Pillsbury Receives Bag Inside With $1100

by Aaron Goff

How would you react if someone walked into your place and dropped over $1100 at your feet? "Pleased," was the answer of Greg Reed, the director of Pillsbury United Neighborhood Services at the Oak Park Branch. They had just received this large sum of money from the Disciples Ministry who will assist them in sending a large number of children to camp this summer.

"This kind of act helps promote our mission of neighborhood communities acting together to help others," stated Reed. Pillsbury was conducting an open house, when a local pastor, Paul Armpoulos came and wanted to help their camping for youth program and he wished to donate.

The Disciples Ministry held a picnic for the community children at North Commons in North Minneapolis on July 4th. "Since last year, we have been holding large picnics (with attendance up to 60) to raise money for a local park bond." Pastor Paul stated, "we were one of the first churches to raise money for that purpose." This time they were assisting Pillsbury. "We were tending to business and one day he walks in carrying a bag turned it upside down and out came $1100," explained Reed. About 40 children will be able to go to Camp Manasiki because of the generosity of the donors. Reed stated, "the key thing is that institutions and organizations, by working together, can provide better services for the community's residents. We had the facilities and they, (Disciples Ministry), had the funds."

"Our mission is to help others," claimed Armpoulos. "We also do a lot of food donating to needy people." They are one of the largest food donating organizations in the nation. Armpoulos also explained, "We have a hobo bus. That is where we pack the food and take the bus out and find people who need help. They'll usually be on the streets or under the bridges."

The Disciples Ministry is also going to provide food for the camp and will continue to work with Pillsbury to improve the community.