



MISSION ARLINGTON MISSION METROPLEX

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JANUARY—FEBRUARY 2007

MISSION ARLINGTON BEGINS A NEW YEAR!

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TILLIE BURGIN

Philippians 4:8
If anything is excellent
or praiseworthy, think
about these things.

A Note From Tillie Burgin

Thank you for giving to Mission Arlington. This week we received a letter from Charity Navigator notifying us that Mission Arlington/Mission Metroplex had received a four-star rating (which is their highest rating) for sound fiscal management. We let you know this only to remind all of us we need to be excellent managers of your gifts and donations.

We also wanted to share a short story from a student in the Master's program at a nearby university who called this week. She said, "I was a single mom living in Arlington a few years back. I was

having such a difficult time. I just wanted you to know that I'm doing really well now. I also wanted you to know that when I needed you in the most difficult time of my life, you were there for me. Thanks from the bottom of my heart."

You help make this possible. We are so grateful for you and your support.

Thank you dear friends,



THANKSGIVING 2006



Volunteers make turkey baskets with pumpkin pies to deliver to people in need. More than **2,000 volunteers** helped Mission Arlington deliver turkeys and turkey baskets to **14,000+ people** on Thanksgiving Day.



TEACHERS NEEDED

Mission Arlington hosts **after-school programs** in 45 different locations across Arlington and Grand Prairie. **1,000 children and youth** receive help with their homework each week. **These young people need your help!**

Please call Tillie Burgin at 817-277-6620 if you want to help a young child or teenager to be successful.

IMPORTANT UPCOMING EVENTS

Rainbow Express - Begins March 1

This is a Mission Arlington "backyard Bible club." Snacks, games, crafts, Bible stories, puppets, and music are a part of the fun. Last year, **25,000** students attended.

The Easter Store - April 4 & 5

At Mission Arlington's Easter Store, people receive new clothes and Easter baskets. They also hear the Easter story. **1,642** people attended last year.

Easter Egg Hunt - April 7th

3,000 children annually attend Mission Arlington's Easter Egg Hunt. **You can help** by bringing plastic eggs and wrapped candy to the Mission through April 7th.

Easter Sunday - April 8th

More than 5,000 people in 265 Bible studies will gather to celebrate Christ's resurrection on Easter Sunday morning.





Denny & Candy Dowd

A “CHRISTMAS EVE GIFT”

BY CANDY DOWD

This last **Christmas Eve** my husband, my son, and I decided to go to Mission Arlington/ Mission Metroplex to see if there was anything that still needed to be done before Christmas Day arrived.

The minute we walked into Tillie’s office she said, “I’m glad you’re here. I just called a **young mother of three children** and told her someone would bring some gifts to her apartment.” Tillie had become aware of this need only the night before.

We shopped for the three children and the mother in the Christmas store, wrapped each gift, and drove them over to the family. The **apartment was bare** of many of the items our family takes for granted, such as a sofa, chairs, end tables, or beds. The mother, the little girl and a boy greeted us warmly. She said **how surprised she was** that we would bring these gifts to their apartment **on Christmas Eve**, but she was grateful.

The children were busy trying to decorate a Christmas tree leaning against the corner with a few pieces of paper and string they had found, and they were excited to have gifts to put under the tree. After leaving the gifts and food that had been sent with us, **we prayed together** and wished them a Merry Christmas.

We told Tillie about this family’s need for furniture. Immediately Tillie took us down to the furniture warehouse. We found a nice loveseat and matching sofa. After it was loaded into one of the trucks, we took off to make **our second delivery**. I went up and knocked on the door and the little boy looked out the window. I heard him yell, “Mommy, **furniture Santa is here.**” The mother was pleased to have the new furniture and remarked that it even matched the carpet. Once again, we wished them a “Merry Christmas” and reminded them of the Mission Arlington church that meets on Sunday mornings just a few apartments down from where they live.

It may sound like the young mother and children received the blessing that morning, but I believe that **the greatest blessing** fell on the three of us. Our Christmas was a little brighter and a little more joyful because God allowed us to be a part of what He wanted for someone else on Christmas Eve.

The best part is knowing that the mother and children are still being cared for daily by the wonderful people that volunteer and work for Mission Arlington/Mission Metroplex.

A MISSION ARLINGTON CHRISTMAS



25,474 children and youth received gifts at the Store.



A variety of teams from across the Metroplex join in.



GM employees help out!

Hill-Gilstrap Party

HEALTH CARE MINISTRIES



5,576 people received medical and dental help from Mission Arlington in 2006. We praise God for each health professional who volunteered so that people could receive the medical attention they needed.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- ◆ **DEBT-FREE:** Mission Arlington has no debt.
- ◆ **LOW ADMINISTRATIVE OVERHEAD:** Approximately 95 cents of every dollar goes to ministry.