

*Destination: Home* 3<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary Celebration  
Thursday, December 13<sup>th</sup>  
10 am – Central Library, Browning Rooms A & B

### **Prevention Committee 2007 Report**

All of our efforts at Outreach Ministries are focused on prevention—prevention of hunger and homelessness—in our community. So it was just a natural fit that we become active in the Prevention strategies of *Destination: Home*.

This past year the Prevention Committee has worked to develop a risk assessment tool for community agencies and organizations to use to identify those folks who are most at risk of homelessness. We will be unveiling that tool to local providers early next year. Partnerships will be developed and training will be provided in its use and application.

2008 will be an active year for the Prevention Committee. We will be recruiting members and partners in planning the strategies to develop the resources required to prevent homelessness.

All of us agree that preventing episodes of homelessness makes sense. It is the most cost-effective step in ending homelessness. But like all strategies, it takes a vision and it takes funding. We have the vision—intervention, prevention and stabilization of those most at risk. Now we will be working to identify appropriate funding sources on all levels—federal, state, local, private and public.

Client-centered case management, stabilization with rent subsidies where necessary and supportive services are essential elements in ending homelessness in our community.

Real progress is being made in making affordable housing available to people who are already homeless. Next year at this time, I am hopeful that we will be able to report the same degree of progress in the area of prevention.