

Callings

in the Church of the Saviour

Vol 3, Issue 4 • Winter 2014

New Home for Jubilee Jobs

By Terry Flood

Welcome to 2419 Minnesota Ave., SE, Jubilee Jobs new office in Southeast Washington. On Sept 3, 2014 we purchased this house, to be a light set on a hill for hope and opportunity for work for sustenance, dignity and hope in Southeast Washington DC.

In August 2010 we heard God calling and our beloved Gordon asking us, "When are you going to open an office in Anacostia?" The recent catastrophic recession, with unemployment officially 28%, and another 15% underemployed in Wards 7 and 8, gave heightened urgency to the need.

Gordon celebrated the opening of our first site, from which over 1500 people found work through the faithful compassionate and professional work of Bettie Copeland, Reeshemah Gray, Jacqueline Conerly and Jessie Choi. This year, the Jubilee Jobs goal is to help at least 1000 people find employment, including 500 through our Southeast office.

As soon as we opened our doors at 1227 Good Hope Road SE, we knew we were going to be present for the long haul – until everyone who needs and wants to work has found employment. We looked for three years to find a permanent home in this underserved part of Washington.

This time we felt Gordon's presence from his heavenly home. Many earthly folk have made this home a reality, including Jim Clark from Clark Construction, Joe LeMense from United Bank, and Scott Purcell with Long and Foster – crucial partners in making it a reality. And Mary Cosby has given us our daily prayer, a legacy from her grandmother, "May this



Terry Flood is a member of Bread of Life Faith community which grew out of Church of the Saviour and the Lazarus House Church. My special calling is to Jubilee Jobs where I am the co founder and executive director since 1981. My greatest joy is participating in the transformation that meaningful work gives to persons and with my four grandchildren – Eric, Tavis, Donovan and Sammie.

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house be a house out of which much good goeth."

We look forward to expanding our availability in Southeast, especially getting to know our neighboring church communities and becoming an EITC site for free tax preparation next year.

Please come and visit, offer guidance and wisdom to our many applicants, and above all, we treasure your love and prayers



Andrew's House as Urban Retreat

By Kayla McClurg

Since 1984 Andrew's House has been a respite in the city for spiritual pilgrims. Founded by Rev. Charles Demeré, now deceased, and lovingly cared for over the years by several resident managers, it is a house of hospitality for out-of-town visitors wanting to explore the CoS churches and ministries, or to take part in marches, demonstrations and rallies. The house also offers to the community extended space for social gatherings, mission groups and classes.

Now, in celebration of its 30th year, Andrew's House will be living into an extension of its mission, becoming even more of a support to the community. Watching our world's great distress, its continual noise and busyness, our growing need for quiet, contemplative spaces from which creativity can flourish, Andrew's House will now be offered as an URBAN RETREAT HOUSE AND NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER FOR CREATIVITY AND CONTEMPLATION.

Kayla McClurg, resident manager of Andrew's House since 1997, and Trish Stefanik, formerly registrar at the Servant Leadership School and now a contemplative retreat leader and staff member at Shalem, will continue to host out-of-town guests who want to stay overnight, as well as welcome local people to use the house during

the day to rest, read, write, draw, pray, paint, stitch—any contemplative activity that nourishes the creative spirit. They invite you to take some time apart, to leave the distractions of home and office and set aside a few hours to focus on the creative project that is calling you. To further support your contemplative, creative journeys, small groups also are forming to study, read and share works-in-progress for accountability and feedback. Be in touch with me at andrewshouse2708@gmail.com if you would like to know more.

Andrew's House, located at 2708 Ontario Road NW, is a program of the Festival Center. The house has Wi-fi accessibility and a variety of comfortable spaces in which to read, rest or work, with others or alone. Those using the house will be asked to contribute toward expenses. Parking or overnight stays for local visitors can sometimes be arranged. We want to encourage your creative journey. Let us know how we can be of support.

Kayla McClurg is staff person for The Church of the Saviour, and facilitates the website, www.inwardoutward.org.



Notes from the Journey

by Tim Kumfer

The season of Advent has taken on a particular depth this year for those of us involved with The Potter's House renewal efforts. We wait with anticipation and hope, 'leaning in' to the new life the Spirit is weaving in our midst. Here are some small windows into our work of preparation:

Renovations Approaching Completion

Once they began in earnest, the building renovations moved at a rapid pace. We are aiming to complete the build out by the end of December. This should enable us to pass inspections, train staff, and re-open by late January or early February! Be on the lookout for announcements of a Church of the Saviour preview night and rededication ceremony.

New Chef

We are deeply excited to have chef Christopher Roberson join our leadership team. Chris trained at some of the city's best restaurants, including Central Michel Richard, Vidalia, and Farrah Olivia. He has a plant-centered food philosophy and is excited to integrate the café offerings into our larger community-building mission.

Pop Up Holiday Gift Market

We will hold a 'pop up' holiday gift market at the offices of Life Asset (2448 18th St. NW) on the weekend of December 6th and 7th



from 10am to 6pm. The market will feature books, local ceramics and papergoods, and fair trade gifts from around the world. We are grateful to Markus Larsson and Life Asset for welcoming us into their space.

Crowdfunding Campaign

In order to widen our circles of support, we are launching an online giving campaign the first week of December. We encourage all those who are internet savvy to log on to our website (www.pottershousedc.org) and share our video and campaign with their friends and loved ones. Thank you for all the ways your generosity has brought us thus far!

Tim Kumfer is the Potter's House manager.

Seeing with New Eyes

By Ian McPherson

I was first to arrive to the Discipleship Year house. To new eyes, this beautiful and imposing structure seems infinite. As I strolled cautiously through each of its four stories, seven bedrooms, and five bathrooms, my mind raced through innumerable questions. Which room should I pick? Will I get along with my housemates? Would they be upset if I took the largest room? How will I navigate this new city? Will I like my service year placement?

Now a few months into this program, I can rest easily with some answers. In case you were wondering, I did take the largest room, but no one seems to mind too much. I fall deeper in love with D.C. each day even as I mourn the inequities I see in its streets and structures. My placement, For Love of Children, affords me an opportunity to engage with the greatest high school seniors in the city (in my completely unbiased opinion). Even as the sober realities of my day-to-day life come into focus, I rather like what I see.

I joined FLOC at a particularly meaningful time. Our 50th anniversary is just around the corner, and the long shadow cast by the organization's legacy has outlined a renewed sense of purpose and social responsibility. Looking back to FLOC's roots in the civil rights era, we are inspired to refine our vision of its future, one where a strong commitment to social justice informs our work in education. Consequently, my colleagues and I are developing curriculum that speaks to youth empowerment as much as development. Our hope is that our students will come to see education as a resource and platform for greater civic engagement. Our conviction is that their voices deserve to be heard.

And hear them I do! Our weekly program spaces are filled with singing, dancing, laughing, snacking—these kids sure love Chipotle!—and, yes, even some shouting from time to time. We host a kind of controlled chaos, but it is often within the commotion that I find those “thin places” where the ostensible division between heaven and earth melts away. If I look closely, I can see the divine move within each silent smile, each impromptu dance, and each celebration of success. Providing my students with the resources they need to access quality postsecondary opportunities and career success is my small contribution to the move for educational justice in D.C., but it is truly the laughter I share with them that keeps me going to work each day.

That is, if I can tear myself away from the joyful guffawing at my own house. It turns out that I like my housemates quite a bit, and if I had to venture a guess, I would say they like me too. Together we wrestle with the concept of intentional community, calling one another to deeper levels of commitment and spiritual growth. But mostly we just eat a lot of Oreos.

The secret to community is in the doing, it seems. It is true that I have only been in this program a few months. I am still learning just how much my liberation is bound up with that of others. I am still

learning about the way one spirit opens itself to another in silence. I am still learning about how the inward journey sustains the outward journey. But usually the best instruction comes from just being well with others. I think what I have come to love most about Amy, Emily, Kiersten, Maria, and Taylor is that no matter how difficult the task in front of us might seem, I can rest assured that they truly embrace me for who I am. Our starting point is love, and whenever we feel exhausted by the relentless questions and the doing, there are (almost) always Oreos.



Ian Carr McPherson is the Program Instructor for High School Seniors and Postsecondary Students at For Love of Children. Originally from the eastern coast of North Carolina, he boasts an unhealthy attachment to vinegar-based BBQ and bluegrass music. He also studied American religious history and enjoys talking about political theology.

Editor's Corner

Advent Waiting

As Advent begins, a new generation is stepping forward at Church of the Saviour. Along Columbia Road, lights in the Potter's House reveal the new design that is emerging there. At Andrew's House, Kayla and Trish Stefanik are starting an urban retreat center designed for daytime use of this hospitable space on Ontario Road. And the Life Asset building on 18th Street will be used for a "pop-up gift shop" on December 6-7, to benefit the Potter's House.

At Seekers, the Carroll Café is featuring folk music for a sell-out crowd every month, and on S Street, the New Community Art-Space is providing after-school activities for a host of neighborhood youth. Out at Dayspring, Kent Klopfenstein is hosting new groups at Wellspring and he has scheduled the first Wellspring event. On April 17-19, Jim Hall will be co-leading an event titled "Breaking Through: Cultivating Personal, Cultural and Planetary Stories for a New Era," (wellspringconference.org).

Please keep us in your prayers as the new church year begins,

Marjory

Marjory Zoet Bankson is Chair of the C of S Council and editor/publishers of CALLINGS.



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Academy of Hope—New DC Adult Charter School

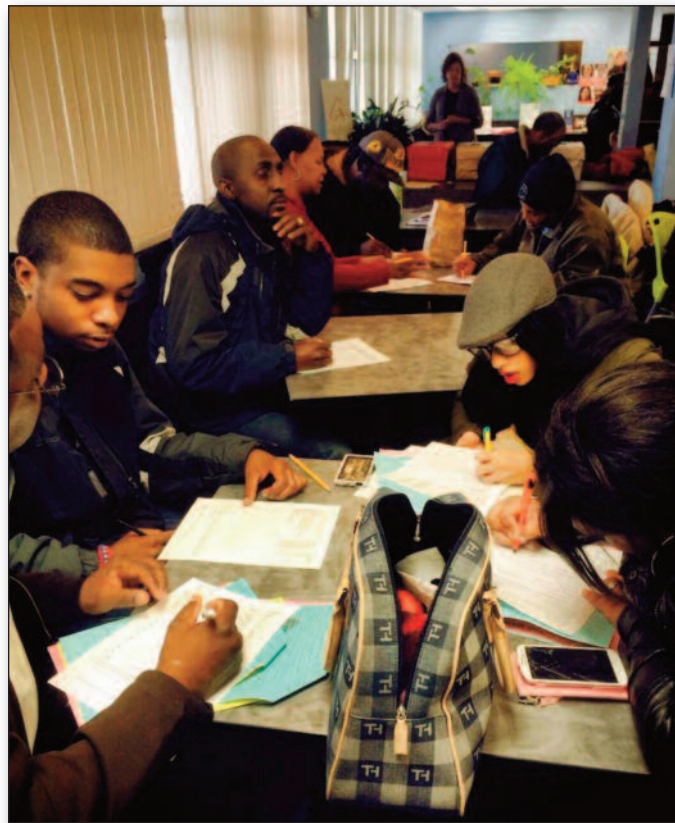
By Marja Hilfiker

Gordon Cosby spoke to me the words of freedom in 1982 at a Wellspring Orientation: “Money is not important; power is not important; prestige is not important. What is important is to follow God’s call to the place where your deepest desire meets the pain of the world; that’s where your mission will be. You don’t have to be successful; you only have to be faithful.” Our family moved to Washington a year later. My call came in November 1984. It was Gayle Boss from Potter’s House Church on the phone, and she asked me, “Would you like to start teaching GED-classes with me?” I had been teaching high school in Minnesota, so it seemed fitting. We had no vision; we were just called to do something useful.

Gayle had already been teaching and tutoring at Jubilee Jobs for more than a year with the help of her husband, Doug, and other volunteers, so she was the real founder. However, we needed to find a new location. Gayle paid the first month’s rent of \$50 for the guardroom in the Ritz, at the corner of Euclid and Mozart. We hauled in a box of GED-manuals and attached a sign on the door that said ACADEMY OF HOPE. We began classes with two teachers and four students in January 1985 and, soon after, called an official Academy of Hope Mission Group that met each week to pray for our school. However, nobody else responded to our call at that time, so it was just the two of us.

We had much to learn about GED and about the obstacles our adult students faced. A bit of advice from Gordon helped us through those early months: *If there is only one person in attendance, thank God for that very special opportunity.*

One of our first four students, Linda Brown, emerged as another co-founder with her perfect attendance and the four dozen cupcakes she contributed to our monthly bake sale. A year and a half later, when we celebrated Linda’s graduation, Gayle saw that the garden was thriving and left for another mission. Fortunately, other C of S members soon joined in. John Mohr replaced Gayle as a math teacher, and some time later, Tom Brown retired from the



Registration of new students

Labor Department to teach any subject that needed teaching and to build us as an organization. Many others helped with fundraising and instruction.

For about five years, Tom and I ran a little mom and pop school, which operated year round like a family. We had daytime and evening classes and tutoring seven days a week. The idea was to remove barriers that kept people from learning and build a

Related Ministries

The following ministries have grown from churches and mission groups of The Church of the Saviour. Each is independently organized.

Academy of Hope • Becoming Church • Bethany, Inc. • Bokamoso Foundation • Christ House • Columbia Road Health Service • Cornelius Corps • Cornerstone • Dayspring Earth Ministry • Dayspring Retreat Center • Discipleship Year • Faith & Money Network • Family Place • Festival Center • For Love of Children • Hope and a Home • Inward/outward • Joseph’s House • Jubilee Housing • Jubilee Jobs • Jubilee JumpStart • Kairos House • L’Arche • Life Asset Credit Union • Life Pathways • Manna, Inc. • Miriam’s House • New Community ArtSpace • New Community for Children • O.N.E.DC • Potter’s House • Samaritan Inns • Sarah’s Circle • Servant Leadership School • Sign of Jonah • Sitar Arts Center • Sounds of Hope • Tell The Word



Emebet Tesfu, Susan Weinbeck and Mui Derr on a field trip to the Museum of Natural History

community of hope and encouragement in those basement rooms. We were all volunteers for the first four years, and it was a heady and happy time with no need to count the hours.

100th Graduate

By the time we had 70 students, we did a big fundraising push and hired one of our eager teachers, Leanna Marr, as the executive director. She moved us out of the basement into National Baptist Memorial Church, built a computer lab, and put us on the map of DC adult education programs as we celebrated our 100th graduate. Our next director, Bob Wittig, placed us on a solid financial foundation and built a dedicated board of directors. All this made it possible for us to hire Leicester Johnson and to move to a more functional space at Edgewood Terrace, near Rhode Island Ave Metro Station, in 2007. A board member got us connected to Oprah, who gave us a grant to renovate a welcoming home base there.

However, Leicester's vision reaches far beyond our walls. She is out to build a more educated workforce for our city and to develop larger awareness of the staggering need for adult education. We currently have 262 students enrolled, and the new, larger Anacostia location is actively hiring and recruiting to fill the classrooms, recently beautified by our friends at a local bank. Over 600 students have received their GED's or high school diplomas. Still we are hardly making a dent in the 64,000 DC residents who lack a high school credential. The recent changes in the GED and NEDP requirements present an additional challenge.

Charter School

This fall Academy of Hope opened as a DC Adult Public Charter School, which greatly increased our resources as well as our accountability. For example, the stringent requirement for students to prove their DC residency caused us to make 60 home visits and exposed in a dramatic way our students' need for stable housing. Patricia DeFerrari pointed out the advantage that it helped us

immediately engage in the issues our students are struggling with. We now have a team of case managers, career counselors, and a special education teacher to respond to student needs. For instance, we are assisting a student who is facing foreclosure. We are also able to provide enough tokens for transportation and laptops for classrooms.

Daquanna Harrison feels that receiving the charter school funding freed up the teachers to teach. Lead teachers for each subject were hired on the basis of their demonstrated teaching ability. Volunteers continue to work as assistants and small group leaders. Of course, the government reporting requirements are extensive, and Leicester has declared this the Year of Learning for herself and the staff. In the meantime, many good things are happening. In interviewing a number of students, I was impressed by how they mentioned that the teachers now have more time for them. We still have bake sales, but now they are organized by students to benefit the holiday party and field trips.

Many of us have prayerfully nurtured the seed that Gayle planted, and our hearts are filled with gratitude for the growth that God has given.

Marja Hilfiker grew up in Finland but has lived in the United States for the past 45 years. She is a graduate of University of Helsinki and of St. Thomas College in St. Paul, Minnesota. She retired from Academy of Hope in 2010 and continues to volunteer there.

Servant Leadership School

jpdeck@slschool.org to register for classes

"Demystifying Ukraine and Other Hot Spots"

Tuesday, December 2, 2014 - 7pm

Ray McGovern is a retired CIA Veteran

Workshop on "Giving with an Effective Plan"

Saturday, January 10, 2015 10am - 11am
This workshop will provide the importance of planned giving that will provide participants effective strategy with good legal advice.

Laurel Lea, an associate at the law firm of Furey, Doolan & Abell, LLP.

A Suffering Hope, African Americans and the Cross

Tuesdays, January 20-March 3, 2015

Joseph Deck, is the Executive Director of the Festival Center

Zionism Unsettled

Susan Bell, co-chair of Sabeel DC Metro and Member of Friends of Jesus Church

Biblical Injustice, An UnAmerican Activity?

Tuesdays, January 20 - March 10, 2015

Ray McGovern is a retired CIA Veteran

News from Dayspring

Dayspring's Happy Helpers Make Lunches for Chase Community Shelter in Rockville

by Jean Brown and Jennifer Goode

The Goode family continues to rally the Dayspring youth around bags waiting to be stuffed and taken to the local homeless shelter. The ministry, known as Happy Helpers, was started 14 years ago after a call to serve the homeless came from Kiera, an Elementary School student. Kiera's Mom, Carol, began the ministry, and Jen Goode joined her a few month's later (after her son Justin was born).

When Kiera started college, the Goode's continued to coordinate this ministry so that the youth could actively live out Jesus' call to serve those in need. On the 3rd weekend of each month, Jen gathers the Happy Helpers to make bagged lunches, and fellowship together. From April-October, the youth use their Sunday school time to prepare lunches for 60 men. In other months the numbers soar to 120. Occasionally, Saturday gatherings are held instead, giving youth and adults an opportunity to work together in assembling the bags. Come join us. All are welcome!



Permaculture Draws Interest from Kaplan University Students

After 17 work parties, over 260 volunteers contributing labor, and countless hours put in by our gardeners, Ben Patterson and Grace Singletary, Dayspring has become home to over 1000 new plants. They are set to overwinter in newly established beds right in the heart of Dayspring. The Permaculture Project team extends many thanks to all who have contributed gifts of labor and financial support!!! We continue to need your partnership in this project. You're invited to join us on Saturday, December 13th between 10 am and 2 pm for the last scheduled work party of the year. Lunch will be provided with an RSVP to Dayspringfarmproject@gmail.com.

We also hope you'll consider us in your end of year giving. Go to www.facebook.com/DayspringPermacultureGardens to give online, or checks can be made out to Dayspring with "permaculture project" in the memo line and mailed to 11301 Neelsville Church Road, Germantown, MD 20876.

We hope to see you at Dayspring!



Follow us on Facebook! <https://www.facebook.com/DayspringPermacultureGardens>
Or visit dayspringchurchmd.org.

Callings

Church of the Saviour
1640 Columbia Rd., NW
Washington, DC 20009

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Special Events

Tues, Dec 2: Quiet Day at Dayspring Retreat Bring your lunch. No charge.

Tuesdays, 4-5:30pm: Open Studio for Kids at ArtSpace, New Community Church, 614 S St. NW. \$5 supply contribution requested.

Fri-Sun, Dec 5-7: "The Silence of the Stars" with Jim Hall and Cheryl Hellner. Weekend Retreat \$200.
Register at DayspringRetreat.org.

Sat, Dec 13: Ramón Tasat and Emmanuel Trifilio, plus Cristian Perez. Carroll Café at Seekers Church, 276 Carroll St. NW, Wash DC. 7:30pm. \$20. Reservations are highly recommended, as many shows sell out. See [Carroll Café.org](http://CarrollCafe.org).

Sun, Dec 14: Painting Workshop at ArtSpace, New Community Church, 614 S St. NW.

Tues, Dec 16: Ember Day at Dayspring Retreat.
10-2pm. No charge.

Sat, Dec 20: Solstice Event at Dayspring. Meet Jim and Cheryl Hall at the Farmhouse, 6:45pm rain or shine.

Fri, Jan 9, 2015: Sligo Creek Stompers and Lulu's Fate.
Carroll Café at Seekers Church.

Fri-Sun, Feb 13-15 "Found By Love." Weekend open retreat with Trish Stefanik, artist and contemplative leader. \$200. Register at DayspringRetreat.org.

Fri, Feb 13: Dovetail Ensemble Multi-cultural Music and Dance with Andrea Hoag, Phil Wiggins, and friends. Carroll Café at Seekers Church.

Tues, Jan 20: SERVANT LEADERSHIP SCHOOL starts. Classes at the Festival Center, 1640 Columbia Rd NW. Register online: FestivalCenter.org.

Sat, March 14: Music Pilgrim Trio featuring Seth Kibel & Vladimir Fridman. Carroll Café at Seekers Church.



Photo by Jim Hall