



**MP**  
Mission: Possible!  
Austin

# INTERCEPTOR

*Connect. Serve. Empower.*

April 2008

*"Tales of the  
Resistance"*

**Nikos Summer Camp is June 7-14!**

Already filling up  
your summer calendar?

Make plans to be involved  
somehow in our Nikos Summer Camp from June 7-14, 2008  
in Rosebud, Texas! There will be opportunities to send, pray,  
serve, plan, and come to join in the "hands on" work of The  
Kingdom!

Approximately one hundred at-risk children in Austin, ages  
6-11, will have the chance to escape the dark places which  
may crowd their home-lives and tangibly experience God's  
love in their lives. They will be bussed to a place where the  
group leaders and staff around them are living in such a way  
as to proclaim that our God is real, and that we can know  
Him.

Through songs, drama, games, fishing, canoeing, swimming  
in the lake, ropes activities, and crafts, these precious little ones



**The cost to sponsor  
one camper is \$325.**

will learn that God  
can be heard, and that  
He can be trusted. These are radical truths for those  
who have been lied to, betrayed, pushed away, and  
bombarded with the noise of our broken culture.

Please consider how the Lord might have you be  
involved in this year's Nikos Summer camp and be  
praying that the Lord will begin to prepare the hearts  
of these little ones as well as those who will invest  
in their lives. You can also sponsor a child to go to  
camp for \$325. For more information about this  
camp, check out our website and see how you can  
participate!

If you want to be a group leader (ages 16 and up),  
download your applications at [www.mpaustin.org](http://www.mpaustin.org)  
and send it in by May 10th. Available spots will fill  
quickly!



**Email Cheryl Lowe at [cheryl@mpaustin.org](mailto:cheryl@mpaustin.org) to volunteer for Camp Nikos!**



**Tim Pinson, Sr.**  
Executive Director

## “Instruments of Peace” Annual Banquet

On March 1, Mission Possible held its annual banquet at the Texas Disposal Systems Exotic Game Ranch & Pavillion. The evening was a great time to highlight the vision and mission of the organization as well as hear from Austin’s new Chief of Police Art Acevedo. The Chief’s keynote speech centered on how Christian faith based organizations play a valuable role in community transformation. Tim Pinson, Jr. spoke to the vision and mission of the organization and its purpose in connecting the Body of Christ to build life-transforming relationships.

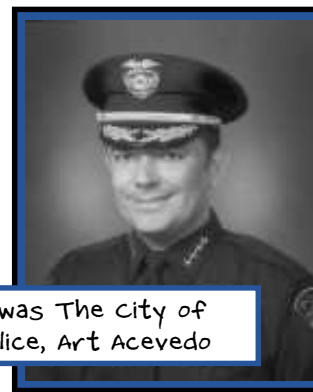
The event also included a silent and live auction. Tim Pinson, Sr. acted as a live auctioneer, which ended up being quite entertaining and fun. One of the goals of the evening was to raise funds for the ongoing work in Austin’s inner city through Mission: Possible! The projected goal was to raise \$50,000, which would be used in programs like the Nikos Camping Ministry. The amount raised at the banquet was around \$9,000 which will send 27 of the over 500 children expected to attend our 4 camps this year.

You can still participate in this effort by supporting with either a one time gift or commitment to support on a monthly basis. Your gift of \$325 will send a child to one of our two summer camps and \$45 for one of our two retreats in the Spring and Fall.

Thanks to all of you who came to show your support to the work God is doing through this ministry. Next year’s banquet will be held within the same time frame as this year’s banquet.

Watch for the 2009 banquet dates to be published soon.

- Tim Pinson, Sr  
Executive Director



Our guest speaker was The City of Austin's Chief of Police, Art Acevedo



**by Tim Pinson, Jr.**  
Director of Ministries

## Church Under the Bridge Update



Church Under the Bridge meets under the I-35 & 7th Street Bridge every Sunday at 10am

As many of you know, we have had to get permits from the Travis County Health Department each Sunday to be able to serve food at Church Under the Bridge. We are thankful for your prayers and support through this process. The Lord has given us grace with the Health Department as we have walked through this. You may remember that one of the options the Health Department gave us, which they highly recommended, was that we purchase a mobile kitchen that we could cook in and only have to permit one time per year. We have had some significant donations come in towards that mobile kitchen

trailer and we have purchased a trailer and begun to build it out as a commercial kitchen. We are still in need of some funding towards the trailer so if you would like to know how you can participate, please contact us. One of the things we found out in the process was that the trailer would have to be attached to an approved commissary (commercial kitchen) in order to be permitted. We also realized that the trailer would need to be towed by a heavy-duty truck (which we do not have). We are working on the details of how to make this possible. In the meantime, the participating churches still have to purchase meals from commercial kitchens or restaurants each Sunday. We are looking forward to having the trailer built and ready for use. We will keep you up to date about the progress, thanks for your prayers.

- Tim Pinson, Jr., Director of Ministries



My name  
is Mary,  
and this  
is my  
lifesong ...

I was born and raised in East Austin. Life wasn't easy and the enemy set out to destroy me at an early age. For many years I served the enemy. I never fully understood then why, but I now know God had His plan in action. For so long I wondered why I never died all the times I was in the path of death? I always wondered why I had suffered so much pain - now I can testify God knew why.

I visited many churches in the area, but never felt a calling. On my way to church on several occasions I'd pass by the bridge and noticed a van and many people around who were not dressed in Sunday's

best attire. As I was passing by I felt within me that I should stop, but yet being hesitant. To make a long story short, one day I approached to listen to the speaker and viewed many around who were hurting, hungry, and some even not well. I was so touched and moved by the hurting, the lost and the weak, it reminded me that I too had been there once. I prayed to God to give me a clear picture if this was the calling I had so long prayed for? Well that same week on my way to lunch, I saw a guy who had come up to me that Sunday and prayed with me under the bridge, so I went up to him to chat and he introduced me to Duane. As I walked away, I was in tears, I knew God had opened up the door.

Now I am blessed each Sunday to give hope to the hurting, God's strength to weak, and encouragement to the lost. I know the Word speaks truth and that God makes His way to the willing if we are open to receive, if we are willing to be His Hands and Feet and all we must do is say, here I am send me. I now listen to His Will and my life has never been the same. I now know God is using my past hurt to empower God's people with His love and strength. I know there is so much more God needs us to do so we can accomplish what God wants for His people. I am alive because of Jesus Christ and I know He lives through me!

## Camp Nikos Spring Retreat 2008 Follow-Up

Thank you so much for your prayers and participation with our Spring Retreat this year! Because of the record number of volunteers and group leaders, we were able to spend time with a whopping 95 children!

Many youth had their first Nikos camping experience as a group leader, and even more volunteers stepped in to help serve meals, lead group activities, and drive children to and from camp. This precious time spent together would not have been possible without your flexibility, prayer, support, and willing hearts.

There is no doubt that God was involved in this weekend, weather and all! A rainy Monday morning was a miraculous testament to the prayer cover we were under. All 150 of us crowded under the largest covered area at camp to eat breakfast, sing songs, watch Big Idea's "An Easter Carol," sing some more, and listen to a story\* before lunch. If you have children or have ever worked with kids, you know that this is too much to ask in a small space. Even so, we were all together, listening, singing, even experiencing His joy in our songs of praise. Wow!

We were grateful to have believers from more than five area churches come and participate to make this camp possible. It is truly a beautiful thing to see the Body work together to express the love of Christ.

After realizing the soggy state of most tents, sleeping bags, and clothes, we decided to end the retreat on Monday afternoon instead of Tuesday morning.

The children were disappointed to return home early because of the love they'd experienced with us - "KingsLove." We look forward to watching these relationships grow and strengthen during our Summer Camp in June!

- Cheryl Lowe, Project Intercept Coordinator



Cheryl Lowe,  
Project Intercept  
Coordinator



A camper and a counselor experiencing  
"KingsLove" at Spring Retreat 2008

\*Go to my blog at [benandcheryl.wordpress.com](http://benandcheryl.wordpress.com) for an in-depth explanation of our "Tales of the Resistance" theme that will carry over to our Nikos Summer Camp.



by Terry Brock  
Community Relations  
Liaison

## Community Corner

Remember when I said in the last Community Corner that we were already two weeks into 2008? Well, now we're almost through the FIRST QUARTER! The Community Preservation Alliance outreach is continuing to expand and God gets all the glory for what He has accomplished through His people. We are making a concerted effort to build relationships with the community people we serve.

In January, I met with more local pastors who are interested in partnering with us. We will probably make plans to do some CPA work together, plus we want to have a couple of seasonal events with local churches and community residents. There are some business owners as well who want to partner with us in outreach ministry like CPA and social "get togethers" to build more relationships.

In February, on the 2nd, the International Heritage Festival was held on the parking lot at Greater Mt. Zion Baptist Church and it was well attended by community, civic leaders and law enforcement.

## Community Preservation Alliance Update



- We helped sponsor the International Heritage Festival on Feb. 2 at Greater Mt. Zion Baptist Church

- We are continuing to add families to our B.A.G.S. Food Pantry program.

- We are hosting another Urban Submersion Weekend from May 16-18. Sign up at [www.mpaustin.org](http://www.mpaustin.org) today!

The B.A.G.S. program is gaining momentum! We are adding more qualified recipients to the list of needy residents in the 78702 area. We will probably have about 30 families on the list very soon. We discovered recently that some of the folks in the area only receive \$10 PER MONTH for food stamps! That is very limiting, even for folks who are light eaters, so we feel that B.A.G.S. is definitely meeting a need. Please pray for more volunteers for that program.

Now is the time to start thinking about our next Urban Submersion Weekend from May 16-18. Go to our website and find out about this exciting event and you can even sign up online. This is a great way to meet other believers and to strengthen your personal relationship with God while meeting a variety of needs in the community. Without revealing anymore about the weekend, I encourage you to attend and see how God might have you be a part of this in-your-city-ministry.

There are many exciting opportunities for you who want to invest some quality time in the lives of others and make a difference for eternity. Please pray about how God could use you through the various outreach areas of Mission:Possible Austin!

- Terry Brock,  
Community Relations Liaison



### Debt Reduction Announcement



Mission Possible is thankful to announce the pay-off of the old tavern (1818) which was purchased over two years ago. The organization received a large donation from Hill Country Bible Church, which allowed MP to get closer to its vision to be Debt Free by our 5th anniversary in November of 2008. We are asking our faithful supporters to help make this a reality. Our only debt left is on the NYACC Community Center. The balance on the note is only \$205,000. With help from folks like you this dream can become a reality. Once debt is paid MP is committed to use money saved in monthly mortgage to directly impact individuals with the living Gospel in our undeserved communities.

NYACC Community Center  
Mortgage balance (as of end of Feb.) \$208,041

2008 Year to Date Budget (Jan.-Feb.) \$74,275  
Actual \$68,991  
Difference -\$5,284

**Once debt is paid in full, all funds will be used to directly impact lives for Christ!**

**Our mission statement: Connect, Serve, Empower.**

We want to see safe and thriving communities that have been transformed by the power of God's love. Our goal is to connect the Body of Christ so it can serve urban communities and empower individuals through spiritual, social, and economic programs. Through our three focus areas: Project Intercept, Street Ministry, and Community Development, we partner with the Body of Christ to build relationships with people in our city so that life change can take place.

# Mission Possible Events & Programs

Call us at  
494-0953  
for more  
info!



Urban Submersion  
May 16-18  
Camp Nikos 2008  
June 7-14



## Sundays

### The Church Under The Bridge

Every Sunday at 7th & I-35

Service begins at 10am

Lunch is served at 12:30

To find out more, call the Mission Possible Offices at 494-0953.

## Monday, Wednesday, Friday

### Big Fish After School Program

Meets from 2:30 - 5pm; Program for 6-12 year olds who live near NYACC. The Middle School Girls also meet on Wednesday nights from 6:30 - 8pm  
To find out more, call 494-0953 or email [cheryl@mpaustin.org](mailto:cheryl@mpaustin.org)

## Tuesdays

### Tuesday Night Fellowship

Meets from 3-9pm  
Call Duane Severance at 619-0423 for details.

## Wednesdays

### Adult Bible Study

Every Wednesday at 10 am at NYACC on 12th and Chicon,  
To find out more, call 494-0953 or email [timjr@mpaustin.org](mailto:timjr@mpaustin.org)

## Thursdays

### Big Fish Club at NYACC

Every other Thursday from 6-8pm  
Program for 6-12 year olds who live near NYACC.

To find out more, call 494-0953 or email [cheryl@mpaustin.org](mailto:cheryl@mpaustin.org)

### CARS at Owens Garage

Every Thursday from 6-8pm  
Auto mechanics training program for youth

To find out more, call Bill James at 636-0817 or [cars@mpaustin.org](mailto:cars@mpaustin.org)

### B.A.G.S. Program

Last two Thursdays of month from 1-4pm

To find out more, call Terry Brock at 217-9750 or [terryb@mpaustin.org](mailto:terryb@mpaustin.org)

## Saturdays

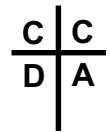
### Cross Trainers

Meets every 3rd Saturday

To find out more, call 494-0953 or email [cheryl@mpaustin.org](mailto:cheryl@mpaustin.org)

### First Evangelical Free Church- Rio Laddo Outreach

Contact Kurtis White at [kurtis.white@gmail.com](mailto:kurtis.white@gmail.com)  
2nd & 4th Saturdays 11AM



Member Christian Community  
Development Association

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You can sponsor a child's week  
at Camp Nikos for \$325!

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Resistance"*

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*Mission: Possible! Austin* — — — — — *Connect. Serve. Empower.*