

December 22, 2007

  
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# Happenings

## Community Kitchen Holds Memorial Service

posted December 21, 2007

As part of a national initiative, the Chattanooga Community Kitchen held a service Friday to memorialize the 15 homeless men and women who have died so far this year in Hamilton County.

The service began with a bagpipe prelude followed by a prayer and reading of the names.

As each name was read, a candle was lit on an empty tray in the dining area, signifying the tray that person once ate from. A bell was then tolled for each of the names, and once more for those unknown.

Karen Blevins of the Homeless Coalition then performed a vocal rendition of "Precious Lord, Take My Hand."

The service ended with Barry Kidwell of Forrest Avenue United Methodist Church leading a prayer followed by a bagpipe postlude of "Amazing Grace."

Following the service, a restaurant-style lunch was served to all in attendance. The candles remained lit throughout the service and meal.

The memorial service is held nationally each year on the winter solstice — the longest night of the year.

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