



The Samaritan Community, rooted in respect, hope, and healing, provides assistance to meet the needs of families and individuals who wish to improve their lives.

1407 Bolton Street, Baltimore, MD 21217

410.669.1229

www.samaritancommunity.org

Fall 2011

NEWS Samaritan Community

A Visit from the Mayor



On Tuesday July 26th, Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake took time out of her busy schedule to visit the Samaritan Community. We were honored to have her join the Breakfast Club for some discussion. Several Club members told the Mayor just how important the Samaritan Community has been to them and how the support they received helped them to transform their lives. The Mayor was clearly moved by this and after listening attentively and congratulating the Club members who shared, she stood up and read aloud a beautiful certificate of recognition from the City of Baltimore

which congratulated Sharon on her “30 years of faithful and exemplary service to the clients of the Samaritan Community.” The room exploded with applause and Sharon graciously accepted the award. The Mayor then recognized the Samaritan Community as a whole and presented Steve Howard with a certificate of recognition for, “40 years of faithful and dedicated service to the people of Baltimore.”

Board Member Profile: Lois Eldred



Lois came to Baltimore in 1976 to attend Johns Hopkins University. She hadn't planned to stay here, but the city has a way of growing on people. Lois included. She works as a physician's assistant providing clinical care for HIV-infected

patients and serves on the faculty of the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine where she is engaged in international TB and HIV work.

Lois, her husband Earl, and daughter Melissa, were attracted to the diverse community at Memorial Episcopal Church and its way of weaving together faith and action. They became members in 2006, Lois a Vestry member since 2008, and Samaritan Community Board member since 2009. Serving as the Liaison between the Vestry and the Samaritan Community, she also organizes the Saturday Samaritan food pan-

try. She comments, “I continually learn from Sharon. The way she creates community among people in crisis, and uses that to create a path towards healing, continually inspires me.”

Another aspect of the Samaritan Community that appeals to Lois is the diversity of its clients, staff, donors and volunteers. All faiths, races, and ages are included in each of these groups. “I especially love the Tuesday morning breakfasts, where all involved with the Samaritans and their guests eat together. Visitors have a hard time distinguishing who belongs to which group, which is as it should be, for we work to bring down those walls that can divide us.”

Lois' other interests include classical music, opera, theatre, gardening, and hiking with her family and two dogs—not to mention memorable Memorial Musicals. How does she do it all? She says, “It's a matter of setting priorities.” We are all very grateful that the Samaritan Community is high on her list.

THE SAMARITAN COMMUNITY

Tastes of Maryland

Sunday, October 23, 2011 at 6:00 pm

Join us for a gala party of superb food and fine regional wines in the grand Bolton Hill home of James Blue and John Rowell, 1710 Park Avenue

Dishes will include gourmet foods prepared by the very talented Samaritan Board members

Proceeds benefit the Samaritan Community



\$60 per person
\$70 at the door

RSVP by Friday, October 14

410.669.1229

Bon Appetite



THE SAMARITAN COMMUNITY

Memorial Episcopal Church
1407 Bolton Street
Baltimore, MD 21217

Address Service Requested

Non-Profit
U.S. Postage
PAID
Baltimore, MD
Permit No. 2961

SERVICES OFFERED

- crisis intervention and referral
- individual counseling and therapy
- support groups
- employment assistance
- emergency food pantry
- clothing
- household items

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

If you are interested in volunteering in the Samaritan Community Please contact Sharon Krieger at 410.669.1229.

PANTRY WISHLIST

- cereals
- juice
- soups
- mayonnaise (small jars)
- laundry supplies
- dish soap
- men's and women's pants

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Steve Howard, President
James Blue, Vice President
Sanford Groff, Treasurer
George Maris, Secretary
Alma Bell
Ilene Briskin
Lois Eldred
The Rev. Roger Fink
Pam Fleming
The Rev. Timothy Kroh
Amy Krulak
Edwin Lewis
The Rev. Martha Macgill
Micheline McManus
Joyce Ramelmeier
Paul Silvestri

Home Sweet Home

Today Jamie has come to visit. We had not seen him since he moved from Baltimore, nearly two years ago. It doesn't seem possible, that only five years ago, he was living in the Samaritan Residence. Jamie had come to us because he was lonely and was unhappy with his housing situation. He was rooming in a home with a family where he felt unwelcome. They needed his rent money but didn't really want him there. Jamie was a recovering alcoholic and although working, was not earning enough to afford his own apartment. By living in the residence, and paying an affordable rent, he was able to save for a used car. Walking home from the bus stop very late at night was dangerous.

When Jamie purchased his car, it was surprising to someone who learned of it. This person questioned why Jamie should be able to afford such a luxury if he was poor. What a sad comment about the poor.

Over time, Jamie became the house manager and received raises at his job. He was very frugal and saved all his spare income. He moved into his own

apartment and continued to save. Once a year, he visited his siblings out of state. On his visit 2 years ago, after retiring, he spotted a small cottage for sale on the same block as his brother's home. The cost was surprisingly low, so he bought it.

Isn't it terrific that Jamie, who once had nothing, is able to live near his aging siblings, pay his own mortgage, plant his own vegetable garden and live out his remaining years in peace and comfort? Jamie continues, as always, to be a helper, now to his aging neighbors and siblings. Isn't it great that we, and you, had a part in bringing about this happy ending? And, isn't it great that he has come back to say thanks?



• GIVING THANKS •

The Karzai family, who we are very fortunate to have as friends and supporters, is hosting a Giving Thanks fundraiser for the Samaritan Community at all three of their amazing restaurants in early November. By telling your server that you are there to support the Samaritan Community, the restaurant will donate 20% of your pre-tax bill to Samaritan Community. So give yourself and all your friends a joyful dinner and help our clients in need at the same time. What a win/win! Here are the restaurants and times that will let you make a difference in our community by supporting the Samaritan Community:

The Helmand • Sunday, November 6 – Thursday, November 10

Tapas Teatro • Tuesday, November 8 – Thursday, November 10

B Bistro • Tuesday, November 8 – Thursday, November 10

Please email or tell ALL your family and friends about this event so we can maximize this wonderful opportunity! Remember to tell the person who takes your reservation, as well as your server, that you are there to support the Samaritan Community.