**Dayton Christian Center** 1352 West Riverview Ave Dayton, OH 45402 Phone: 937-275-7174 Fax: 937-275-3222





# A Valentine Well Wish To Our Dedicated Staff

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And a host of others who dedicate their time.



### DAYTON CHRISTIAN CENTER

A FAITH-BASED COMMUNITY CENTER THAT NURTURES YOUTH. **EMPOWERS** FAMILIES, AND **PROMOTES** COMMUNITY

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# **Executive Director Article**

You will notice a distinct theme as you read through this mini-newsletter/ extended thank you note. We wanted to take an opportunity to express Dayton Christian Center's thanksgiving for the wonderful year and holiday season we recently celebrated. Throughout this letter you will read and visualize stories of gratitude, miracles, and gifts.

2007 was a great year for the Dayton Christian Center. We experienced growth in all areas; from donors to programs to staff. We added several new partners and supporters from the American Baptist family, additional churches beyond our ABC family, and many individuals and organizations. The Dayton Christian Center is tremendously blessed to have partners that support and believe in what we do. Even your small gifts of time, talent, and treasure make a difference in the lives of those we serve.

I was amazed as I watched a constant stream of White Cross deliveries during November and December. On several occasions we received exactly what we needed for that day and that

### **JANUARY/FEBRUARY** 2008

week. We also received various gift cards from ABC groups throughout the United States. We witnessed many visual reminders that God provides just what we need when we need it.

Your generosity also empowered us to give multiple Christmas presents to our children and gifts to our clients. One local church donated Kroger gift cards to distribute to staff and families. I wish each of you could have seen the joy on their faces and in their hearts as those gifts were shared.

Dayton Christian Center anticipates a great year in 2008. Your support is valuable now more than ever so we can continue to reach more people who need to experience real hope as only Christ can bring. Thank you for a great 2007!

With a thankful heart, Bob Bishop **Executive Director** 



## The Dayton Christian Center Thanks YOU!

The Dayton Christian Center would like to say thanks to all of our American Baptist Supporters in the state and around the country. This newsletter is meant to say thanks in a variety of ways. Please read the stories we have gathered to share as we are feeling the blessing of God.

"The holiday season brings out the best in people, as witnessed by all the gratitude and love shared during our holiday events." ~Bob Bishop

> Whether it was their very first Christmas or one of many, all the children loved celebrating the holiday with the **Dayton Christian** Center and Santa.



"I really love my child's teachers and what they do for my child. I really love the time they take to care for her."

"I am thankful for what

Center provided for me

Christmas time, it was a

wonderful event. I was

The Comminey Family

the Dayton Christian

and my kids at

truly blessed."

Thank you,

Sharonda Payne

"I would like to thank the Dayton Christian Center for the Christmas gifts and everything they do for my family."

Love, Kathy Reaves and Family



"I am Rachel Trapps, The Dayton Christian Center really helped my family make Christmas much happier and I really thank them and so glad for them helping out."

Thanks, The Trapp Family

## All About Childcare

As you can see the Dayton Christian Center was truly 54 boxes this year! THANK YOU! blessed this holiday season. From the smiling faces of the There were several small miracles along the way. We children when Santa arrived, to the overwhelming feeling of serve children from 6 weeks to 12 years of age, so our thanksgiving when the White Cross boxes continued to needs for gifts vary. We were coming down to the wire pour in, it was season filled with miracles. I just wanted to and found that we were short in the toddler sizes of take this opportunity to share some of those stories. clothing. So the week before the party I was praying as I We had several groups call and ask what our needs were was opening some boxes and found the exact items this year and they were able to meet those needs in several needed to complete the last few boxes. God is so good!

ways. Each child received a present filled with love from Thank you all for your continued support of our ministry your hearts. It contained clothes, hats and gloves, crayons, here in our small corner of God's creation. coloring book, stuffed animal, toy or doll, toothpaste and Tasha Johnson toothbrush, games and/or puzzles. We were able to provide



## **Christmas Giving**

The Lord lead the members of South Brook Community Church to have a Kroger gift card drive to benefit the Dayton Christian Center. We were overwhelmed with their generosity! After much prayer and brain storming, the decision was made to purchase Christmas dinner for the needy families that we serve. A phone call was made to the manager of Kroger and a major shopping spree ensued. The staff at Kroger were most helpful; they selected food items, placed our order, and packed everything in carts for pickup. We didn't even have to wait in the checkout lane or unload the carts.

Kroger donated all the boxes seen above that were decorated by loving hands. Thanks to the many donations received from churches around the country, every box was filled with Christmas dinner, a brand new Bible, and a bag full of personal hygiene products. We had a total of 27 boxes to fill and were short on Bibles, deodorant, and toothpaste. Each day new packages arrived and we anxiously opened them trusting in the Lord to provide for exactly what we needed. Our Lord is so faithful, to see packages come in from California, Minnesota, New York, Kansas, Missouri, Ohio, Illinois, and lowa among a few. To realize that

### Thanks from the Schoolage Room

I would like to give thanks to everyone who volunteers at the Dayton Christian Center. It has truly been a blessing. I give thanks to my co-workers who I work with everyday. You are the best in every way. I give thanks to our families for being here when I need you the most. Thanks for coming out to the Christmas Party. It was a great time of fellowship for the staff, families, and dear friends. I love each and everyone of you. May God continue to watch over you.

Always, Ms. Goines

the Lord leads people all over the country to send just the right amount of the missing items is just incredible. We serve a great God who knows exactly what we need, large and small, even as small as a tube of toothpaste! Thanks so much to everyone who gave from the heart to bless us this Christmas season.

### Marilynn Welsh



One of the boxes full of gifts for our needy families.