



TRANSFORMING COMMUNITIES

Deteriorated neighborhoods are magnets for crime, violence, and values that are not life-enhancing. We are working toward reversing the deterioration and bring life-affirming, life-enhancing, life-giving values and hope to troubled neighborhoods. Together **WE** can make a difference!

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You're Invited To Transform Lives!

Would you like to make a difference in the world, and change your church at the same time?

If so, we would like to invite you to please come and be a part of an experience that will do both.

DEAR CHURCH PARTNER,

Over the course of the past year in the Altoona District we have had the opportunity with many of our neighbors to begin to transform our communities through local mission work that has changed our community, parts of Altoona, and our church---and now we would like to invite you to be a part of it. We believe this type of opportunity can benefit the entire conference, igniting the spark of mission throughout our districts and churches and make a difference in the lives of real people at the same time.

Specifically, we would like to ask that you and your church consider any weekend from April to October in 2008 in which you, a group, or a part of your church congregation come for a local mission experience. Groups can come for any one day (any Saturday for example), a weekend, or even a week if you would like (this is great for youth groups or any church group desiring a mission trip experience).

Given that we are a connectional church, this is a practical way to get everyone involved in a mission opportunity without having to go a great distance away or spend a lot of money. The experience can be as long or short as you desire. There is no cost to you other than your time, needed items for your trip, and any donation you would be led to give. Last summer we saw over 6 homes completely re-painted, porches repaired, sidewalks in the neighborhood be re-done, and other beautification projects completed. And that was just with a few churches! The city of Altoona has now even been in touch with us to share some



of its needs and see where we might be able to help. We believe that the Central PA Conference can not only change this area, but take skills learned and practiced to areas all over the conference!

We would love to see every church in the conference be able to commit to even one time of service throughout the summer of 2008 and watch the difference we can make together in both the community and our respective churches. This is why we are contacting you now so that you can adequately plan and coordinate a time to come. The need is great! But together we can do so much more than apart!

We can coordinate a work project for you and provide accommodations as needed (come stay in our Koinonia House!). We simply need you and the members of your church to commit to a day/weekend/week that would work with you and your ministry.

Our Transforming Community coordinator is Danny Billetter and he can be reached at (814)-943-2072 or through the church email at: 2ndaveumc@verizon.net Please consider being a part of this amazing opportunity to work together, making a significant difference in our part of the world, and benefiting your own church and its people in the process. Please contact us with questions, interest, or comments.