

Christmas Shopping for Missions 2020

1. Boys & Girls Gifting Party

This is an annual outreach event in conjunction with the Boys and Girls Club of Henderson County. Students come to the church in order to "shop" without money, for their primary caregivers. Volunteers collect donations, bake cookies, make goody bags, help with crafts, coordinate with the Boys and Girls club, set-up, decorate, clean-up, and serve as escorts.

2. Water R Us

Volunteers are passionate about providing clean water and sanitation for communities in need of this life-giving resource. Our church supports a project in the village of San Jose, Nicaragua through El Porvenir. Volunteers visit the site(s) of El Porvenir each January as part of their commitment to this ministry.

3. ZOE

Through ZOE's Empowerment program (www.zoeempowers.org) we partner with orphaned children in Kenya and Rwanda for three years so that they become sustainably self-sufficient within a village-based group context. Through training, small grants and support by local leaders, the children learn skills, grow in faith and develop a sense of family as they become economically independent. Currently, over 1300 children have been empowered through FUMC support.

4. Rooted in Faith Gardens

Rooted in Faith Community Garden is a faith-based donation garden focused on building relationships, providing education, and growing fresh, organic produce for the food insecure of Henderson County. All donations go toward the purchase of seeds and plant starts for our donation produce and educational programs with Bruce Drysdale Elementary and the FUMC Weekday School, as well as supplies needed for the garden's upkeep. Thank you for helping us feed our community brothers and sisters.

5. Sowing Seeds

Sowing Seeds is sharing the Word of God all over the world. We are collecting books, Bibles, Bible study books, tapes and music. We are blessing pastors who do not have Bibles, schools and teachers who use our adult and children material, as well as new Christians who are hungry for the word of God. Donations of materials are accepted as well as monetary donations to help with the shipping. For more information, visit www.LovePackages.org or call or email Sally Jones at 828-808-2012 or SendingSeeds@gmail.com

6. Brand New Day-Philippines

Brand New Day, led by Erin Johnson of FUMC, is an outreach and rehabilitation program for street children in Cavite, Philippines. This ministry provides street outreach, family and faith development, a day center with education scholarships and tutors, leadership development, and independent living training.

7. FUMC Youth Missions

Our Youth group is a place where students can ask hard questions, have small group time that is designed to help them grow in their faith, as well as have some opportunities to give back and serve our community!

8. Homes for Youth

Homes for Youth provides homes, help and hope for Henderson County youth who have lost their homes. We have a home that accommodates five foster girls with their foster parents and plan to acquire another. We also support the training of additional foster parents by providing facilities and advanced remote teleconferencing equipment to the Department of Social Services.

9. Feed the Kids

For 10 years FUMC has partnered with nine other area churches to support our local "Feed the Kids Coalition" by providing volunteers and financial help. This organization's sole purpose is to provide healthy suppers every Friday for the kids at the Boys and Girls Club. Covid has limited our in-person volunteering, but the Coalition needs donations currently to continue to provide sub sandwich suppers weekly to 150+ children at the Club. Your contributions would be greatly appreciated!

10. Sew Much Love

The mission of **Sew Much Love**, a small group which uses donated cotton fabric and trims to make dresses and pants for children, is "**...whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me (Matt.25:40)**". These special items of clothing are sent to Little Dresses for Africa, a non-profit Christian organization which distributes them throughout the world but primarily in Africa through missionaries and aid workers as gifts for building relationships in the villages. The original goal for Little Dresses for Africa was to build a sense of hope and worth in little girls who are not valued in their culture. Not wanting to leave out the little boys, we also sew "britches" for the boys. After relationships are established Little Dresses for Africa works with the people in the village to provide clean water, primary education and community buildings.

11. Cuba Ministry

Since 2015 FUMC has partnered with a small church in Las Tunas, Cuba. Four trips to Cuba have occurred to date. The goal is primarily relationship building and fellowship. We have participated in worship with them and have supported them with a water filtration system, video and computer equipment and equipment to assist in the maintenance of their farm on which a retreat center is being built. We pray for each other and communicate regularly. A generous bequest from a former member has supported this and other missions in Cuba so donations from the congregation are not requested at this time.

12. Backpack Ministry

The FUMC Backpack Program delivers non-perishable foods to food-insecure children attending Bruce Drysdale School / Boys & Girls Club of Hendersonville each week. We are currently supporting the weekend food needs for 215 local children. Each week we provide nine individual-sized food items for these children. Donations specified for the Backpack Program support our purchases of these food items. The children thank you for your donation.