

# [ ] Servants' Heart

The newsletter of the Christian Service Center

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## A Little Hope Goes A Long Way

Ever since the earliest days of the church, Advent has been celebrated as a time of spiritual renewal and hope. What started as a time of regeneration has grown to a worldwide proclamation of the arrival of our Lord. This anticipation is part of our hope . . . our expectation of things to come.

Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, and the conviction of things yet unseen. Each day, the Christian Service Center provides help to those who have little left but hope. Let me share just one story.

Michael came to the Center, homeless and in need. Through his desperation, he maintained a glimmer of hope for things to get better. At first, we helped him with food and place to rest and one of our volunteers shared God's Love with him each day. Michael wanted to give back, so he helped clean up around our office and packed groceries. His work ethic caught the attention of a partnering church who "adopted" Michael, found a place for him to live and eventually hired him as their assistant custodian. Now, months later, Michael continues on a path to wholeness - all because of a faith that assures us of things that are hoped for.

Each day, hundreds of people come to our doors. This year, unlike any we have seen, has brought demands to an unprecedented level. People are looking for help and turning to the Christian Service Center for hope. Our resources have been stretched like never before and it appears that there is no end in sight . . .

While we have all been blessed, God calls us to touch the lives of others. I'm asking that you help us address this burgeoning need by giving sacrificially to the work of the Center. Your gift, regardless of size, will be joined with others' to impact those who need our help.

As we anticipate the arrival of our Lord, may we find renewal as we share the hope that He gives each of us. This year, may your Christmas be blessed beyond measure, as you bless others.

Robert F. Stuart  
Executive Director

## Want to Help but Don't Know How?

Here are five things you can do right now.

- 1 Commit to donate \$10 to the Christian Service Center from every paycheck in 2010.
- 2 Organize a clothing drive at work or at church to collect professional clothes, belts and shoes for men who are looking for work.
- 3 Visit [www.ChristianServiceCenter.org](http://www.ChristianServiceCenter.org) to learn about specific volunteer opportunities.
- 4 Set aside a regular time to pray as a family for families in Central Florida who are struggling to stay in their homes.
- 5 Leave a legacy by remembering the Christian Service Center in your will.

## A Friendly Volunteer Challenge for You!

Anne Taylor  
Cathedral Church of St. Luke



This summer our youth group took on a challenge □ re-decorating the waiting room where hundreds of clients sit every week at the Christian Service Center. It took us no more than 4 days to complete the entire project, which included a fresh coat of paint along with some new window treatments and chairs to update the look. This was a fun activity for our youth group to do while, at the same time, making a difference in the lives of those who spend time in the waiting room □ many who are desperate to experience comfort and beauty. It's amazing how love and compassion can be expressed through something so simple. When we put the finishing touches on the room, we gathered in a circle of prayer to bless the space and the people who would be coming through these doors.

If a youth group can do it □ so can you! I encourage **you** to consider taking on a room at the Christian Service Center, and giving it some fresh paint and some new wall decor. For less than \$1,000 you can give back and make a lasting impression. Maybe your family is looking for a service project that can be done on a weekend, or perhaps your small group or even the people in your office. It doesn't take much to make a meaningful difference! Call Chrissy today at 407-425-2523 ext.230 and tell her you'd like to be part of the Re-do Project! You don't have to be a decorator, you just have to have a heart for helping others.



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