

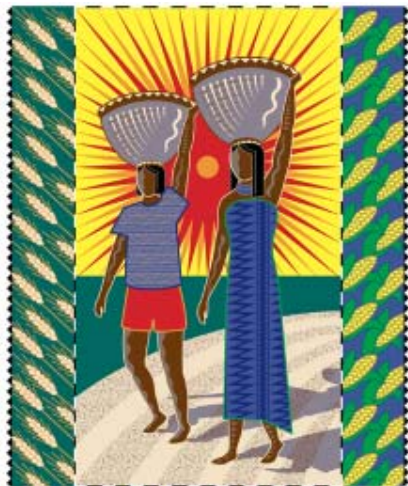
THE MICAH 6 MESSENGER

A PUBLICATION OF MICAH 6 OF AUSTIN, TEXAS
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VOLUME 3

JANUARY/ FEBRUARY 2006

NUMBER 1



CROP WALK

March 4 & 5



Hunger Banquet

March 25

All Saints'

Episcopal Church

Volunteer Laura Tanier is one of those recognized for special contributions to Micah 6 during the Volunteer Recognition... part of the Luncheon, Annual Meeting and Combined Worship on January 22nd.



IN THIS ISSUE...

- p. 2 CROP WALK; Hunger Banquet
- p. 3 New Officers; Volunteer Leadership & News
- p. 4 Annual Meeting and Combined Worship
- p. 5 The Crossing on DVD; A Good Thing...



In January, we served 851 households, with 2,306 individuals!



THE MICAH 6 MESSENGER

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2006

PAGE 2

YOU ARE INVITED TO A HUNGER BANQUET ON MARCH 25TH

Do you know what it feels like to be hungry? Imagine coming home after a long day at work to nothing but a bowl of rice or perhaps a tin of beans, with maybe a glass of water to wash it down. Thirty-seven million Americans – and more than a billion people worldwide – don't have to imagine this. They do know what it feels like to be hungry because they live in hunger every day.

On March 25th, you can better understand the plight of the hungry and offer your support at a Hunger Banquet. Its purpose is to raise awareness of hunger worldwide. Each guest draws a ticket that randomly assigns him or her to the high-, middle-, or low-income tier, as determined by World Development Report Statistics. The person is served a corresponding meal: 15% (high-income) are served a sumptuous gourmet meal (catered by Jeffreys!); 25% (middle-income) eat a simple meal of rice and beans; and 60% (low-income) receive small portions of rice and water. You may not leave the event with a full stomach, but you will leave with a greater understanding of the problems of global hunger and poverty and a desire to alleviate the problems.

The Banquet will take place on **March 25th, from 6:30 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.**, at the **St. Austin Parish Activity Center** on the corner of St. Antonio and 21st Sts. The event is cosponsored by **St. Austin Catholic Parish**, the **University Catholic Center** and **Micah 6 of Austin**. As a sponsor, Micah 6's member churches will all publicize the event and sell tickets. **Tickets are \$5 for adults and \$3 for students and children.** You can contact the event publicist in your church or the St. Austin parish office for tickets. Proceeds will be shared by the Micah 6 Food Pantry, Catholic Relief Services, and Oxfam America (who is supplying the materials for the event).

With advanced reservations, babysitting will be available for children younger than 8 years of age. Please call 512/477-9471 by March 22nd to reserve childcare. For more information about the event, please contact **Ed Gifford** at 453-9742 or egifford@austin.rr.com.



CROPWALK MARCH 4 & 5

Have your walking shoes ready? Have you sponsored a walker? The 2006 CROP WALK is March 4th and 5th. Once again, Micah 6 will receive a portion of the proceeds raised here in Austin. If you haven't already done so, it is not too late to sign up to walk or to sponsor a walker through your church.

Walkers will gather at Roy Guerrero Park on Saturday morning/ Sunday afternoon. Saturday registration begins at 9:30 a.m., and the walk starts at 10:00 a.m. On Sunday, registration is at 1:45 p.m., and the walk starts at 2:30 p.m.

Help your church group raise awareness and funds for Micah 6, the **Capital Area Food Bank**. Last year, about \$120,000 was raised in Austin and Micah 6 received 2% of those funds. Nationally, CROP WALKS shared \$3.6 million with food banks, pantries, community gardens, and other local hunger-fighting agencies in the U.S. \$15 million was raised to support hunger relief efforts world-wide.



*Make us worthy, Lord,
To serve others throughout the world,
Who live and die in poverty and hunger.
Give them, through our hands and feet,
This day their daily bread,
And by our understanding and love,
Give peace and joy. Amen
- prayer by Mother Theresa*

THE MICAH 6 MESSENGER

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2006

PAGE 3

VOLUNTEER NEWS YOU CAN USE

Micah 6 now has a new Coordinator for Volunteer Recruitment & Training.

Brea Plum has graciously agreed to become our new Volunteer Coordinator. She will be working with our Congregational Coordinators to share information about training and other volunteer news. Brea can be contacted at sabreean@mac.com.

Mary Wright is now the coordinator for food pantry volunteers not associated with one of the Micah 6 member congregations.

Thanks to Mary Wright for joining our team of wonderful Congregational Coordinators! She will serve our volunteers coming from outside our congregations with a designated coordinator, including our many volunteers from **Mesa Community Church** and **the university student community**. Mary can be contacted at mlwright04152@yahoo.com.

The Capital Area Food Bank is now delivering our weekly food orders directly to our pantry doors!

This is a wonderful service provided by the **CAFB** free of charge, and Micah 6 is the first group to receive this service. This means that we now need fewer driving volunteers to pick up food. (We still pick up perishables, such as dairy, fruits and vegetables.) This is a tremendous help to us & will ultimately allow us to order more food for the pantry. A very special thank you to the CAFB staff that helped make this happen!

Thursday Pantry operations now begin at 1:00 p.m.

As a result of the CAFB free delivery, we are making a slight change in our Thursday schedule. Rather than beginning at 2:00 p.m., things now start hopping at the pantry at 1:00 p.m. on Thursdays.

NEW BOARD OFFICERS

Thanks and congratulations go to the officers elected at the February Board meeting. **Michael Dodd** is our new President; **Bert Crowson** serves as Vice President and **Marie Webster** as Second Vice-President. New board members **Michael Cummings** and **Harriet Choffel** will be our Treasurer and Secretary, respectively. We appreciate the work they will be doing this year on behalf of Micah 6!



Our heartfelt thanks to outgoing Board members (l to r) Carla Wade, Carolyn Smith, Paul Jensen and Phyllis Nugent!



THE MICAH 6 MESSENGER

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2006

PAGE 4

THE ANNUAL MEETING AND COMBINED WORSHIP SERVICE VOLUNTEERS RECOGNIZED AT LUNCHEON

Volunteers and supporters attended the luncheon on Sunday and heard about the growth of Micah 6 over the past year. AAIM Director, **Rev. Emilee Whitehurst**, shared words from Martin Luther King, Jr. about the fabric we all weave through our love and support for one another and how we are doing that at Micah 6. 'Back-room' volunteers **Scotti Woolery-Price**, **David Durbin**, and **Sue Williams** were recognized for their work on volunteer coordination, web site development, communications and PR.

Front-line volunteers **Darrell Robinson**, **Laura Tanier**, and **Craig Bell** were recognized for their stand-out contributions amongst the many Micah 6 volunteers (about 275). They each received a special 'award' that represented their special contributions to Micah 6. Craig was recognized for the many jobs he performs. In honor of his flexibility and many roles at Micah 6, Craig received a pack of 4 rolls (*get it?*) of toilet paper! Darrell Robinson is a safety volunteer who is cool as a cucumber as he mediates and manages the crowd with a great sense of humor. His award was – you guessed it – a cucumber. Laura Tanier is the Thursday sorting supervisor. She received a box of Jello because she is gentle but unflappable and firm in the midst of the chaos of sorting. It was a moment of both good humor and real appreciation for these volunteers' exceptional support of Micah 6!

Afterward the group gathered in the sanctuary for a Solemn Evensong service. The service began with a warm welcome by **Rev. Mike Adams**, All Saints' rector, and the sermon was delivered by the Rev. Emilee Whitehurst. Rev. Whitehurst shared one of her early experiences with social justice and assured those present of her strong belief that God is working through Micah 6.

We hope you had a chance to see Micah 6 Pantry Director **Amy Smith Edwards** and All Saints' Episcopal Church minister **Rev. Mike Adams** on the KXAN (NBC) morning news on Saturday January 21st at 8:30 a.m. They spoke with anchor Sally Hernandez about Micah 6 and the annual meeting and combined Worship Service.



Above: Amy Smith Edwards presents volunteer award recipients Darrell Robinson and Craig Bell with tokens of appreciation.

Below: New Board Members (l to r) Gretchen Olson, Harriet Choffel, Beth Kelley, and Michael Cummings were introduced.





"The Crossing" is now on DVD. If you are interested in obtaining a copy of the play for your church or for yourself, please contact Charles Locklin at 343-0782.

A Good Thing...

Have a special celebration coming up? Maybe an anniversary or birthday? If you appreciate the expressions of love from your friends and family but don't want gifts for yourself, consider suggesting a donation to Micah 6 of Austin to those who wish to mark your celebration with a gift. Last year, a couple celebrating their marriage did so and raised over \$1,800 for Micah 6!

And what does the
LORD require of you

To act justly
& to love mercy and to
walk humbly with your

GOD.

M I C A H 6 : 8

Founding Member Churches

All Saints' Episcopal Church
Congregational Church of Austin
First English Lutheran Church
Saint Austin Catholic Parish
University Avenue Church of Christ
University Baptist Church
University Christian Church
University United Methodist Church
University Presbyterian Church

The mission of Micah 6 of Austin is to work together to identify and meet the needs of the homeless and the impoverished in the University of Texas campus area.

Micah 6 Messenger

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The Micah 6 Food Pantry is at
University Baptist Church
2107 San Antonio St. (at 22nd street)
Thurs 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. &
Sat 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.

What does the Lord require of you?