of Christ's body you are a treasure, crafted of the greatest quality and ready for use. The only question now is whether you will seek out the good that is waiting for your hand to help it or whether you will sit on a shelf and collect dust while looking pretty.

Will you join us in prayer?

- for our summer ministries, Vacation Bible School, mentoring, KidZone clubs, camping and anything else we get ourselves into. Pray that outreach would be fruitful, that our endeavors would be safe and quality relationships would be built.
- for our teen groups. Our middle school youth are open, learning and engaged. Our high school youth are reserved, distracted and debating. We yearn for both groups to see their need for Christ, for growth in their relationships with Him.
- for our staff and their families. Pray that we would be safe and renewed over the summer.
- for our volunteer and financial support bases. Pray that God would continue to provide all of our needs so that we may keep serving Him in our neighborhood.

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PAINTING



YARDWORK



WORK DAY AT UC

Saturday June 12, 2010

If you are willing to serve **Urban Connections and** our neighborhood grab a few friends and give Cathy a call! We need lots of hands!



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