



## FALL NEWSLETTER

Volume 46  
Fall, 2014

# MISSION OF HOPE

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*Greetings Dear Friends:*

*There's just something incredible about the emergence of the season known as fall. The cool and brisk mornings, the chill of our breaths in the air and the amazing array of colors warm and bless our hearts. I trust that each of you will simply STOP and take the time to cherish every single day of this beautiful fall season. Enjoy a drive in the mountains, take a hike or walk, go camping, build a fire in the fireplace, go to a Fall Festival or Crafts Fair, or find a quiet place and simply relax and thank God for His amazing creation.*

*May God's peace and hope fill your heart and bless you with the spirit of giving to others as we approach the Christmas season. This is a special time to share Christ's love with those in need.*

*May God's blessings and protection be with you and may He be your greatest HOPE!*

*Emmette Thompson, Executive Director*  
[ethomval@aol.com](mailto:ethomval@aol.com)

## A JUBILANT KICK-OFF TO OUR ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Many arrived early on November 6 At Rothchild's Conference Center to enjoy an evening of fellowship, shopping, a delicious meal and a program of activities hosted by Colleen Addair. Faces of Hope Maegyn Bates, Keith Decker, Dr. Shannon Grooms and Ginger Forbes told us how MOH shares Hope with our friends in Appalachia. Sammy Sawyer entertained the group and special music was provided by Ms. Janelle Arthur and Robby Underwood.

A special part of this evening was the bidding on the many items available in the Silent Auction. Anchor and Reporter Russell Biven from WBIR-TV was our Auction Host. New this year was The Hope Gift Shop and Boutique which offered cash and carry shopping. A big thank you is extended to all who donated items including photography, artwork, quilting, needlework, pottery, woodworking and carvings which were sold during this event.

We give special thanks to the following for a most successful and enjoyable evening: Susan and Nathan Rothchild and their staff; Multi-Media Solutions and Mike and Steve White; Coleman Printing and Awards; Jim McMichael Signs; Plemmons Photography and Videography; Central Baptist Bearden and First Baptist Concord for shuttle buses and drivers. Also to the many volunteers who assisted with pickups, deliveries, set-up preparations and registration of those in attendance. We commend the Celebration Leadership Team for their excellent work in making this event a most enjoyable experience for all those who attended. Our sincere thanks to the members of this team: Margaret Bahniuk, June Ezman, Betty Holland, Cheryl Lewis, Phil Peek, Clyde Plemmons, Steve White, Susan White, Shirley Plant, Diane Webster and Lesa Medley.



Celebration Leadership Team members Margaret Bahniuk, Betty Holland and Cheryl Lewis take a break after setting up Gift Shop and Auction items.



Janelle Arthur and Russell Biven

## 19<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MOH CHRISTMAS AND DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM

The busiest and most special and wonderful time of the year has come at The HOPE. We hit a NEW GEAR when we step into November and put into action all the plans and preparations we have made for those we will serve this holiday season. We have notified the 27 rural Elementary School Principal's to let them know we would be coming to their school this Christmas! We will be serving almost 18,000 students and their families with NEW clothes, toys, food, and hygiene items. The Greatest Gift we will be bringing will be Bibles and Tracts for all who would like to have them.

Financial donations are always welcomed. We have buyers who use these financial gifts when they go shopping for many of the items requested to complete a school's list of needs which have not been donated through the Blue Barrels.

You may want to help by having your own MOH Collection Drive, and you can Start Now! We also welcome your help in recruiting NEW Friends for The Mission of Hope. More help is a real need this year. If you belong to a Civic or Community Club, suggest that the

members conduct a service project for donations to MOH this year. For more information or how to donate and volunteer, please call the MOH Office at 865-584-7571. Information is also available on our Website at [www.missionofhope.org](http://www.missionofhope.org); or e-mail us at [info@missionofhope.org](mailto:info@missionofhope.org). We would truly cherish your prayers as we trust God to provide the harvest and volunteers that only He knows we need.

The Knoxville Zoo helped the MOH by sponsoring a FREE DAY AT THE ZOO. We are so grateful for this awesome gesture of support for our food drive needs. Those who came donated a non-perishable or canned food item and got in FREE. This year's Event was held on Saturday and Sunday, November 8 and November 9, from 10 AM until 4:30 PM each day. The Zoo Food Drive brought in over seventy-five 55-gallon barrels of non-perishable food items for MOH and our humble Appalachian Ministry. The Knoxville Zoo is an incredible place for families to come and enjoy its many activities. The Zoo Staff and all of our animal friends made this event a very special occasion for all who attended.



Excited children can hardly wait to see what MOH has brought for them and their families.

### SUGGESTED ITEMS NEEDED FOR CHRISTMAS DRIVE

#### TOYS

(Suggested \$15 Value & Above)

Sporting Goods  
Action Figure Playsets  
Doll Playsets  
Electronic Games  
Remote Control Vehicles  
Watches and Jewelry  
Gifts for Children Ages 10-14

#### CLOTHING

(Children's Sizes 4-18)

Coats – Warm Winter  
Hats & Gloves  
Socks & Underwear  
Jeans  
Shirts & Blouses

#### FOOD

Canned Fruits (16 oz.)  
Canned Vegetables (15 oz.)  
Entrees (Stews, Chili, etc. (24 oz)  
Tuna (7 oz.)  
Macaroni and Cheese (6-7 oz.)  
Soups (10.5 oz.)  
Peanut Butter (18 oz.)  
Oatmeal (18 oz.)  
Dried Beans (2 lb.)  
Rice (2 lb.)

#### HYGIENE

(Full Size Products Only Please) Toothbrushes      Toothpaste      Soap Bars  
2 in 1 Shampoo with Conditioner (11-15 oz.)

FINANCIAL DONATIONS may be mailed to:

MISSION OF HOPE      P. O. Box 51824      Knoxville, TN 37950  
Credit card donations may be made on the MOH Website or by calling the MOH office at 865-584-7571

November, 2014



Season's Greetings...Dear Mission of Hope Friends:

WOW...WHAT AN AMAZING TIME OF THE YEAR IT IS ONCE AGAIN...HERE AT THE HOPE!

The Mission of Hope is an Appalachian Relief Ministry serving Elementary Schools with extremely high free-lunch percentages and Mountain Ministry Centers throughout rural distressed Appalachian Communities. Since our beginning, we have been richly blessed by those who have deemed us worthy of their friendship and compassionate support. We trust and pray that we will have such support again this year. We strive to be faithful stewards, and our recent audit confirmed that last year we put a little over 91 cents of every dollar back into the ministry.

We minister in a variety of ways here at The HOPE. In fact, envision a tree with two roots and seven branches. The two roots we serve the rural poor through are: Elementary Schools and Mountain Ministry Centers. The seven branches are: Resource Distribution, Back-to-School Program, Christmas Program, Healthcare, Construction, Scholarship and Evangelism. It's been a wonderful approach in helping us serve the poorest of the poor and yet have accountability and a comfort in knowing we are doing our best to not be enablers.

We do something extremely special at Christmas by going into these rural schools and building a toy store in their gym. After piling the tables high with brand new toys and covering them with black plastic; we then count down from 10, pull off the plastic and experience gleeful joy as we hear the yells and watch the smiles of all the Children as they prepare to shop with our dear Mission of Hope Volunteers. We also get the names of the neediest Children and their Families from the Principals, and do wonderful clothing and food box orders for them; which we give out privately in the Principal's office. We hear over and over that for many which we are so privileged to serve, this may be their only Christmas gifts.

As we approach winter and colder temperatures, there is tremendous anxiety in the rural distressed communities that we serve. Imagine for a moment what a Mother must be feeling and worrying about as she prepares for the onset of another harsh winter with no adequate heating and very little food in the home. A new Christmas toy for her children is perhaps the furthest thing on her mind, and that in itself breaks her heart. But that's where The HOPE serves best...when there's only hopelessness abounding.

This Christmas we will be serving 18,000 Children & Their Families. It's a huge task but one we feel privileged to take on. Every year God has touched the hearts of those who have helped donate the Harvest of all that we need to complete our Christmas Programs, and we trust and pray He will again this year. Having been blessed to share the Gospel and give out brand new Bibles and Tracts to thousands who desperately need to hear God's Word is a privilege we cherish, and we will be doing that again this year. This in fact will be the Greatest Gift we give.

May I humbly encourage you to join us on a "Journey of Faith" as to whether God will provide for you to financially support our ministry. We have to purchase a lot of the items that we give out at Christmas; and as such would welcome a monetary gift to help replenish our treasury. Please hear my heart and know that we cherish your friendship and are immensely grateful that you might deem us worthy. **For additional information or to make a donation please contact the Mission of Hope office at 865-584-7571. Or you may mail your donation to Mission of Hope at P.O. Box 51824; Knoxville, TN 37950. Or you may also give online at [www.missionofhope.org](http://www.missionofhope.org).** Thanks for your friendship and for helping us extend The HOPE.

**Sincerest Appreciation; Emmette Thompson – Executive Director**

## HOPE IS . . .

---The Fall Outreach and Distribution Events when MOH Volunteers traveled to Hazard, KY and Williamsburg, KY to minister to those in dire need of our help. Two to four trucks were loaded with food, clothing, furniture, hygiene items, small appliances, blankets and bedding and driven by MOH Volunteers to each of the events. These items were given to over 1300 people who are truly struggling and desperately need some assistance and a hand-up. We also prayed for many who requested prayer and shared Bibles and Tracts with all who wanted them. The Greatest Gift many took with them wasn't anything they could load in their car or truck or carry in a big bag. It was the peace that came from their accepting Christ that day. How thankful we are for your donations which make it possible for us to serve these rural Appalachian communities.

---Building a much needed Handicap Ramp for a lady in Scott County, TN; who has some very serious health challenges. It is a privilege and a blessing to construct handicap ramps free of charge to those who desperately need them. Mission of Hope pays for all of the needed building materials while dedicated Volunteers donate their time and labor. This lady's way of expressing her thanks on this special day was to treat us to homemade biscuits and honey that she and her husband produced. She also served us hot dogs with homemade chili and sauerkraut for lunch. Thanks to Barry Ownby-captain, and team members Jack Welch, Dennis Carwille, George Cooper, Don Peek and Emmette Thompson for completing an incredible and very solid deck and ramp. After our building task was finished, we prayed with this dear couple. We also told them the reason we came was not just to build a ramp but to share God's Love with them. The day was long and the work was hard. As we were leaving to return home, we all agreed we shared a blessed tiredness---tired physical bodies but hearts blessed and full of true joy!

---Providing a financial donation to help support "The Go Tell Ministry's Coal Country Crusade" in Bell County, KY. Four evenings of Revival services were held in the Bell County High School Stadium. One evening over 1500 people packed the stadium to worship, pray and hear evangelist Rick Gage. Organizer Kathy Lefevers was able to see firsthand the drug problem in her community and wanted to do something about it. She said, "The young people are our future, and we want to give them hope and let them know that they are champions. They can overcome their circumstances if they look to God to help them. We're ready to step up and take a stand."

---A Day in the Oneida, TN Park hosting our annual Outreach and Evangelism Event and a much needed Summer Festival for the children and families we are privileged to serve there. This year over 500 people come to our event. The weather was perfect and the Volunteers were just fantastic. A special thank you goes to our MOH friends for making this a special day for those who attended this event.



### NEEDS AT THE HOPE

We are continuing to receive many requests for the following items that are desperately needed at Schools and Ministry Centers we serve:

**Food** –canned goods, soups, canned meats and stews, peanut butter, pasta, crackers

**Hygiene** – bar soap, shampoo, toothbrushes and toothpaste

**Furniture & Appliances** – good used beds, dining suites, sofas & chairs, stoves & refrigerators

**Bibles, Tracts and Christian books**

**Pressure Treated Lumber** for our construction teams to build handicap ramps.

If you can help the MOH with any of these items, we will be grateful. Perhaps your church and/or business would like to help. Please call the MOH office for more details.

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 would like more information, or have questions regarding our ministry, please contact the MOH office.

Thanks to our Editor Mary Sue Miller, MOH Staff members Shirley Plant, Diane Webster and Lesa Medley; Coleman's Printing and Awards, and Direct Mail Services for their help in compiling, preparing, printing and mailing our Newsletters.

Thanks also go to Brian and Tammy McKinley who are doing a great job maintaining our Website. Please visit our updated Website at [www.missionofhope.org](http://www.missionofhope.org) to keep informed of MOH activities.