

The Seed

Published by the Lafayette Urban Ministry
November 2007



21st Annual Community Thanksgiving Celebration

Thursday, Nov 22

Noon-2PM

Central Presbyterian Church
7th & South Streets

*In the red brick education building
(entrance on 7th street)*

Everyone is welcome

At left: cheerful placemats created by children decorate the hall at this annual community-building event.

You can help!

Give a cash donations to defray expenses. Mail your check marked "Community Thanksgiving" to 525 N 4th or give online at www.lafayetteurbanministry.org. You may also contribute to the free will offering box at the dinner.



Also, many food donations are still needed. Call LUM at 423-2691 or sign up online at www.lafayetteurbanministry.org



Thank you

by Mary Anderson, Executive Director

T

here is an old song from the movie "White Christmas" (it's about time to start seeing Bing Crosby and Rosemary Clooney again on TV reruns) that has the refrain:

*If you're worried
and you can't sleep
Just count your blessings
instead of sheep
And you'll fall asleep
counting your blessings*

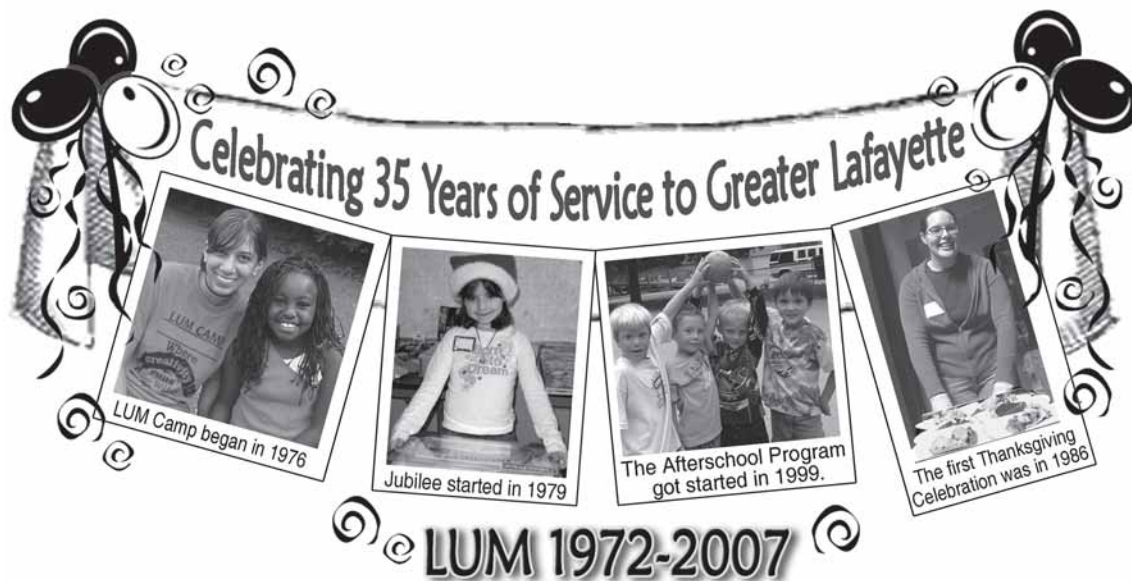
LUM has been blessed this year in countless ways. As we head into the holiday season, please accept our heartfelt thanks for all you have done to support the families and children that we have been privileged to serve this year.

To our donors and our volunteers: you have kept our doors open and our services flowing. We could not do this without you. You have sponsored and mentored campers; you have spent time listening to clients; you have fed and nourished our shelter guests; you have done taxes and stuffed envelopes and bagged groceries; you have donated your time, talents and treasure to serve the least among us; you have supported us with your prayers and your service.

And to the LUM staff: you have met deadlines, you have endured meetings, you have fixed pipes and mended hearts.

Our donors are LUM's heart. Our volunteers and staff are LUM's arms and legs, hands and feet. And working together, we serve.

So, in the midst of the sometimes hectic holidays, I will pause, and count the blessings that are Lafayette Urban Ministry. And I'm sure I'll sleep peacefully. ☺

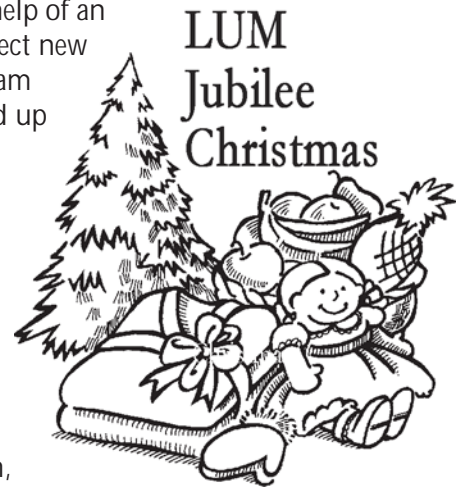


Jubilee Christmas is right around the corner!

On December 15, 24 churches will host Jubilee toy shops with the help of an additional 12 partner churches. Almost 600 invited parents will select new toys, clothing and books for their children, as well as receiving a ham and food certificate for Christmas dinner. Everything gets wrapped up and taken home so the family can celebrate together on Christmas morning.

YOU can brighten the Christmas season for these families by:

- Delivering new, unwrapped toys or clothing for newborn-12 year olds to the LUM office or any participating Jubilee church site by Thursday, December 13.
- Making a financial donation to Jubilee. Use this opportunity to honor a special person at Christmas, or in lieu of an office party or gift exchange. Just send your check to LUM, bring it in person, or donate online at www.lafayetteurbanministry.org.



LUM
Jubilee
Christmas

"Jubilee was such a blessing for our family. We've been through a rough time. The people warmed me with love and welcomed me like a member of their family."

—Jubilee participant from last year

Be a volunteer tax preparer— callout on Nov 28!

Help hard-working families with incomes below \$39,000 claim the Tax Credits they've earned. One hour of your volunteer time can boost a family's income as much as \$4,700! Last year, LUM's free tax preparation program brought over \$600,000 of tax credits (over \$1.3 million in total tax refunds) into the community—into the hands of people who needed the funds to feed, clothe and shelter their families.

Become a LUM volunteer tax preparer with a weekly 3-hour commitment from mid-January to mid-April. No experience necessary, but training is required. Free training is provided by the IRS online. We'll also give you materials for home study.

Volunteers are needed on:

- Monday & Wednesday evenings from 5 to 8 PM
- Thursday afternoons from 1 to 4:30 PM
- Thursday evenings in February
- Saturdays in February 10 AM to 4 PM

There will be a callout for interested volunteers on Wed. Nov 28 at 5:30PM at Bison Financial Group, 423 N 3rd St. Contact Patti O'Callaghan at 423-2691 or pocallaghan@lafayetteurbanministry.org.

The
Bach Chorale
Singers



"Family Carols"

A Christmas concert by the Bach Chorale

Saturday, Dec. 22, 8:00pm

Long Center for the Performing Arts, Lafayette
A portion of the proceeds will benefit LUM.

Order forms available at LUM or through
the Bach Chorale ticket office.

Be sure to write "To benefit LUM" on your order form.



Touching the future by helping children and families today



LUM 1972-2007

Celebrating 35 years of service

The SEED • November 2007

Change Service Requested

Briefly noted

- The Afterschool program (ASP) needs volunteer helpers** during the first three weeks of December. Contact ASP Director Cindy Haley at 423-2691 or asp@lafayetteurbanministry.org.

- LUM is seeking Weekend Shelter Coordinators.** Coordinators are on duty from 8pm-7am but are allowed to sleep for part of that time. Coordinators receive a stipend of \$35/night. Applications are available online at www.lafayetteurbanministry.org (go to "Be an Overnight Shelter Volunteer" under NEWS and scroll to the bottom of the page) or contact Joyce Boehm at 423-2691 or jboehm@lafayetteurbanministry.org

- You can be a shelter volunteer!** Volunteers are especially needed in the emergency overnight shelter during the upcoming winter holidays. Training is required. For more information and training dates, go to www.lafayetteurbanministry.org or call LUM at 423-2691.

