



Washington Street MISSION

Easter 2002

Dear Friends:

What an exciting time of the year!

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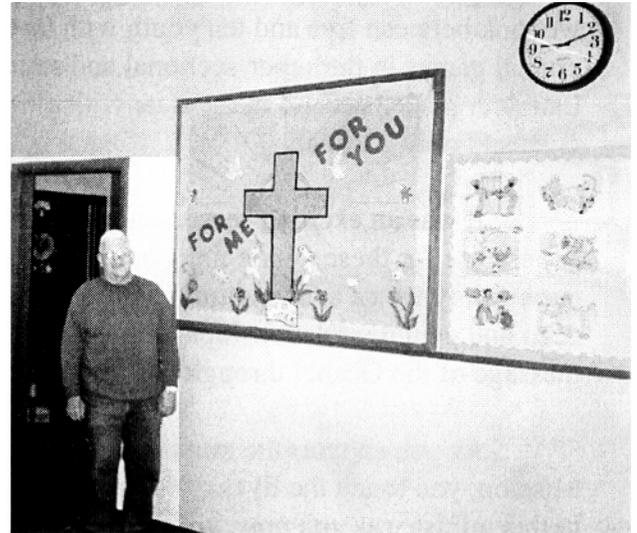
Stan Welch

Larry I. Yarrington

This year just as Easter approaches, the high school basketball season is coming to an end. Both open up exciting opportunities for ministry for us at Washington Street Mission.

As we continue to serve coffee and doughnuts and distribute clothing, we find additional opportunities to share the message of the Gospel with the people we serve during the Easter season. More people are open now to hearing the message of the death and resurrection of Jesus and the difference he can make in their lives.

We also have a unique opportunity to share the Gospel message with the children who come to the afterschool tutoring program at the Mission. As we explain the Easter story to them during our Bible time, we use a "story cube" developed by the authors of **The Beginners Bible**. As the children open and unfold the cleverly-designed cube, the Easter story is told with colorful pictures in five simple statements:



Joe helped us put up this Easter bulletin board at the Mission. The message that Jesus died "for me" and "for you" to bring us new life is proclaimed in all the ministries of the Mission.

Board Members Emeritus

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- When Jesus entered Jerusalem, all the people praised him.
- Jesus shared his last meal with his disciples.
- Then Jesus went to a garden to pray.
- The rulers took Jesus away because they did not like him. (One of the younger children in the group likes to say that "the mean jealous dudes" took Jesus away.)
- They put Jesus on a cross where he died.
- Then Jesus rose from the grave and went to heaven.

This basic outline gives the children a way to understand the basic events of the Easter story. It allows us to introduce them to the message of the Gospel as we challenge them to put their trust in the Jesus who died for each one of them.

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We have also used the story cube with the older youth who come to the Mission on Thursday evenings. We have even shared it with people who come to the coffee hall in the mornings.

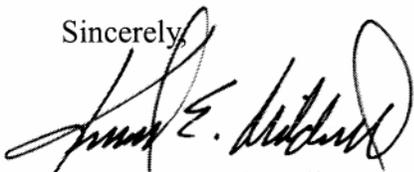
The high school basketball season has also opened doors for ministry at the Mission. Several of the young men who are involved in Mission activities are outstanding high school basketball players.

Throughout the season, we attended virtually all of the games played by Lanphier High School to support and encourage these young men. During the playoffs in March, we took between five and ten youth with us to each of the crucial games in the super-sectional and state competition. Lanphier placed second in the state with a final record of 32 wins and only 2 loses.

It was an exciting season and a once-in-a-lifetime experience for these young men, but it was also a tremendous opportunity for us to spend time with these youth, develop deep and genuine relationships with them, and share the message of the Gospel through our lives.

As you support the ministry of Washington Street Mission, you touch the lives of many people. You can join us in this ministry as you pray, volunteer your time, donate clothing and household items and support us with your gifts. Your gifts make a difference especially during this Easter season.

Sincerely,



Kenneth E. Mitchell
Executive Director



Tony had an outstanding basketball season for Lanphier High School team. He's been coming to the Mission for children's and youth activities since he was three or four years old.