

Once upon a time, there was a man who was not boastful nor loud. He did not need to be the center of attention. He went about life in a quiet but meaningful way. He loved the children, and made it a point to sneak them a peppermint candy. He was supportive and caring of those whose lives had been filled with bad choices and unwise decisions, but never gave any appearance of judgment. He was a man who truly loved unconditionally.

Wayne Rogers was a long-time volunteer and supporter of Fifth Street. He was one of the men who built the Open Door Clinic building - now named the Grant/Lippard/Rogers building because of the incredible volunteer hours given to that project and more. Until he had some serious health issues in the late 1990's, Wayne was one of the ones we called to perform various maintenance duties in our facilities. After health kept him from performing many tasks, he became our cheerleader. No matter what project we were undertaking, Wayne was behind us 100%. As new facilities were built, Wayne would keep up with its progress, almost wistfully, and I was left with the sense that he was sad because he couldn't be in the middle of the building process.

Wayne worked closely with his buddies - Gerald Grant and Grady Lippard on many, many projects... primarily doing maintenance projects for folks who could not pay...and without expecting a penny for their work. It was just what they did, never needing their picture in the paper or having someone notice them. Wayne and his buddies worked on Habitat houses, he went overseas on mission projects, and just lived a life of making a difference in so many ways.



*Wayne and his beloved partners, Grady and Gerald*

He loved to be busy, he loved life and he loved people.

Over the summer, as Wayne became weaker, Gary and I talked so much his life, a man small in stature, but one of the biggest men we have ever known. As we talked and moved among those that knew him, we realized even more the influence of this sweet, gentle person who walked softly on the earth, and whose impact reached far and wide. Be that we all make such a difference in the world by doing what came so naturally and easy for Wayne...just loving and interacting and engaging and nurturing.

Wayne never forgot "the least of these" and those he touched will never forget him. What a wonderful legacy Wayne leaves for his family and what a mark he has made on the world. Thank goodness that world included Fifth Street.

september-october 2010

Patti West



*...do justice...love mercy..*

diakonos

*For many, many years, this space was reserved for Gary's "Westside" column.*

*This newsletter, we turn it over to our new Operations Officer, Bill Adams...and we need you to help us name the column. "Babylon Bill" was his suggestion. See why we need your help?*

*Submit your suggestions to [pwest@fifthstreetministries.com](mailto:pwest@fifthstreetministries.com). You might be a winner!!*



Back some 20 years ago, I was working for a manufacturing company where the majority of our employees were earning low wages in rather labor intensive jobs. There weren't a lot of late model cars in the parking lot and nobody went out for lunch, but there was always good conversation and laughter, and cake. It seemed there was always somebody having a birthday. It also seemed that about every other Monday morning, we came to work to learn a fellow employee or ones family member had met with tragedy over the weekend. Anything from broken cars to broken bones; house fires to death. No matter what it was or who it was, a collection, or a "take up", was always, well, taken up. And people always gave, however much or little didn't matter. By mid week there was a significant offering to aid someone in need. I must confess I didn't understand the concept of community back then as I do now but that was a beautiful example and I am grateful of the lesson.

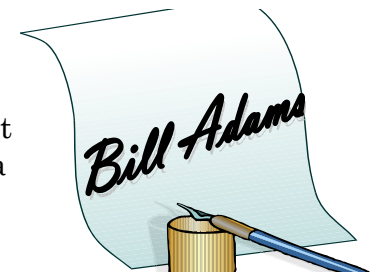
Whether we think about it or not, all of us for the most part live in community. Our city and townships, schools and workplaces, churches and neighborhoods, family and friends are all examples of communities we live in. I would hate to think of life without them. When tragedy strikes we all pull together to bring aid to those in need, but what about our daily life? The little things that we do every day, or have done for us, that makes our lives just a bit more pleasant. There are examples all around us if we just pay attention.

In my first few months at Fifth Street I have stood back many times and watched as members of our community come to one another's aid. Our friend "Howie" uses his power chair to get around campus but sometimes the batteries start to die before he can get to an electrical outlet. Several times I've seen some of our residents pushing Howie up the hill to Patti's Place so he can plug in and recharge. Many of our guests come from out of town and are not familiar with the area. Melissa, one of our

guests, has been given the title of "orientation queen". She has a gift for taking up with a new person having a hard time adjusting and showing them around. Though it is at times a difficult situation, it is good to see children playing on our playground. Two of our little boys go to kindergarten together and as I watch them walk across the yard, arms around each other shoulders, I imagine the solidarity they share throughout the day as they know they live in the same community. We have countless stories of one guest helping another and I hope to be able to share more of them as time goes on. Little things go a long way around here.

We are blessed here at Fifth Street to receive gifts both large and small from so many communities in our area. From a few cans of vegetables to four pallets of apples, a bus load full of children to work in our basement or one sweet lady cooking bacon on Monday mornings. We receive monetary donations from churches, foundations, civic groups, and individuals. A recent gift which made an impression on me was a thick envelope I was given to open and record. Inside was A LOT of individual checks. Each check was written for a modest amount though generous on its own. But when we tallied them all together it was a considerable donation. I guess that was what made me think of my former co-workers and how their small donations came together to make a difference in someone's life.

It's easy to get discouraged when we don't feel like our gifts measure up to what's in the headlines but from where I stand, and sit, it's the "Widows Mite" that makes the difference. Our family and friends of Fifth Street has grown so much over the years and we are thankful for all you have done. We look forward to seeing you here or at one of our upcoming events, and bring a friend.





**Give to those  
in need in honor  
of those who  
have meant so  
much to you ...  
share your  
heart!**

**"Patti's Heart" an Iron Sculpture by Julia Wilson**

## **The 2010 Card of Hope**

*An alternative to traditional gift-giving  
for business associates, clients, teachers, family and friends  
who are hard to buy for on birthdays or at Christmas.*

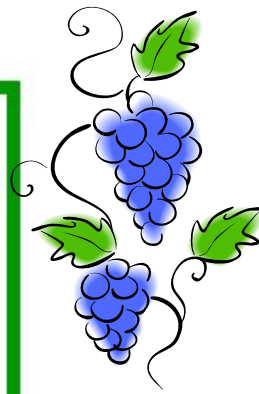
**The Card of Hope** is available for a minimum \$5  
donation to **Fifth Street Ministries**.

The card lets the recipient know of the donation  
and is also suitable for framing.

**Call 704-872-4045 for more information.**

You may select from blank cards or with cards with the following message:

*Whatever the circumstance, Fifth Street  
Welcomes you with an open heart.  
A gift has been made to  
Fifth Street in your honor.  
May the spirit of hope and joy be alive  
In your heart today and always.*



This year's Grapes of Gratitude event will be held Thursday, Nov. 18 in a new location at the beautiful Little Joe's conference center in Barium Springs. We are very excited that Statesville artist Julia Wilson agreed to be the 2010 Card of Hope artist. She created a beautiful sculpture which has been photographed and reproduced on a limited edition card. People and businesses desiring to give the gift of hope use the card as an alternative present. All proceeds from this event and the sale of the cards go to fund Fifth Street Ministries programs.

But the purpose of Grapes of Gratitude is also to bring attention to our local artists and honor the featured Card of Hope artist. Grapes of Gratitude is a dinner party where the Card of Hope artwork and the art of more than two dozen local artists are featured. These artists have donated their original art for a one-of-a-kind silent art auction with all the proceeds from the auction going to support the work of Fifth Street Ministries.

It is a festive event complete with fine wine and food and stories of hope from those who have been served by Fifth Street. The artists also attend which makes the evening more wonderful as guests admire their work and become more acquainted with the amazing talent right here in Iredell County.

Please call 704-872-4045 if you would like to receive an invitation to this event.



We're proud of the sixteen guests who participated in an ICARE program for six weeks, working in community agencies and gaining job training! Each day brought good reports and reasons for us to celebrate their successes. One even attained a full-time, permanent position out of the opportunity!

When our youngest son was about 6 years old, he was "helping" our neighbors next door as they did some renovations to their house. They laughed as they reported to us that they overheard Paxton singing under his breath, "working with my neighbor...working with my neighbor!" How delightful it is to work with our "neighbors" in the work that we do, providing opportunities that we could not provide alone.

It's all about community, about collaboration, about working together to make things better. Breaking down barriers and learning to work together as a team makes for successes and rebuilding lives.

We're grateful for those agencies that we work with...sometimes frequently and sometimes infrequently, but it all is necessary to put together the pieces of broken lives. Many thanks to, (in no particular order):

<i>SCAN</i>	<i>ICARE</i>	<i>Iredell Christian Ministries</i>
<i>Yokefellow</i>	<i>Salvation Army</i>	<i>Dove House</i>
<i>Veteran's Admin.</i>	<i>ICATS</i>	<i>Dept. of Social Services</i>
<i>Crossroads</i>	<i>New River</i>	<i>Easter Seals</i>
<i>Boys and Girls Club</i>		<i>Skills Center</i>
<i>LifeSpan</i>	<i>Emergency Children's Homes</i>	
<i>First Baptist Church Food Distribution</i>		
<i>Statesville Family Medicine</i>	<i>Open Door Dentistry</i>	
	<i>Statesville-Iredell Gang Initiative</i>	
	<i>Mitchell Community College</i>	

It's a pleasure to work with you - our neighbors and our friends!



*Clothing*

Coats and jackets  
Sweatshirts and sweatpants

*Kitchen*

Coffee  
Creamer  
Sugar  
Pam Spray  
Powdered milk  
Eggs  
Margarine  
Quick grits  
Cereal  
Spices  
Pasta - all kinds  
Spaghetti sauce  
#10 Cans of Veggies (the really big cans)  
Salt/pepper  
Mayo/Mustard/Ketchup  
Cooking oil

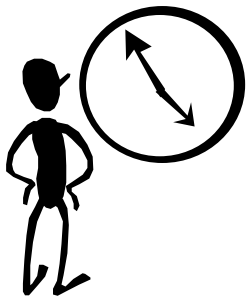
*Nurse Clinic*

Athlete's Foot Powder  
Athlete's foot cream  
Hydrocortisone cream  
Tums  
Imodium AD

*Miscellaneous*

Lysol spray  
Scrubbing Bubbles  
Window cleaner  
Toilet bowl cleaner  
Trash bags - 55,  
33 and 13 gallon  
Napkins  
Paper towels  
Tissue  
3 oz. cups  
Pillows  
Plastic forks  
Oven cleaner  
Bleach  
Pine Cleaner  
HE Laundry Detergent  
Bleach wipes  
Razors  
Shaving Cream  
Feminine hygiene  
Products

*Thank you for your donation of these items! If you need clarification of anything, don't hesitate to call! (704-872-4045) We appreciate all you do for us!*



# It's never too early to start planning for the holidays!

Remember the paper chains of a few years ago? Well...we're doing it again!

Nothing in the history of Fifth Street has created such a visual image of people helping people like the yards and yards of paper chains made by you, and hundreds of other across the county. Beginning the weekend of Thanksgiving, we'll begin accepting your paper chains made in bright, cheerful colors...and that's the only stipulation! The rest is up to you! Just drop them off in the office between Friday, November 26 and Friday December 17. We'll be glad to have them!

Our annual holiday meals will happen as usual, Thanksgiving lunch at 11:30am on Thursday, November 25 and Christmas lunch, 11:30am on the 25th of December. The change this year is that we are only accepting a limited number of volunteers per holiday meal. We will, however, have opportunities to serve at other meals throughout the holiday season, so please bear with us as we try to fit everyone in! We love having you and your family here, sharing in that holiday spirit that lasts all through the season!

Call us at 704-872-4045 if you want to volunteer and we'll find the best time to suit you!

Food donations for both Thanksgiving and Christmas are about the same, but differ in quantity. Thanksgiving we normally feed around 125-150, but Christmas is almost three times that size. For those meals, needed includes:

Turkeys, hams, celery, onions, chicken broth, green beans, corn, sweet potatoes, brown sugar, rice, rolls, gravy mix, tea, coffee, and lots of homemade desserts. Also needed are table decorations pertinent to the holiday...a great project to involve kids!

A favorite of our guests for Christmas lunch is the part where the gifts are given! Who doesn't love a present, no matter how small! This year again we will be giving out knit hats and gloves...for men, women and children. So each guest can leave with a bag of fresh fruit, we also need lots of boxes of apples and oranges...and grapefruit wouldn't hurt as well! To be able to throw a little candy in the bags is also a special treat.

We always want our shelter guests to enjoy a special treat on Christmas Eve, and things we like to give them are thermal underwear, sweaters, sweatshirts, cologne/perfume, jewelry, socks, flashlights, etc.

If you are interested in "adopting" a family in the shelter with children, call us the first week in December. Our population changes and will likely change by that time...maybe even several times. Adopting a family means buying toys for the children and clothing items if you so choose. We get a "needs list" with a "want list" column to provide you with needed information.

We try to make the holidays special for our guests...just as we do for our own families. As depressing as it might seem to be away from...estranged from biological families, we have learned that sometimes you have to find family where you are. Why don't you join us in being family to some mighty special folks. Most likely it will do more for you than it will for them...and it will do a lot for them! Happy holidays...a little early!

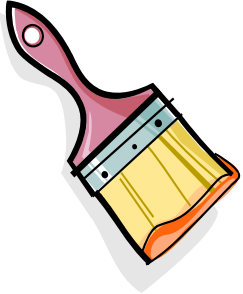


# ...REDOOZ...

What's a REDOOZ you might ask?!?!?!?

A redooz is an item that has been donated, and if it is not needed for its originally intended use, our guests participate in classes to "redo" the item into something more usable! Kind of a different idea of recycling...but a unique idea to reuse items that would otherwise be unusable. From grocery bags to refinished furniture and everything in between, we will eventually get around to making it and in the meantime, teach our guests a skill. Not only creating the REDOOZ item, but guests will participate in the marketing and shipping of the item.

Got a suggestion of items to make? Email it to us! [mknapp@fifthstreetministries.com](mailto:mknapp@fifthstreetministries.com)  
Items we need to continue growing this program:



T-shirt Iron on Transfers  
White thread  
Sponge brushes  
Extension Cords (25 ft.)  
Sewing machines  
Machine needles  
Embroidery Machine  
Upholstery Machine  
Sander  
White and Black latex paint

Enamel paint  
Clear sealer paint  
Light and heavy sandpaper  
Silk screens  
Have other items we might be interested in?  
Call us at 704-872-4045 and ask for Sondi.

*Please accept my tax-deductible donation in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_*

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_

*If you'd like your gift to be given as a memorial or in honor of an individual or a group, please provide us with the information below.*

Circle one    *In honor of*    *In memory of*  
Name \_\_\_\_\_

Special message \_\_\_\_\_

Name and address of person acknowledgement is to be sent  
Name/Address \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail to: Diakonos, Inc./Fifth Street Ministries, PO Box 5217, Statesville, NC 28687

FIFTH STREET  
MINISTRIES IS  
SUPPORTED IN  
PART BY UNITED  
WAY, NORTH  
CAROLINA  
COUNCIL FOR  
WOMEN,  
GOVERNOR'S  
CRIME  
COMMISSION,  
EMERGENCY  
SHELTER GRANT  
PROGRAM,  
CHURCHES, CIVIC  
GROUPS,  
INDIVIDUALS...ALL  
WHO BELIEVE IN  
THE WORK OF  
DIAKONOS.

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Michele Knapp ...and a whole host of

volunteers - Circulation

For change of address or to be taken off the mailing list, contact Michele at 704-872-4045.