

CROSSTIES CHRISTMAS PARTY

On December 15th, a cold and rainy evening, about 20 children and adults from the Kate Ross neighborhood joined about 10 volunteers from Seventh in Harper Hall for our annual CrossTies Christmas party. Our guests are part of CrossTies Ecumenical Church, whose parish is the housing development area just across Interstate 35.

No one can remember exactly when members of Seventh started hosting this party. Marsha Martie, the CrossTies pastor, and Dorothy Warren, who has helped us keep track of the children’s names and ages every year, both said they think it has probably been 20 years. Our first Santa was Walter Abercrombie, a newly retired professional running back, but he soon bequeathed that role to our own Mike Jones, who has done it for at least 10 years.

Several folks from Seventh drive over to the Gospel Café (the CrossTies headquarters) at 10th & Cleveland, to pick up the children and parents. Our guests arrive at Harper Hall, where they enjoy a meal and several activities, like crafts and games. Then they sing Christmas carols until Santa arrives.

Elves (usually youth and children from Seventh) pass age- and gender-appropriate gifts to Santa, who gives them to the children. The Polaroid prints of each child with Santa that we once sent home with them have given way in recent years to digital shots. A long line of Seventh youth and adults have helped for years by shopping for gifts and food, cooking and serving, providing transportation and recreation, and otherwise ensuring that this evening will be special for the kids.

Marsha said that our first CrossTies guests, who are now adults—many of them with their own children—still talk about “that time every year when those people at the big church” hosted a party for them. It may not seem like much to us, but it is, indeed, a very special event for our neighbors—and sometimes it’s the only Christmas they know.

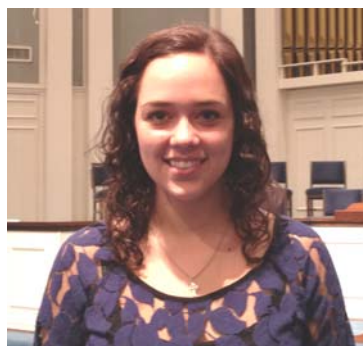
—Katie Cook

Sunday School Fellowship
 Join us for breakfast in Harper Hall before
 Sunday school on
 Sunday, January 29th from 9:15-9:45am
Food From the Faithful: Please bring donations of canned
 meat (tuna, chicken, etc.) to be donated to
 Caritas for families in need in the Waco community.

Hymn Festival
January 25, 2012
6:00 p.m. Sanctuary

David Music, Chair of Graduate Studies
 in Music, and Professor of Church Music,
 will be presenting a Hymn Festival,
 introducing our new hymnal
 “Celebrating Grace.”
 Our choir, handbells, and a
 brass ensemble will be featured.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



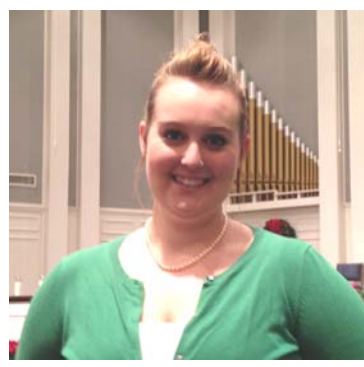
Molly Francis



Sarah Minott



Krystal Pothier



Hope Wallace

XYZ

January 26 • 10:30 • Potluck & Dominoes

WISD HOMELESS STUDENT UNIFORM MINISTRY

“For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you took me in, I was naked and you clothed me . . .”

Matthew 25:35-36

We have been blessed with the opportunity to minister to students identified through WISD as homeless, that is, without a permanent address to call their own. These students, who live in shelters or sleep on a couch in various homes or are street children, cannot attend regular class unless they are in uniform. The key to their future success is education and they are already at high risk for failure. Without a uniform they regularly miss class and fall farther behind.

Potter’s Vessel is no longer able to provide this service, so our church has been blessed with this opportunity to put Jesus’ words into action. The Outreach Committee has agreed to implement this ministry, but your participation is necessary. Here’s how you can help:

1. Bring gently used or new uniform pieces (leave all tags on new clothes) and place them in the box in the entry hall of the Melton Building.
2. Donate money or gift cards to be used to purchase uniforms.
3. Be a shopper – watch for sales and availability of uniforms at local stores.
4. Spread the word at your place of business or to other churches with whom you have contact.

Here is what is needed:

- ... Plain solid polo shirts (any color) in children’s, youth and adult sizes
- ... “Dickie” type pants (no cargo pockets, no extra pockets) in black, navy, beige or khaki in children’s, youth and adult sizes.
- ... Sneakers and crew socks in all sizes.

These uniform pieces can be found at:

- ... Penney’s (small stock of these uniform pieces)
- ... Smarty Pants (Resale Store across from Target)
- ... Land’s End and Academy On Line
- ... Target and Academy will have them in the fall

Remember, children come in all sizes and shapes, so we need a wide variety of sizes.

—Ann Sims

“ . . . In as much as you have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren you have done it unto me.”

Matthew 25:40

Once upon a time...



Women of Seventh Brunch!

*Come share your story and help fill
Greater Ebenezer Baptist Church's new
Library with quality books for children!*

When: Feb. 4, 2012, 9:30 a.m.

Where: Harper Hall

Cost: \$10 pp (\$25 family limit)

College Student \$5 (sponsorships available)

Storyteller: Carmen Brassfield Conaway

Make your reservation at the
Women's Brunch Table on any Wednesday or
Sunday in January. Bring one children's book
to donate to the new library. A *Suggested Books*
list is available at the registration table.

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Waco, TX
Permit No. 462

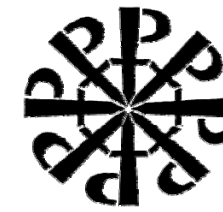
SEVENTH & JAMES BAPTIST CHURCH
602 James Avenue • Waco, Texas 76706

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST
SATURDAY, JANUARY 21
8:30 AM

HARPER HALL
PLEASE INVITE A FRIEND!



Seventh Notes
SEVENTH & JAMES BAPTIST CHURCH

January 2012

DEACONS AT SEVENTH & JAMES

The Deacons of Seventh & James have recently moved to a three-year rotation of service. Once elected, deacons will serve a three-year term followed by a mandatory one-year sabbatical. The deacons listed below are serving as *Active Deacons*. Deacons not serving as part of the Active Rotation are referred to as *Reserve* and are on a reserve list of deacons to be called upon as needed.

Serving Through 2012

Jay Belew	Tammie Hartgroves	Sylvia Stockton
Julie Carter	Carol Kamperman-	Janis Ward
Katie Cook	Smith	Melanie Wilkinson
Bill Cooper	Jon Lindsey	Bert Wilson
Ashley Cruseturner	Daythene Schaeper	
Becky Griffin	Ann Sims	

Serving Through 2013

Lydia Bratcher	Naymond Keathley	Ron Stanke
Daryle Echols	Donna Kennedy	Dale Williams
Bill Hillis	Tim McKinney	Jeanne Williams
A. A. Hyden	Linda McManness	Pat Wilson
(Deacon Emeritus)	Tom Newsom	
Carolyn Keathley	Gayland Sims	

Serving Through 2014

Sally Askins	Barbara Hills	Dorothy Schleicher
John Belew	Carl Hoover	Dawn Segrest
Ellen Deaver	Missy Kittner	John Segrest
Ray Deaver	Bettye Lewis	David Wilkinson
Sam Griffin	Jerry Lewis	Sandra Wilson
Paul Hagelstein	David Ryden	