



Wesley Memorial Methodist Church

Missions and Community Impact Newsletter

The purpose of Wesley Memorial is to make and sustain spiritually healthy followers of Jesus Christ who live in ways that transform the world

Mission Team Members

Charles Surlis	Chair
Brenda Coates	Member
Pat Colonna	Member
Ken Gullede	Member
Matt Heald	Member
Joe Lorber	Member
Jane Lutz	Member
April Maines	Member
Becky Scholtz	Member
Buddy Wilson	Member
Rev. Ken Lyon	Staff Liaison
David Adams	Lay Leader

Current Mission Activity Calendar

Sunday, November 24th

Assemble Homeless Cold Weather Care Kits - See story inside

December 1, First Sunday food collection supporting the Fairview School Backpack Program - See story inside

December 1st - Cover the City Annual Blanket Drive concludes See story inside

December 1st - Angel Tree gifts to be returned to the church See story inside

Sunday, December 8th, Backpack food collection program ends

December 15th - Christmas drive-thru and distribution of Angel Tree gifts

December 24th - 51st Annual Christmas Love Feast

Homeless Cold Weather Kits Hands on Mission Event

On Sunday, November 24th we will be putting together "Homeless Cold Weather Care Kits" in the dining room starting at 10:30 and again after the 11:00 service. This will be done just like the "Summer Care Kits" where all of the ingredients were placed on tables allowing volunteers to easily walk around the tables to put the items in a gallon zip lock bag.

We are planning on assembling at least 1,000 bags. 500 will go the Western North Carolina and 500 will stay here to be handed out to recipients in our local area.

The bags will contain at least some of the following items and more: a foil-mylar rescue blanket, chemical pocket hand warmers, hand sanitizer, small first aid kit, water, socks, gloves and other items.

These kits will be available for you to give out as you go about your daily life to people who may need them.

This activity is open to all ages and is an enjoyable event for families.

Again, the activity will be held downstairs in the dining room starting at 10:30 until ? A second shift will start right after the 11 o'clock service concludes

This is a great way to show love, caring and compassion to folks in Western North Carolina and to those locally who need a little help.



Cover the City Update

The annual Cover The City Blanket Drive” is coming to an end on December 1st. We have collected over 85 blankets for this worthy program. Cover the City (CTC) is a long time partner with the church and, by extension, also with A Cleaner World who cleans, mends and packages the items free of any charge.

This year CTC came up with a solution to a problem we were going to have in connection with the Western North Carolina relief program we initiated. Simply put, they offered to send blankets with one or more of the trucks we sent to Weaverville. We did not count the blankets but there certainly were a lot of them. And the recipients in Weaverville were grateful for the gifts.



Cover The City is based in High Point and they expect to distribute over 100,000 blankets this year. In addition, they receive coats and hats in smaller quantities.

Thank you Wesley Memorial and thank you, Cover the City for helping cold residents of Western North Carolina at a time they needed it most.

Angel Tree

Please remember to have all of the Angel Tree gifts back at the church by December 1st so they can be sorted and arranged for pickup.

Thank you for making Christmas brighter for some child.



Backpack Ministry at Fairview School

In just a few weeks Christmas break will start for all of the children in Guilford County. Some children in certain schools (like Fairview) experience a few weeks of missed meals and uncertainty of where or when the next meal will appear. Not only is hunger an issue but developmental growth is affected also. Without adequate nutrition their brains begin to slow down and some stunted development is noted. If you know +++teachers, talk to them and ask what they notice when the students return to school after a longer break



Wesley has had a very active backpack program for Fairview School for many years. We usually ask for volunteers to help construct bags of food for the students to take home. This year the Youth Department under the leadership of Chase Harris - Director of Student Ministries will take on this event. They will pack about 140 bags for the students to take home for use during the break.

How can you help?

We are asking the congregation to participate also by providing the items which will go in the bags. This will be a little different for the first Sunday, (December 1st) food collection in that we need some very specific items. These items are:

- Breakfast bars
- Small Waters
- Fruit snacks
- Go go Squeez
- Juice Boxes
- Individual soup
- Apple sauce/fruit cups
- Non perishable milk
- Individual (mac n cheese)
- Pop tarts
- Individual Chef Boy R Dee cups
- Crackers(peanut butter/cheese)
- Individual snack packs

Food collection will continue on December 8th

As usual, please bring the items to any of the worship venues. Staff will move them to a collection location to be ready for inventory and staging for the event.

Western North Carolina Relief Project Update

Last Friday Charles Surles, Chaille Clemmons and Dan Smoak drove to Weaverville United Methodist Church close to Asheville to deliver another load of supplies to that community.

This time they brought blankets, food, a donated generator, as well as a check for items that they can purchase locally.

While they were there they had an opportunity to be guided around the area where they witnessed other church locations with signs indicating the support they were able to offer. A number of the sites were distributing items we have donated.

During his visit it was evident that, as predicted, needs have changed. With the arrival of very cold weather in that area it was agreed that the next high priority need are propane stoves. A determination will be made as to the best way to procure them but, for sure, getting the propane bottles locally is the best answer.

The generosity of the members at Wesley has been unbelievable. To date over \$64,500 has been given to this effort. A substantial amount has been given to Samaritan's Purse, GBGM and Weaverville UMC. Since needs are changing, we are metering out the funds so that we will be sure to have some for the months of January through April.

Charles made the following statement: "Having traveled to Western North Carolina last week it was amazing to see the outreach from people who live in the area and across the country helping others. I was touched when I saw four trucks carrying hay from farmers in the Midwest being delivered to fellow farmers living in the mountains. Also seeing the outpouring from our church has been amazing. The human spirit is alive and well.

As one lady commented "*We just have each other but we are going to be ok*".

Again, Charles Surles: "our plan is to partner with a sister Church and help them during this rebuilding process. I see our partnership lasting at least a year or two. There are multiple churches which have sustained a substantial amount of damage and need help. These congregations are suffering, because members have lost employment, have lost their homes or their homes are damaged and they have little income to support themselves, let alone the church. I believe this is where we

Christmas at Wesley Memorial Some of the missions related events that are planned for the Christmas season include:

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*December 1st - Angel Tree gifts to be returned to the church
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December 15th - Christmas drive-thru and distribution of Angel Tree gifts.

December 15th - White Christmas

... and many more. Watch the bulletin and Wesley Weekly for further details.

can be most helpful." If you have a connection to a church in the area we are very interested in talking with them. Please contact Charles Surles chsurles62@gmail.com, Ken Gullledge at ktgbike@aol.com or Joe Lorber at joelorber@gmail.com with the information and we will followup.



Damaged church with pews and piano in the front yard.