



*"Real Answers For Real Needs"*

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## A View from the Lighthouse!

**October 2003**

A Publication of Advancing Vibrant Communities and Lighthouse Live! Radio

### **Let's Wipe Out this Desperate Need!**

There is a growing list of elderly and disabled people in the Stanislaus County area who cannot get to their medical appointments due to transportation problems.

According to Mike Winther of the Society for the Handicapped, many volunteer drivers who currently serve are tired and need a break!

With all the cars parked in our church lots on weekends and during weeknight meetings, it seems like we should be able to eliminate this problem quickly!

Mr. Winther says that there is a swift and painless background check for all volunteer drivers--one that you and I would probably appreciate if we needed a volunteer driver. Once qualified, drivers are sent a monthly list of opportunities, and sign up for those that fit their schedules and geographical areas.

Advancing Vibrant Communities asks you to help be part of the solution to eliminating this need! Are you able to volunteer to drive, and in the process show the sacrificial love and compassion of Christ in action?

If this fits the bill for you, please call Mike Winther and his staff at the Society for the Handicapped **209-524-3536**. Please let them know you are part of the AVC family!

### **AVC Takes on Graffiti in the "Weed and Seed" Program for Paradise South Area: Volunteers Needed!**

AVC joined 37 other governmental agencies, private organizations, and neighborhood groups on October 1 as a signatory in the "Weed and Seed" program to transform the Paradise

South area of Modesto. Other signatories include the United States Attorney, City of Modesto, County of Stanislaus, American Red Cross, District Attorney, Habitat for Humanity, the Police and Fire Departments, School District, and United Way.

AVC committed to organizing graffiti abatement teams in the target areas on the fifth (5<sup>th</sup>) Saturday of each month. To those of you who have volunteered to help wipe out graffiti, a separate letter will be sent to you with details!

If you are willing to join these other entities to help revitalize and beautify this area of Modesto, please call Pastor Michael at **209-544-9571**, or e-mail us (address at the bottom of this page). We're honored to be on the ground level of this massive effort--we would love to have you participate!

### **Growing List of AVC Church and Corporate Partners**

#### *CHURCHES:*

Bethel Church, Modesto  
Big Valley Grace Community Church, Modesto  
Calvary Community Church, Manteca  
Carpenter's House, Modesto  
Comunidad Cristiana de Modesto  
First Baptist Church, Modesto  
Living Water Bible Church, Salida  
Modesto Covenant Church  
Sherwood Bible Church, Modesto  
Village Christian Fellowship, Modesto

#### *CORPORATE:*

Quality Communications (209-550-0303)  
Oh, For the Memories! (209-524-2900)  
Ward Office Furniture (209-523-2815)

*If you are interested in becoming a Church or Corporate Partner, please call us at 209-544-9571!*

### **AVC's Year 'Round Community Impact**

AVC plays strategic role in serving the community in a variety of ways, as Pastor Douglass serves as AVC's ambassador:

--Member of the Emergency Food and Shelter Program Board for Stanislaus County.

--Master of Ceremonies and Public Information Officer for "Shoulder to Shoulder", the community-driven 9/11 tribute to First Responders and Military Personnel (John Thurman Field).

--Community Outreach Team Leader for Mission Greater Modesto (Greater Modesto Ministerial Association).

--Local delegate with other pastors and leaders to the National Leadership Forum in New York City (October 5-8). Theme: The Gospel in the City. This is the annual conference of the Mission America Coalition.

--Prayer dedication of the new Stratford at Beyer Park assisted living complex for seniors.

--We are also pleased to be invited to table discussions about the new "**Weed and Seed**" effort on the west side, led in part by Bob Schmal of Harvest of Hope, along with Pastor Wayne Bridegroom and others who are trusting God and partnering with law enforcement and other agencies to clean up and revitalize their neighborhoods. More on this exciting movement in coming months!

### **Website and Radio: Expanding the Vision!**

The vision of AVC to see thousands of believers reaching out to meet the needs of their neighbors and to spread the Gospel through trusted relationships is reaching more and more people through our website and Lighthouse Live! radio program.

Our website has a "**Daily Update**" page with a fresh perspective on current events and our mission to connect believers with opportunities to serve the needs of their neighbors. Simply click the "Daily Update" button on the left hand side of our web pages at **[www.vibrantcommunities.org](http://www.vibrantcommunities.org)**.

Also, AVC's radio ministry is Lighthouse Live!, now heading into its *seventh straight year* of weekly broadcasts! Lighthouse Live! explores the depths of what it means to love God with all our heart, soul, and mind, and what it really means to love our neighbors as ourselves as a lifestyle. The show airs *live*, usually with phone call-in participation from 6 to 7 p.m. Sunday nights on KCBC 770 AM. The show is rebroadcast at various times during the week, (normally Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 9 p.m.).

### **How Can We Participate?**

AVC makes presentations to groups and to congregations to motivate believers to step outside the four walls of their homes and churches to serve the needs of others. And, we provide a confidential database of people who are willing to serve, and quietly notify them of opportunities to serve that match their interests and experience.

If your organization or church is ready to partner in this tremendous opportunity to spread the Gospel through acts of service, please call or email us! Office phone: **209-544-9571**

E-mail **[info@vibrantcommunities.org](mailto:info@vibrantcommunities.org)**

**[www.vibrantcommunities.org](http://www.vibrantcommunities.org)**

### **Please "Unblock" E-mail for AVC!**

We have noticed that our e-mail updates and notices of serving opportunities are being kicked back by e-mail spam systems. If possible, please help us communicate with you by unblocking messages containing the address "[vibrantcommunities.org](http://www.vibrantcommunities.org)"!

### **Enclosed Envelope**

The enclosed self-addressed envelope is for your use! We value your notes of encouragement and ideas, and we are also very grateful to those of you who support us on a monthly basis.