



WINTER NEWSLETTER

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Greetings Dear Friends:

I trust each of you had a wonderful and blessed Christmas holiday season. My prayer is that you and your family are staying healthy as we begin the New Year.

Reflecting back on 2008, we can see over and over how God provided for our humble ministry. I realize the uncertainty and anxiety of our distressed economy has made life challenging for all of us. In fact, some of you receiving this Newsletter are perhaps struggling with job loss, healthcare concerns, or other stressful situations. May I encourage you to never give up but to keep having Hope.

We are sincerely and immensely grateful for all of the dedicated and compassionate Volunteers and Donors who continue to deem the Mission of Hope worthy of their unwavering support. Please keep our ministry and, perhaps more importantly, the Ministry Centers and Schools we are so privileged to serve, at the core of your prayer support.

*Emmette Thompson, Executive Director
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2009 DATES & VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Ongoing Needs –

Office and Phone Volunteers.

Warehouse Workers and/or Drivers (with good backs) to pick up donated items throughout Knoxville and surrounding areas; make deliveries to the Ministries & Schools we help; and help with various tasks at the MOH.

Spring – Construction Projects, Healthcare Fairs, Spring Mission Programs

April 25 – Bell County, KY Repair Fair

June, July, August – Summer Mission Trips to Appalachia

July and August – Annual Back-to-School Programs

August 14– 6th Annual Chick-fil-A & MOH Golf Classic

November 5 – Annual Fund Raising Celebration Banquet

November and December – Annual Christmas Collection and Delivery Programs

NOTE: Dates for other MOH events will be listed on our Website or through E-mail updates from Emmette.

2008 CHRISTMAS BANQUET UPDATE

Over 750 MOH friends attended our Annual Fund Raising and Celebration Banquet. A heartfelt and grateful “Thank You” to the following for making this event a big success:

Banquet Committee Members: Phil & Linda Peek, Ginger Forbes, Susan White, Stuart & Leslie Row, and Shirley Plant; Nathan & Susan Rothchild and their Staff; special music by Russ & Becky Jeffers and David West & The Cider Mountain Boys; East Tennessee’s own Sammy Sawyer as Barney Fife; Live Auction and Gift Donors; Roscoe & Linda England for auctioneer services; WBIR-TV 10 and Jeff Lee, Bill Shory and Staff for their media support; Mike and Steve White with Multi-Media Solutions for audio, video and lighting; Jerry Godolphin for photography; Bobby & Joyce Hankins, Image Point Media Group and Susan Sconover & Staff, Asen Marketing & Advertising for media production; and our dear friend and Master of Ceremonies Bill Williams for providing all those in attendance with a special evening of Celebration.

13TH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Total Success are the best words to describe our Annual Christmas Program. The generous support provided by many corporations, schools, churches, civic groups and individuals gave our Program and Delivery Teams the opportunity to take Christmas blessings into the 25 Elementary Schools we assist. The MOH provided over 16,000 Children and their Families with food and hygiene items, new clothing, toys and gifts. Bibles and tracts were also given to the Students, as well as our prayers. We were also able to assist several Ministry Centers we serve.

Thanks to the following for sharing the “Gifts of Christmas” with our Appalachian friends by giving of their time, energy, dedication, and Volunteer spirit throughout the year:

Leadership Coordinators: Sandra Moore, Nola Swartz, Melinda Sparks, Joe Peck, Vaughn Bush, Mary Emma Bunch, Mildred Queen, Gail Brooks, Don Jones, Jackie Johnson, Jeanie Shover, Pat McCarter, Bob Giffin, Francis Giffin, Johnnie Barry, Betty Burrell, Bud Brickeen, Shirley Plant and Diane Webster.

Program & Church Delivery Teams: Black Oak Heights Baptist, Central Baptist Bearden, Central Baptist Fountain City, Central United Methodist Church Lenoir City, Christ Covenant Presbyterian, Clear Springs Baptist of Mascot, Cumberland Baptist, Dixie Lee Baptist, First Baptist Alcoa, First Baptist Concord & Westlake, First Baptist Lenoir City, First Baptist Maryville, First Baptist Powell, Gist Creek Baptist of Sevierville, Grace Baptist Knoxville, NorthEast Christian Church of Lexington, KY, NorthStar Church, Parkway Baptist, Roseberry Baptist of Mascot, Sevier Heights Baptist and West Hills Presbyterian.

Trucking Transportation & Drivers: Allen Transport, Averitt Express, Inc., Phil Cates, Colonial Trucking, Tommy Donaldson, Food Lion, Carl Kennedy, Pilot Corporation, Rothchilds, Volunteer Drum, Roane Transportation Services, DeRoyal Industries, H.T. Hackney Co., Skyline Transportation, Pemberton Trucking, Teton Transportation, Worldwide Equipment, Inc., Stuart Gage, Ryder Trucks, Enterprise Trucks and Hearth & Patio.

THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS & SUPPORTERS

Abig “Thank You” is extended to our 2008 Christmas Sponsors. We also extend our sincere thanks to all of our compassionate Donors, Supporters and dedicated Volunteers who make the Mission of Hope ministry possible.

Major Sponsors: Citadel and WNOX Radio, CVS/Caremark, Chick-fil-A, Food City, Home Federal Bank, K-Mart, Knoxville News-Sentinel, Knoxville TVA Employees Credit Union, Sears, and WBIR-TV Channel 10.

Co-Sponsors: Bruster’s Ice Cream, Clayton Homes, Coleman Printing and Awards, Fleenor Security Systems, Hardin Valley Land Partners LLC, Robert W. Elliott & Assoc., Inc., Rothchild Catering & Event Rentals, Stein Mart, and WRJZ Radio Joy 620 & Love 89.

Lexington Sponsors: **Appalachian Regional Healthcare,** Central Bank, Chick-fil-A, Christian Broadcasting Systems, Ltd., Lexington Christian Academy,

Lexington Family Magazine, Lexington Herald-Leader, NorthEast Christian Church, Smuckers/JIF, Valvoline Instant Oil Change Centers, and WLEX-TV. A special word of thanks to Dr. Russell & Jill Travis, Jack & Ann Salyer and Jim Montgomery for their assistance throughout the year in Lexington.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to Bill Williams for helping birth the Mission of Hope with his original stories on the dire needs in Appalachia and for his ongoing support.

KNOXVILLE ZOO & LADY VOLS SUPPORT THE MOH

Knoxville Zoo sponsored a Food Collection Drive for the MOH. Visitors who brought canned food items were given free admission to the Zoo on a November Saturday. Our sincere thanks to Teresa Collins and her staff and special MOH Volunteers from Wood Properties, along with Steve & Carolyn Vought who gave their entire day to make this event a huge success. We collected almost 20 fifty-five gallon barrels of much needed non-perishable food.

Lady Vols Basketball had a toy collection drive for the MOH at a December game. Fans who brought a new, unwrapped toy to the ticket office received a free general admission ticket to the game. Many toys and some monetary donations were collected at this event. Our thanks to the UT Lady Vols Staff and Marketing Team for their support of the Mission of Hope. Our special thanks to our special MOH Volunteers who helped at the game.

MEMORIALS

Mission of Hope is grateful to the families and friends who make contributions to its ministry in memory and tribute to loved ones. We extend our Christian love and sympathy to the following families who have shared a "Gift of Hope" with our ministry:

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|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Andrew T. Adams | |
| Leonard Barber | Allen L. Jones |
| Teresa Massey Aldridge | Tony Karnes |
| Douglas G Amos | Marjorie McDonough Lane |
| Georgia Bandy | Hubert Lee |
| Pat Bush | Latain McGhee |
| Mrs. Kenneth Caldwell | Carol Ann McGill |
| Jim Calhoun | Tom Pitts |
| Ilene Caul | Charles (C.L.) Pratt, Jr. |
| Michael Childs | Paula Rhyne |
| Helen Cole | Mrs. Fred Scruggs |
| Dr. Dale Alan Collins | Katherine Shook |
| Benjamin Darden | Debra Simerly |
| Ruby Farmer | Joyce Sweitzer |
| Wayne Fielden | Charlie Walker |
| David Gandy | Frank White |
| Hook and Trula Hansard | Alan Lee Williams |
| Arthur and Marie Harrison | Clyde Wolfenbarger |
| Hickman Family | Robert Voss |
| Doug Hunsucker | Dottie Young |

URGENT NEEDS AT THE HOPE

We are receiving numerous requests for the following items that are desperately needed at the Schools and Ministry Centers we serve:

- Food –canned goods, peanut butter, pasta, crackers
 - Hygiene – bar soap, shampoo, toothbrushes & paste
 - Furniture – good used beds, dining suites, sofas & chairs
- If you can help the MOH with any of these items, we will be grateful. Perhaps your church and/or business would like to have a collection effort. Please call the MOH office if you are interested in additional details.

STORIES OF HOPE

HOPE was fulfilled in the Fall when our MOH friends Steve , Vicki and Jess Schnebly and their fellow church friends and special friend Pat Shaw came from the Chicago, IL area with two delivery trucks loaded with much needed items for our Christmas Program. They also gave to the Mission of Hope a 26 ft. delivery truck.

HOPE was fulfilled in a very special collection effort called Mission Unstoppable at West Valley Middle School in Knoxville. The teacher, Amy Crawford, challenged the students to earn money and then buy a large toy requiring assembly for MOH. She then had a special work day when the students brought their toys to the school and assembled them. What a great way to teach students to read and follow instructions, as well as to give to those less fortunate.

HOPE was recently fulfilled in a very unique and special way through a very large furniture donation to both the Mission of Hope and Knox Area Rescue Ministries. It began when a very special supporter to both Ministries, Jerry Daves, shared with an out-of-state client how we both could benefit and assist many with used furniture that was about to be discarded. With very short notice, we were able to rally numerous Volunteer Heroes from both Ministries, as well as the use of a loaned building and seized this wonderful opportunity

HOPE is the confident expectation of good. Thank you God for the privilege and freedom to share about You and the Hope You provide for our daily walk through life's journey.

A Special Thank You to the hundreds of dedicated individuals, groups and businesses who contribute new and used goods, services and transportation all year long to support our Resource Ministry and meet the needs of those we aid throughout Appalachia!!! Extra Special Thanks to our Volunteers!!!! God bless each of you who serve day in and day out to answer the phones; help in the office; pick up, deliver, drive, load and unload the trucks; work in the warehouse and all the other areas - YOU are the heart, soul, hands and feet of Mission of Hope. Without YOU Mission of Hope could not do what it does to help our neighbors in Appalachia.

The Mission of Hope strives to share Hope throughout the year by meeting both basic physical and spiritual needs. We count it a privilege to take the Gospel and share it with all who want to receive it. We trust you will help us to extend the Hope to our neighbors in need. When you do something for others without expecting anything in return, you are truly following the "Golden Rule."

Our recent audit confirmed we put ninety-one cents of every dollar back into the ministry of the MOH. I humbly ask that if you deem us worthy, we would be most grateful for a financial gift to help us keep extending the Hope throughout the year. The size of the gift is really up to you and what the Lord may touch your heart to give. We value all of the wonderful donations we are blessed to receive.

Mission of Hope is a fully licensed 501c3 nonprofit charity and your donations are tax deductible. We have all the proper licenses for local, state and federal requirements. If you need additional information, or have questions regarding our ministry, please contact the MOH office.

Thanks to Shirley Plant, Mary Sue Miller, and Direct Mail Services for their help in compiling, preparing and mailing our Newsletters. Thanks also to our Webmaster, Steve Berube, and his assistant, Jack Brooks.