

THE CHOSEN VOICE

JANUARY 2009

CHOSEN 300™ MINISTRIES, INC.



Thank you for your support!

2008—THE YEAR IN REVIEW

Impact of Economic Downturn

The result of an economy in a downward spiral is the increased need for services provided by organizations like Chosen 300. Sadly, the number of homeless increases and families who were at one time self-sufficient find themselves needing help.



At the same time many corporations who are a significant source of funding for the ministry are tightening their belts as well. The unfortunate result has been a shortfall in funding at the very time when needs are increasing.

In spite of these challenges, Chosen 300 remains faithful to its mission and has continued to expand services. A second feeding center was opened in West Philadelphia to meet the needs of low income families. Strategic management decisions such as reducing operational costs and using volunteer resources wherever possible help make this growth possible during these difficult times. In addition, for two years Chosen 300 staff have deferred salary increases. According to Brian Jenkins, Executive Director, "It wouldn't be right for our staff to receive a pay increase when others throughout the region and across the country are suffering with job losses and pay cuts."

Capital Campaign

Approximately \$160,000 was raised toward building the Training Center, recognized as Tier 2 of the 3-Tiered Capital Campaign. It is because of funding shortfalls that the goal of raising the full amount of \$250,000 by year end 2008 was not met.

Food Program

There are now 44 churches that form the Chosen 300 Alliance. Together they serve over 80,000 hot meals to Philadelphia's homeless and poor each year. Despite the difficult economic times, six new churches joined the Alliance during 2008:

- * Germantown Christian Academy
- * African Episcopal of St. Thomas
- * Schekinah Ministries Church
- * Epiphany Fellowship
- * Family Worship Center
- * Better Way Bible Church

OUR MISSION

Our Mission

To bring Christians of different membership groups together, helping them to realize that despite our differences in our race, ethnic group, denomination, social class, economic classes, or the diverse ways we practice our faith, we can unify ourselves for the common good.

The purpose of our unification is to distribute meals & services to the homeless, to provide pre-release classes to incarcerated persons, and offer positive-value programs for inter-city youth.

JOIN US TO SERVE

Indoor Feeding Program:

1116 Spring Garden Street
Philadelphia, PA 19123
Monday, Wednesday, Friday @ 6:00 PM
1st Tuesday Learning Lunch 12:00 Noon
Saturdays @ 5:00 PM (November-April)
Sunday Fellowship & Breakfast @ 10:00 AM

West Philadelphia Feeding Program:

Mill Creek Baptist Church
Lancaster Avenue and Wallace Street
Philadelphia, PA 19123
6:00 PM 1st, 3rd and 5th Fridays
More churches needed!

Note: We do not close on holidays!
Volunteers should arrive 15 minutes early!

Outdoor Feeding Program:

16th & Ben Franklin Parkway
Saturdays @ 5:00 PM (May- October)

**CHOSEN 300™
MINISTRIES, INC.**

P. O. Box 95
Ardmore, PA 19003
215.765.9806
www.chosen300.org

Outreach Center
1116 Spring Garden St.
Philadelphia, PA 19123
E-mail: chosen300@verizon.net

**GIVING
OPPORTUNITIES**

**UNITED WAY
COMMUNITY GIVING
CAMPAIGN NUMBERS:**
Southeastern PA Region #06484
Tri-State Region #029432
For All Other Regions Indicate
"Chosen 300 Ministries"

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SECURITIES**

You can now give stocks and securities to Chosen 300!

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You can even set up convenient automatic monthly withdrawal from your checking account or credit card.

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ENVELOPES**

Use the enclosed postage-paid remittance envelopes to send in your checks.

*Feeding the
Hungry...and More!*

Visit us on the web!
www.chosen300.org

2008—THE YEAR IN REVIEW

Ministry Around The World - Port Elizabeth, South Africa



Children searching for food at trash dump

In October, Brian Jenkins, Executive Director, traveled to Port Elizabeth, South Africa. There he worked alongside local pastors, learning about their culture and the community's needs while exploring possibilities to expand the mission of Chosen 300 around the world.



Brian feeding the children

One life-changing moment provided Brian the direction he was seeking. When he saw a young boy the age of his own sons at a garbage dump, digging for a discarded juice bottle and devouring the precious few drops of juice that remained inside, he knew lives would be changed by providing food in South Africa. A food program is set to kick off in January 2009, providing rice, flour, peas and crushed corn to local families.

When asked why Chosen 300 is helping people overseas when there are needy people in the United States, Brian refers to Acts 1:8. "The Bible says we are to be witnesses BOTH in Jerusalem AND in Judea AND Samaria AND the uttermost parts of the world. That means we are to meet the needs of the poor here in the United States AND help our brothers and sisters overseas as well. It's not a question of helping those overseas if we have something left over from our local efforts. The Bible tells us to go and do both at the same time."

**REMINDER —
YOUR GIFTS ARE NEEDED**

During these difficult times, your gifts are especially appreciated. Please take advantage of employer-matching if you are fortunate to work where such a program exists. You may also contribute to Chosen 300 through the United Way campaign in your workplace. Chosen 300's Community Giving Numbers are located in the box at left. For your convenience, you may give a one-time donation online or set up an automatic monthly withdrawal from your checking account or credit card. Please visit www.chosen300.org for more information.

Finally, please consider a gift of appreciated stocks and securities. Not only will Chosen 300 benefit, but you may also potentially receive tax benefits. For step-by-step instructions, contact Chosen 300 Ministries at 215-765-9806. You should also contact your tax advisor for specific information regarding tax advantages of donating appreciated stocks and securities as it applies to your individual circumstance.

UPCOMING EVENTS

WALK AGAINST HOMELESSNESS

Saturday, April 18th starting at 9:00 a.m. at Mondauk Common Park in Upper Dublin Township. Plan now to join us for a morning of fun and fitness! All proceeds go toward providing meals and services for the homeless of Philadelphia. For a pledge form, visit us online at www.chosen300.org.

13th Annual Session Of

CHOSEN 300 ALLIANCE OF CHURCHES

**Convening At Bethlehem Baptist Church
Penllyn Pike and Dager Road, Spring House, PA 19477
*** Wed. May 27th – Sun. May 31st *****

GUEST SPEAKERS

Wed., May 27, 7:30 PM



DR. TONY CAMPOLO
Of St. Davids, PA

Thurs., May 28, 7:30 PM



DR. GINA STEWART
Of Memphis, TN

Fri., May 29, 7:30 PM



DR. ALYN WALLER
Of Philadelphia, PA

Sun., May 31, 11:00 AM



BRIAN JENKINS
Of Chosen 300, Phila.