

Factory News

The Factory Youth Center exists to offer help with life and the hope of Jesus Christ to teens and their families who live in the Pequea Valley area.

Factory Newsletter

Fall 2009

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Economy Affects Families in Poverty

"Poverty is not just about not having money, it is about feeling unloved and uncared for with nowhere to turn" - Mother Teresa

The downward turn in the economy has affected all of us in one way or another. However, for many families living in our communities this past year situations have surfaced that seem hopeless.

I think of several families we are assisting through our partnerships with churches, schools, individuals, businesses, and other organizations.

Families who have no income, resources or support system will have to face many situations during this time.

1. When both parents lose their jobs they get behind in their rent and face



possible eviction. Where do you take a family of 5 or 6 to live before winter? For some, they are already homeless, living with others, in trailers, or in motel rooms.

2. No income source means they get behind in their electric bills and receive their "turn off" notice. If they live near a stream they can always use 5 gallon buckets to get water to flush the toilets. But what about electric heat or appliances to cook on?
3. When their car needs repairs of \$500-\$1000 they cannot pay to get it fixed. If they even have a job, they cannot get there and may lose it. They cannot drive their kids anywhere so they are stuck at home. Taking them to the doctor becomes a difficult task.

Without a car, they lose all independence.

4. If this winter is as bad as they say it might be then they will not be able to pay for heat or hot water.
5. In addition to these basic needs, families with these issues become discouraged and emotionally empty and surviving seems impossible. There is no where to turn.

Each of these situations represent actual needs we have witnessed with some families. The economy has magnified the issues of poverty to an extreme level. For many, the next few months will be like a wave of problems and despair that will send them further into poverty and give them a feeling of hopelessness.

I am asking each one of us to ask, "What can I do to help those in need?". We cannot do everything but we all can do something.

A Night of Blessing

On Saturday, September 28th, 2009, Calvary Church banquet hall was filled with almost 275 supporters and partners for the 6th Annual Dale Albright Banquet and Concert benefiting The Factory Youth Center.

We were challenged by Chuck Holt, the director of The Factory as he shared the effects of the economy on families struggling with poverty. We were challenged to do something to help those in our community.

The night was also filled with a delicious banquet meal and great fellowship. What a blessing to see so many from different churches, businesses, backgrounds, and ways of life all coming together for a common cause!!

We were also treated to a special concert by the talented voices of two local groups - The Hagans Family and Harmony.

Thanks to the generosity of our banquet sponsors and all who were in attendance, we were able to raise almost \$19,000. Special thanks to everyone who had a part in making this event such a blessing. Thanks to Dale Albright who was willing to dream big for God. What a wonderful seat he had as he watched with delight from his home in heaven!

If you missed the banquet and still wanted to make a donation please log on to:

<http://www.thefactoryyouthcenter.com/donations>.



A vision to help!

Recently I was meeting with a couple who supports The Factory. They were burdened with the need to motivate others to be able to do something to help. They shared with me that not everyone is in a position to give \$100 but anyone can give \$5. We discussed how a restaurant chain advertises that you can get a foot long sub for only \$5. Imagine, they said, what we can do if everyone gave \$5 to help a family in need.

Therefore, we have decided to begin a “**5 to Survive**” campaign. Each person is asked to make a simple donation of \$5. This \$5 will go toward helping families this winter keep heat in their homes, food on their tables and keep the electricity on.

What about you? Will you commit to give \$5? Maybe you can give \$50, \$500, or even \$5000. Donations will be accepted via mail in the envelope enclosed or via the web at <http://www.thefactoryyouthcenter.com>. Together we can make a difference in our community, \$5 at a time!



Factory House Update



We are making great progress on The Factory House. We have received our grant for the handicap accessibility and expect it to be completed by the end of this year.

Our next phase will be to replace the HVAC and the electric in the house. We need to

raise \$12,000 to do the HVAC and \$12,000 to do the electrical. Our fundraisers have helped us keep up with our budget but have not been enough to move forward with the renovations. We need our generous supporters and business partners to step forward in a great way and help us finish this project.

Our last phase will be to finish the bathrooms, kitchen, and various work. Then we can furnish the facility and begin ministry.

We anticipate completing The Factory House by early next year. Once completed, the house will serve as the hub for connecting needs and resources by being a location where organizations can come and provide their services to our community and by providing a neutral setting for churches to offer programs and support groups to those in our own community.

New Logo

We have designed a new logo. The new logo embraces our name and history (we meet in an old factory building). The smoke coming from the smoke stacks is in the shape of a heart symbolizing that something caring, friendly and loving is taking place inside. The tag line "offering help and hope" tell the story of how we are manufacturing changed lives.



Special thanks to Ryan Smoker Design of Lancaster for his creativity!!

GREAT JOB!

We wanted to give a special thanks to all our supporting churches for your dedication in providing meals to feed the students who attend The Factory. In addition your vision for being there for our community has shown itself in the giving of thousands of dollars to help rescue families in dire need. You are setting the pace in our community and it is our honor to partner with you in offering help and hope to those in need.

Winter Retreat Season is Here!



Each year we take students all the way to Camp Orchard Hill, in Dallas, PA. The retreat is always a time for the students to get away, do something different, laugh, spend time with staff, and hear talks on how God can help them through their lives.

Every winter as we drive up I ask myself "Why do we attempt something so big?"

There are always obstacles and problems as we descend on the camp with our teens.

However, each year I am amazed at how God works. Last year we had some students really open up and deal with some huge areas of pain in their lives.

This year we will be attending winter camp February 12-14. The cost for each teen is \$125. We are asking for 24 people to provide scholarships so that our teens and staff can experience this retreat. We are also looking for someone to provide the funds for us to travel (along with Cross Connection Youth Center) via bus.

To make a donation of \$125 to sponsor a teen, please send your check in today or make a payment online at <http://www.thefactoryyouthcenter.com/>

Give more than thanks this Thanksgiving

Each year we provide Thanksgiving meals to 25 families. These meals are \$75 each and are purchased from Bob Evans Restaurant.



Each meal includes everything for a Thanksgiving feast for a family of 4-6 people. All food is cooked and provided in portable containers for easy reheating and/or storage.

If you are interested in providing a Thanksgiving meal for a family in need, please call The Factory at 717-687-9594. The meals can be delivered by The Factory or by your family or group.

This is an excellent way for a family, small group or small business to reach out to our community in a tangible way.

Thanks to the following business partners who have sponsored this newsletter!

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Special thanks to our supporting business owners how have made substantial contributions this past year

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Please honor and support these businesses!



What is The Factory?

The Factory is a nonprofit 501 (c) 3 local ministry supported by area churches, businesses, and individuals and exists to offer help with life and the hope of Jesus Christ to teens in their families in the Pequea Valley area.

The Factory is a faith-based organization and does not discriminate by sex, race, beliefs, and status in life or anything else.

The Factory offers various programs for teens and their families.

These program include:

Open Door Nights - Monday and Thursday evening from 6:00-8:00 for teens in grades 6-12. These nights provide a safe place for teens to connect with one another and connect with God.

Small Groups and Lesson Time - During our open door nights students are taught lessons helping them understand how to have a relationship with God.

Partnering with Parents - A monthly meeting for parents to share, resource, and connect with others.

Mentoring - Staff are encouraged to build relationships with students on a one-on-one basis to demonstrate the unconditional love of Jesus Christ and to offer help with issues teens face.

Big Events - Various activities are planned throughout the year that are designed to provide fun, build relationships, and share Christ's love.

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