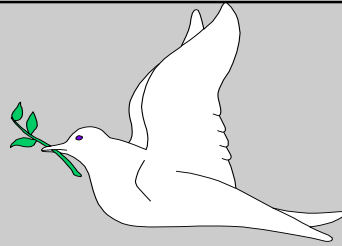


Norcross Cooperative Ministry
The Greg Ellis Center

Serving those in crisis through the
resources of the community given in
the love of Christ.



NCM Herald

A publication of the Norcross Cooperative Ministry

September — December 2005

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What is the Norcross Co-Op?

The Norcross Cooperative Ministry is a faith-based, non-profit, non-political organization dedicated to serving men, women and children in the Norcross community, a metropolitan suburb north of Atlanta, GA. Founded in 1988, the mission of the Norcross Co-Op is to provide emergency assistance to families in crisis. The Co-Op is an ecumenical ministry supported by twenty-one churches in Norcross. NCM also receives support from local businesses, civic and social organizations, foundations and individuals.

Building Fund Report

We are striving to be debt free by the end of 2005. The new facility is valued at over \$1.2 million. Our goal is to eliminate the remaining mortgage of \$95,000. We have some exciting news that will help us achieve our goal.

A special donor and supporter of NCM will match every dollar given to the NCM Building Program beginning with contributions made in June and continuing through December 2005.

Any financial gifts made to the building fund during this time will count double for NCM. We need your support so this facility will be totally paid for this year.

Prayerfully, we are asking you for the possibility of a donation toward the building that will count double during this limited time of matching gifts.

God has already shown Himself to be faithful through people like you. We are thankful for your generous hearts. We could not do it without you!

Barnes & Noble at the Forum 3rd Annual Charity Book Fair

Mark your calendars for the week of November 13—November 19, 2005. Plan to shop at the Barnes & Noble at the Forum during this week to support the Barnes & Noble / NCM Charity Book Fair.

Proceeds from this annual event support the school supply and ESOL program for the following year. NCM receives a percentage of the sales based on sales to customers who present the NCM Book Fair vouchers. The voucher provides details about qualifying sales. A voucher is included with this mailing. If you forget your voucher during the event, remember to ask your cashier about it when you check out.

Help us spread the word about this event at your place of work, in your schools and neighborhoods, and through your civic and social clubs.

If you need additional vouchers, please call the NCM office at 770-263-0013.

Stock Donations

NCM can accept donations of common stock. Our Financial Advisor, Mr. Dan Kinney of The Kinney Group, can be reached at (770) 449-9079. For some people, the direct donation of stock can have certain tax advantages. The Kinney Group has been gracious to offer us their assistance, at no charge to us, in maintaining an account that will ensure the proper processing of gifted stock.

NCM gratefully acknowledges the donation of printing supplies and services by Trinity Press.

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Food Pantry Needs

NCM distributes over 3,000 bags of non-perishable food each month to more than 900 families. Your donations are important. Avoid glass containers. Please give generously.

Canned Meats (Tuna, Chicken, Ham, Spaghetti & Meatballs)
Canned Fruit & Vegetables
Cereal and Juice (Apple, Grape, Orange)
Macaroni & Cheese
Peanut Butter & Jelly
Spaghetti Sauce & Spaghetti Noodles
Personal Care Items for men and women including soap, shampoo, toothpaste, toilet tissue, feminine products and laundry detergent.

Campus Church of Christ Project "Kids Eat" Update



We gathered together in May to decide if we had the budget and the volunteers to deliver meals this summer to the children living in the extended stay hotels within our community.

The project proposal was met with excitement and pleasure by everyone in our church, at our school, and from our friends.

The initial goal was to feed 100 children this summer, at least two times each week. The goal was not only met, but exceeded through generous donations from our Campus family and other supporters. On May 31, we delivered the first meals to 100 children. The project grew to 152 meals, five days a week by the end of eight weeks. What an amazing blessing!

Your prayers, love and support for this project and these children who are in so much need and so close to our doors, has been wonderful, and we hope you will continue to pray for this ministry.

Just so you know the impact of this project has on the children, please read the following thank you note from a child who received lunches through the program:

"When I first saw the lunches I was afraid to take them, now that I took them I was afraid to eat them, now that I eat them I am afraid to love them and now that I love them I am afraid to lose them." Devon

Reprinted with permission from
Campus Family Matters

Kroger Commitment Cards

For years NCM has benefited from the Kroger Commitment Card Program. This has been the easiest and least costly way donors could support NCM. As of June 11, 2005 Kroger ceased supporting organizations like NCM. The program is being restructured to focus exclusively on children's education.

Job Services Update

Wow, what a day! CareerFest 2005 was a great success. Many thanks to our partners, Hope for the Future, the Georgia Department of Labor, and the Gwinnett Coalition. Our vendor turnout was the best yet, at 57 participants! Hats off to our volunteers for their hard work and dedication.

And to our job seekers, we wish you luck and continued success as you follow-up on these job leads and others throughout your job search!

Year-To-Date Service Report

Total number of families served	5,851
Total number of adults served	9,912
Total number of children served	8,953
Total number of senior citizens served	249
Total number of individuals served	<u>19,114</u>

Praise the Lord for helping us help so many!

Donations Envelopes Included



We invite you to use the convenient self-addressed envelope included with this newsletter.

You may designate your gift to be used for "General Operations", "Building Loan Reduction", "Food Pantry", "Christmas Assistance", or "Client Rent or Utility Assistance".

Make your check payable to "NCM". Each and every donation helps someone!

Distinguished Service Awards



Special thanks to...

UNITE Weekend Activities

Victory World Church for starting the Small Group Bible Studies and for their outreach project "Vacation Bible Fun" and Unite weekend activities.

Campus Church of Christ / Greater Atlanta Christian School for the "Kids Eat" summer program for children and youth in local extended stay hotels.

Thanks to all the churches who conducted food and/or school supply drives as Vacation Bible School Mission Projects.

Norcross and Peachtree Corners Post Offices for doing the annual "Stamp Out Hunger" food drive.

Simpsonwood United Methodist Church for collecting financial donations and for coordinating with the Kroger warehouse to provide almost 500 boxes of non-perishable food and personal care items.

Theta Conclave of Kappa Kappa Iota for their generous donations of food, clothing and baby items.

Peachtree Corners Rotary Club for producing, "Chicago In Norcross". The evening's events raised \$1,500.00.

Fowler YMCA for doing the mission project.

Small Groups Beginning at NCM

Very soon NCM will be embarking on a new and exciting outreach ministry. Beginning mid-August, members from Victory World Church will lead small group Bible studies at the Co-Op.

The studies will be held on Wednesday and Thursday nights for six weeks. We will start with two groups, one English and one Spanish. We invite friends and supporters of NCM to come and be a part of this ministry. Volunteers are invited to join us at the place where our call as Christians and God's hands "meet" and transforms lives.

If you are interested in helping us with the small group ministry, please contact Shirley Cabe at Shirley@norcrossco-op.org or Alfredo Garcia at agarcia@victorywc.org.

The Good Samaritan Health Center of Gwinnett

We are excited to announce that the clinic opened June 13, 2005! And, more importantly, we want to express our sincere gratitude to you for your support. In the first three weeks we saw 70 patients and provided nearly \$10,000 in care.

Good Samaritan Gwinnett stands firmly poised as a beacon of light armed with the challenge of meeting the health care needs of those without health insurance. Addressing a need so intrinsically embedded in the well being of the community requires the full attention, continued support, and vested interest of the community we have committed to serve.

If you would like more information on how you can continue your support of this ministry, please send an e-mail to curtis@goodsamhc.org or call Curtis Tyler directly at (678) 280-6630, ext. 102.

School Supply Drive Report

Once again this year, thanks to the generosity of the community, NCM had a very successful School Supply drive. We have been collecting school supplies all summer from local churches, Vacation Bible Schools, companies and individuals. This program also received a grant from the Gwinnett Gladiators and received some of the proceeds from our 2004 Charity Book Fair. Thanks to all of these donations, we have provided school supplies to six local elementary schools and three middle schools. We have enough extra to provide supplies to the five additional schools in our community. We appreciate all of the support we received from the community again this year. A special "THANK YOU" goes to Miss Jennifer Adams who coordinated our project this year as part of her Gold Award for Girl Scouts.

Volunteers Needed

With summer vacations coming to an end and kids heading back to school, do you find you will have some free time in the coming months? NCM could use your help! We have daytime, evening and weekend times available where you can help in your local community. Working with clients is our greatest need at this time, although there are plenty of other opportunities available in the office; with food & clothing donations; or special seasonal projects. If you have time, we have the place.



2005 Holiday Assistance

*Reach out and make the holidays brighter
for a family in Norcross.*

The Norcross Cooperative Ministry celebrates its 17th anniversary this year. Since inception the ministry has provided emergency shelter, food and clothing for those in need in the Norcross Community. In the year 2004, with the help of individuals and businesses, we provided services to over 10,000 families.

One of our annual projects is to provide a Christmas meal and gifts or toys to needy families in Norcross. In 2004, we provided holiday meals and gifts to over 1,100 families (3,300 children). We anticipate receiving approximately 1,200 applications for toys and gifts for about 3,600 children aged newborn to 17 years this holiday season. If you would like to do toy drives or donate toys or make a financial donation toward the NCM holiday assistance program, please contact our office at 770-263-0013.

*Please deliver new unwrapped toys to the
Norcross Co-Op by December 10, 2005.*

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Donation Hours

**Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday from
9AM to 3PM**

Tuesday Evenings from 6PM to 7PM

Saturdays from 10AM to Noon

Directions

**The Norcross Cooperative Ministry is located on
Mitchell Road in Norcross one mile down the road
traveling East from Buford Highway.**

TOY WISH LIST:

- **BABY DOLLS (ALL RACES)**
- **CARS / TRUCKS**
- **BARBIE DOLLS & ACCESSORIES (ALL RACES)**
- **ACTION FIGURES**
- **PLAY TOOL SETS / PLAY TEA SETS**
- **LEGOS**
- **SPORTS BALLS**
- **HANDHELD ELECTRONIC GAMES**
- **BOOKS (FOR KIDS AND TEENS)**
- **BOARD GAMES & PUZZLES**
- **WALKMANS**
- **REMOTE CONTROL CARS**
- **WATCHES (PLAY THROUGH TEENAGE FOR BOYS & GIRLS)**
- **PERFUME / COLOGNE SETS**
- **JEWELRY**
- **HAIR ACCESSORIES**
- **MAKE-UP**
- **CRAFT SETS / ART SETS**
- **EDUCATIONAL GAMES**
- **WAL-MART / TARGET GIFT CERTIFICATES (\$20 MAX @)**
- **KROGER / PUBLIX GIFT CARDS (\$20 MAX @)**

**WE WILL ACCEPT NEW UNWRAPPED TOYS FROM SEPTEMBER 1
THROUGH DECEMBER 10, 2005.**