

It's time for a fresh look at HGM's Bargain Center!

By Craig Pedersen, Director of Business Operations

With over 300 customers per day, our Bargain Center is one of the main ways Hope Gospel Mission interacts daily with our community. Our customers love the great selection of products and the value pricing that we offer. However, less customers have visited the Bargain Center in 2011 than in 2010. The former, aging Cassidy's Super Store building was turned into the Bargain Center in 2003 on a very small budget. Now a new fresh look is needed to provide an attractive environment for our shoppers and to remain competitive and profitable. The flooring, lighting, painting, parking lot, signage, and check out area will all be greatly improved by this Renewal Project. Improving the "back room" hands-on job training areas of the Bargain Center with better lighting, brightly painted walls, and windows for natural light, will create a more positive work environment for the residents enrolled in HGM's Renewed Hope Program, the Senior and Youth Job trainees, and the many people who volunteer.

Is it important to invest in the Bargain Center?

- Very low overhead allows donated items to be efficiently turned into funding for the Men's Shelter, Ruth House and Solomon Learning Center. 80% of HGM's annual funding for our men's and

women's shelters comes from our businesses.

- Over \$250,000 in clothing and furniture vouchers have been given away directly to those in need since the Bargain Center opened. The City of Eau Claire Housing Authority, Eau Claire School District, Beacon House, Bolton Refuge House, The Community Table, Catholic Charities, Western Dairyland and many area churches send needy individuals to the Bargain Center for direct assistance through our Agency Partnership Voucher program.
- Our shelter residents receive hands-on job skill training that equips them to KEEP their next job. 100% of the men and women who have completed the one year job training at the Bargain Center and Building Hope have obtained paid jobs in the community.
- Tens of thousands of essential clothing and household items are purchased monthly by middle and low income families for about \$3 per item. Those in need can stretch their family

Continued on page 3



Volunteers helped start some of the Bargain Center Renewal projects this last Summer.



Thanksgiving Banquet

Join us for our Thanksgiving Banquet on Thanksgiving Day from Noon to 2pm at 8 S. Farwell Street. If you are interested in being a volunteer, donating food or helping defray the cost of this event, email us at questions@hopegospelmission.org or call us at 715-552-5566.

From Craig Pedersen, Director of Business Operations

Wow, look where the Lord has brought us in just a few short years! The “touch points” that the Bargain Center, Building Hope and Auto Sales have had with the community are nearly innumerable. Hospitals, schools, churches, businesses and individuals call us daily to have us come and pick up anything from automobiles to rocking chairs. It is the overwhelming generosity of the community that gives Hope Gospel Mission the ability to bless those in need.

Thanks to your donations...

- Students, young mothers, college students, cabin owners and everyone else who loves a good deal are able to purchase quality items at great prices.
- When fire takes away a family's home, they are able to come to our Bargain Center for free furniture vouchers. Also, every month approximately 300 clothing vouchers are given away, many to those on the verge of becoming homeless.
- We are able to provide hands-on job training to the residents in our Renewed Hope Program. It is amazing to see someone who may not have worked a steady job in a while come alive as an employee during their time at the Bargain Center and Building Hope. Men, women, teenagers, and the elderly also come to our stores through various workforce rehabilitation programs to learn new skills as they work to enter or re-enter the job market.

We also enjoy the support of dedicated volunteers who help us bridge the gap between the huge workload and the limited staff hours. Every month

the team (many of whom have been with us for multiple years) amazingly turns the tens of thousands of items donated at both stores into quality merchandise that is priced, displayed, and ready for a new home.



We love to see the daily customers, the weekly customers, and the ladies who regularly travel from Minneapolis for a day trip to the Bargain Center and lunch at Mike's Smokehouse across the street. Overall, over 300 people per day walk through the aisles and experience a unique shopping experience. One businesswoman recently shared with me that when the stress of her work week gets really bad, she likes to just come and be in our Bargain Center. She said that as soon as she enters our building she feels a sense of peace that is unlike other business settings.

As believers in Christ, we know that the reason this woman and others feel this sense of peace in our stores is because they are more than just retail outlets; our businesses are a place of ministry. Every day begins with prayer and a time of devotional reflection as we seek to impact all those we come in contact with. We feel privileged to be a part of the Lord's work in serving our community.

May God bless you, our donors, shoppers, volunteers, and supporters, as you join us in looking forward to what the Lord has in store for the businesses of Hope Gospel Mission!



O come, let us sing unto the Lord: let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation. Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto him with psalms. For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods. In his hand are the deep places of the earth: the strength of the hills is his also. The sea is his, and he made it: and his hands formed the dry land. O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the Lord our maker. (Psalm 95:1-6)

A Note from the Board

As was briefly discussed at the Mission Banquet, Hope is in the beginning stages of planning for and implementing a new shelter for women and children who need help and are willing to accept our assistance. As with our other Mens' and Womens' programs, this new program will focus on rehabilitation using a Christ-centric approach but with a slight twist. It is our thought that we would work with the family, utilizing our existing training programs, the Solomon Learning Center, and by developing several new programs focused on parenting skills, child care, nutrition and financial matters. For the children, age appropriate programs *Continued on page 4*

Bargain Center *(continued from page 1)*

- budgets by shopping for affordable, necessary items with dignity.
- The Bargain Center recycles over one million pounds of clothing, metal, cardboard, books, electronics and other items annually, keeping these items out of area landfills.

Who is committed to this project?

Hope Gospel Mission's Board of Directors is behind the Bargain Center Renewal project. Our Board supports this project 100% both with their vision and their finances. The Mission's staff is committed to this project with their time and donated funds. Our faithful volunteers, some of whom put in 20+ hours per week, are excited about the much needed improvements to the Bargain Center. When we shared this project with some of our key donors, they quickly pledged their support because they know that by supporting the Bargain Center, their dollars are multiplied many times over through their investment in a successful, proven model. Our residents and our staff who help those in need with clothing and furniture vouchers are supporting this project because they realize the impact the Bargain Center has in the lives of those in need of tangible assistance.

As you can see, the Bargain Center is changing lives by being a huge part of our ministry to the

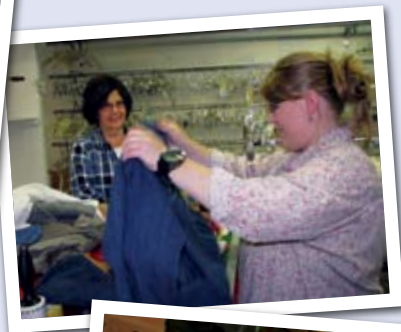
homeless and our neighbors who need a caring heart and a helping hand. Now is the time to join together to "renew" the Bargain Center so that it can continue to renew lives that are hurting! Will you help us help others by both praying for this project and donating financially? As God has blessed us, let us share God's heart for the needy among us:

For he delivers the needy when he calls, the poor and him who has no helper. He has pity on the weak and the needy, and saves the lives of the needy.
Psalm 72:12-13 (ESV)

To learn more about this project and to get a walk-through tour, contact either Craig Pedersen at 715-271-4673 or John Ailie at 715-552-5566 ext. 105.

(Above & Above Right)
Our staff works with our residents on a daily basis at the Bargain Center, teaching, training and providing encouragement.

(Bottom)
Bargain Center Staff member Rita throws an un-sellable book in our book recycling bin. We recycle hundreds of tons of metal, clothing, cardboard and more every year.



WHAT IS THE RENEWAL PROJECT GOING TO COST?

Retail Area Upgrades - \$39,346
Flooring Upgrades - \$61,000
Production Area Upgrades - \$32,000
HVAC & Lighting Upgrades - \$52,934
Parking Lot & Exterior - \$46,184
Newer Donation Pick-Up Vehicle - \$30,000

Handwritten notes: 4.13 x 22, 18', 10/6/2018

We thank Tri-Star Industries for their financial sponsorship of our Banquet of Hope.

TRI-STAR INDUSTRIES

Annual Banquet of Hope Update

Our annual banquet was held at The Florian Gardens on September 27. The attendance was one of the largest ever with many first-time guests. Pastor Wade Duroe was the emcee. Mark Donnelly introduced the board of directors, including two new members, and shared the vision of the board to provide more services in the future. Craig Pedersen shared the many ways the Bargain Center helps the men and women in our shelters as well as the community. He gave a preview of the exciting plans to renew the Bargain Center to keep it going strong into the future. One of the men from our Men's Shelter told about his life before coming to the Mission and how he has been helped. We saw a video interview of one of our graduates who now has a good job, an apartment, a car, and regularly volunteers to cook at the Men's Shelter. We thank the



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Ben, a resident in the Renewed Hope Program, shared how he came to the Mission after years of alcohol abuse and running from God.

many businesses and individuals who were sponsors of the banquet and gave door prizes, and the guests, volunteers, Hope Gospel Mission employees, and The Florian Garden staff who made for a very enjoyable evening together.

Banquet of Hope Financial Sponsors

We thank the following financial sponsors for making our Annual Banquet of Hope a success:

Amy Chapel	Hagen Decorators
Associated Bank	Hartung Appraisal Co.
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AutoCare Center, Denis Hansen	Interstate Towing
Badgerland Printing	Jeff Heughins
Birch Street AutoCare, Jason Helland	Karen Hurd Nutritional Practice
Creative Memories, Tom & Kay Bradt	Kivlin Eye Clinic
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Grace Baptist Church	Verna Gunderson & Cora Shiffer
Great Harvest Bread Co.	Word of Life Bible Church
	Xcel Energy



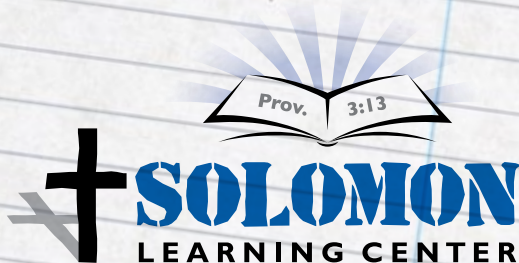
Note *(continued from page 2)*

would need to be developed that focused on their development, progress in learning and the importance of good character, etc. The object of the program would be to break the cycle of poverty, abuse and homelessness and help families achieve a measure of success by becoming fully productive members of our local community. This is nothing new. It has been the thrust of our programs since Hope was founded in 1998.

Currently there are three women's/ family shelters in the Chippewa Valley. All three of these facilities are full to capacity and have waiting lists. This suggests that there is, and continues to be, a very real need for another family shelter in our community.

There are several possible configurations for a family shelter (such as a mother with children, battered women and children, or father and mother with children). Which type of shelter do we develop – or do we, over time, develop all of them? How many buildings do we need? Where should they be located? Do we develop a single program or a program that is tailored to each configuration – the needs of each are different. What about staffing? What will the financial needs be? Only our Great God is able to answer these questions and provide the answers.

This is why we covet your faithful prayer support. Without your faithful support we can accomplish nothing or at best, very little. We are reminded of God's promise to Jeremiah: "Call unto me, and I will answer you, and will tell (show) you great and hidden things you have not known" (Jer 33:3 ESV). How will He answer, and what is He going to show us?



Enhance Your Options, Advance Your Career.

These classes start January 2012.

Leadership Training

Are you a leader or a manager. Is there a difference?

Using material from some of the most influential leaders around the country, we will explore what a leader looks like, and then go through the process of developing ourselves into the best leaders we can be. Think about your career potential and opportunities that can open up to you if you are an influential leader within your company. Are you trying to get a better job? Learn how to market yourself as a leader who can get things done. Leaders exist at every level – you don't have to be in a management role to appreciate the value of this training.

Employers: Enroll your team in this class and you will benefit from the extra level of competence that your team brings to the table at your company.

Resolving Everyday Conflict

Resolving Everyday Conflict is an eight-lesson study seminar that unpacks the amazing things the Bible has to say about conflict and relationships. As you go through this study, you'll find the powerful and practical answers you are looking for to forever change how conflict looks in your life. In the workplace, help employees deal with conflict at work (and everywhere else).

Studying Resolving Everyday Conflict in the workplace has two key benefits. It will help your team members by giving them practical tools to handle conflict at work and outside work, and it will improve your organization as your team learns to resolve conflict quickly and constructively (or avoid it altogether!).

Intro to Computers

Computer skills are essential in today's workplace. A basic understanding of what computers are and what they are capable of can open up many job opportunities. This class will cover the basic make-up of a computer, how to set one up, important computer terms, how to use programs, managing music and pictures, connecting to the internet and, overall, how to make it work for you.

Intro to Keyboarding

Touch typing is a sport that relies on the muscle memory in your fingers. The only way to become proficient at it is to practice, practice, practice. This class will go through the best techniques for practicing and doing it correctly. You will be given all the resources you need to maximize your results and reach your Word-Per-Minute goals.

Intro to Microsoft Word 2007

Microsoft Word is a powerful program. It's not just for writing business letters (although it does that too). Come to this hands-on seminar to learn what Word is capable of and what it can do for you. We will focus on Word 2007 and get to know the new layout while also covering the differences of Word 2003 and Word 2010. Leave with a firm foundation on the basics and a better knowledge of many simple tips and tricks that the average Word user overlooks.

Intro to Microsoft Excel 2007

Microsoft Excel is a versatile program. Come to this hands-on seminar to learn what Excel is capable of and what it can do for you. We will focus on Excel 2007 and get to know the new layout while also covering the differences of Excel 2003 and Excel 2010. Leave with a firm foundation on the basics and a better knowledge of many simple tips and tricks that the average Excel user overlooks.

For details and to enroll...



Go Online

solomonlearningcenter.org



Call

715-514-4291



Stop By

307 S. Farwell Street, Eau Claire

In Honor of...

We thank the following individuals for their financial support of the Mission in honor of a loved one or friend. Persons being honored are in bold text.

Jerry Ostertag, Raymond <i>Nawrocki</i>	Margaret Schneider, Rolanda <i>Rada</i>
Our Parents, Thomas & Doris <i>Zimmerman</i>	Glenn L. Schreiber, Denis <i>Schreiber</i>
Our Parents, Thomas & Mavis <i>Bleskachek</i>	Dick Seebauer, Dennis & Karen <i>Wagner</i>
Lea Rae Pastorello (9), Samuel <i>Pastorello</i>	Jesse Sherman, Kenneth & <i>Carol Sherman</i>
Terry James Peuse, Jerry & <i>Barbara Peuse</i>	Teddy W. Shilts, Premier <i>Drywall LLC</i>
Charles Potter, Elizabeth Potter Frank, Gayle, & Thomas <i>Preston, Dorothy Preston</i>	Walter Smith, Joyce <i>Fredrickson</i>
Dr. Don C. Purnell, Ramona <i>Purnell</i>	Dawson & Kelly Sneed, Kim <i>Yearman</i>
Thomas Ranney, Gaylen & <i>Beverly Johnson</i>	Gail Svee, Dennis & Karen <i>Wagner</i>
Michael L. Reidt, Bill & Jane <i>Maule</i>	Gordie Thompson, <i>Margie Thompson</i>
Vivian Remington - Ponies (2), Jean Holtman	James Tietz, Rose Tietz
Robert Risberg, Dennis & <i>Karen Wagner</i>	Michael Todd (2), Frank & <i>Karol Todd</i>
Julia & Ignatz Rombalski, <i>Bernard & Nelly Rombalski</i>	Omer Tormoen, Bernice <i>Tormoen</i>
Joe Rosenberg, Dennis & <i>Karen Wagner</i>	Russell Truber, Russell Truber <i>& Jean Grace</i>
Clemens Roter (3), Rosemarie <i>Roter</i>	Craig Tuttle, Judith Ann Kistne
Richard Ryan, Mary Lou Ryan	Harlan E. Wagner (6), Dennis & <i>Karen Wagner</i>
Margaret Sagstetter (2), <i>Robert & Margaret Sagstetter</i>	Walter Waller, Gene & Mary <i>Krueger</i>
Ida Scharlau, Dennis & Karen <i>Wagner</i>	Becky Wilkinson, TheresaAnn <i>W. Beck</i>
	Ivan & Esther Yearman, Kim <i>Yearman</i>

Our Christmas Dinner

We invite you to join us for our annual Christmas Dinner from 5pm to 7pm on Saturday December 17 at 8 S. Farwell Street. We especially invite those who do not have family close by to join our family for a good meal and a warm atmosphere as we remember the birth of God's Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ. If you are interested in being a volunteer call Justin at 715-552-5566 #103 or email him at justin@hopegospelmission.org.



Needed Items

MS: Men's Shelter. RH: Ruth House.

- ☐ Shampoo (MS)
- ☐ Deodorant (MS, RH)
- ☐ Ibuprofen (MS)
- ☐ Double-edged razors (MS)
- ☐ Soap (MS)
- ☐ Athletic socks (RH)
- ☐ One-a-day vitamins (RH)
- ☐ Notebooks (RH)
- ☐ Hair accessories (RH)
- ☐ Twin sheet sets (RH)
- ☐ Day planners (RH)
- ☐ Phone cards (RH)
- ☐ Pillows (RH)
- ☐ Unscented body wash / body lotion (RH)

All donations are tax-deductible and can be dropped off at the Men's Shelter at 8 S. Farwell Street in Eau Claire.

Congratulations Residents!

Congrats to Robert, Tina and Adam for their Renewed Hope Program phase promotions; as well as to Ben, Robert, Adam and Steve for completing Right Start, Right Step (a drug & alcohol recovery program)!



www.hopegospelmission.org

General Office
PO Box 1127
Eau Claire, WI 54702
(715) 552-5566

Men's Shelter
8 S. Farwell Street
Eau Claire, WI 54702
(715) 552-5566

Ruth House
2517 Moholt Drive
Eau Claire, WI 54703
(715) 834-4000

