



LATE WINTER/EARLY SPRING NEWSLETTER

Volume 47

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MISSION OF HOPE

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Greetings Dear Friends:

Cries for "Let it Snow, Let it Snow," brought results! After several days of the falling white stuff, we were delighted to see it come to an end. We are so thankful the snow and poor traveling conditions occurred after all our Christmas deliveries had been made. How blessed we are to be able to share love and hope with those in need throughout the year. We are immensely grateful to each of you for your generosity and support of the Mission of Hope. As we enjoy the beauty of the coming season with the colorful and fragrant flowers as they "spring" forth, our prayer is that we will continue to be a beacon to others as we share our resources and the love of God with them.

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

Emmette Thompson, Executive Director

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MISSION OF HOPE 2015 KEY DATES AND VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

March & April	"Soup for the Hope" Food Collection Drives (We welcome your participation)
March 26 & 27	Outreach & Distribution Event – Oneida, TN
April 1	Construction Ministry & Handicap Ramps Builds Begin
April 16 & 17	Outreach & Distribution Event – Blaine, KY
April 25	Repair Fair Event – Middlesboro & Pineville, KY
April 20	Lincoln Memorial University – Scholars Recognition Trip
April 21	Alice Lloyd College – Scholars Recognition Trip
May ?	Day in The Park Outreach Event – Sneedville, TN
May	End of School Year Parties – MOH Volunteer Teams
May ?	Scholarship Program Fundraising Event
June 6	Day in The Park Outreach Event – Oneida, TN
June 6 & 7	Remote Area Medical Clinic – LMU (Harrogate, TN)
June, July, August	Summer Mission Trips to Appalachia
July & August 17	Annual Back to School Program
August 14	12 th Annual Mission of Hope & Chick-fil-A Golf Classic
September 12 & 13	Remote Area Medical Clinic – Lee County, VA
September 26	Repair Fair Event – Williamsburg, KY
September ?	Outreach & Distribution Event – Hazard, KY
October ?	Outreach & Distribution Event – Williamsburg, KY
October 31	Construction Ministry & Handicap Ramps Builds Ends
November 5	Annual Celebration & Fund Raising Banquet
November ?	Zoo for The Hope Food Drive @ Knoxville Zoo
November ?	3 rd Annual Christmas Drive Collection at Pinnacle – Turkey Creek
November ?	Keyboards at Christmas (Tennessee Theater)
November 20	20 th Annual Christmas Program and Barrel
December 7	Collection Drives in Knoxville and Lexington
December ?	UT Lady Vols Basketball Game (Toy Collection for MOH)
December ?	LMU Christmas Concert & Tree Lighting (Toy Collection for MOH)

Note: Dates & Locations will be confirmed for upcoming events on the Mission of Hope Website (www.missionofhope.org) and through Emmette's E-mail Updates.

For More Details:
Call 865-584-7571 or
Toll Free 877-627-1909.

19TH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM BRINGS BLESSINGS AND HAPPINESS

We wrote 27 rural Elementary School Principals in late summer and told them we would be at their school this Christmas, and MOH did not disappoint! We supplied approximately 18,000 students and their family members with NEW clothes and toys and food and hygiene items. We are grateful for God's provisions and for dedicated MOH Donors, Sponsors and Volunteers who make our work possible.

Mission of Hope Volunteers dedicated countless hours of their time as they worked hard to make our Christmas deliveries a huge success. Our MOH Volunteers are amazing, awesome, incredible and devoted. They are the true HERO'S OF THE HOPE! Our sincere thanks to the following Volunteers for serving as coordinators and team leaders for our Christmas Program.:

Leadership Coordinators: Wayne Jones and Joe Peck, Barrel Placement; Joe Peck and Wayne Jones, Drivers and Pick Ups; Helen Jones and Melinda Sparks, Buyers; Mary Emma Bunch and Mildred Queen, Clothing; Gail Brooks and Don Jones, Food; Bonnie Bayless

and Jackie Johnson, Hygiene; Jara Allen Gillett, Suzanne Burnette, Pat and Mac McCarter, Richard and Diane Quillen, Laura Peck, Cap Smith, and Jim Stinnett, Toys; Stan Starr, Transportation and Deliveries; Johnnie Barry and Martha Murray, Volunteers; Bud Brickeen, Pete Hoke, Jim Montgomery and David Burnett, Warehouse; Jill and Russell Travis, Lexington Coordinators; Emmette Thompson, Shirley Plant, Diane Webster and Lesa Medley, MOH office staff.

Program and Delivery Teams: Black Oak Heights Baptist, Central Baptist Bearden, Central Baptist Fountain City, Christ Covenant Presbyterian, Clear Springs Baptist Mascot, Cumberland Baptist, Dixie Lee Baptist, Dollywood Hosts, Faith Fellowship Cumberland Presbyterian, First Baptist Alcoa, First Baptist Concord, First Baptist Maryville, First Baptist Powell, Gist Creek Baptist Sevierville, Grace Baptist, NorthEast Christian Lexington, KY, NorthStar Church, Parkway Baptist, Rather and Kittrell, Sevier Heights Baptist, West Hills Presbyterian and Versailles Baptist, KY.



CHRISTMAS DRIVE SPONSORS AND SUPPORTERS

The help and support that Mission of Hope receives from sponsors, donors, supporters and dedicated volunteers is what makes its Christmas Drive possible each year. We extend our sincere thanks and heartfelt gratitude to each of these dear friends.

Major Sponsors: K-Mart, Food City, CVS/Caremark, Chick-fil-A, Home Federal Bank, Knoxville TVA Employees Credit Union and Sears.

Media Sponsors: Cumulus Broadcasting (WIVK 107.7, News Talk 98.7, Sports Animal 99.1, The Knoxville News-Sentinel, and WBIR-TV 10.

Co-Sponsors: Coleman's Printing and Awards, Fleenor Security Systems, Robert W. Elliott & Assoc., Inc., Rothchild Catering and Event Rentals, Stein Mart, and WRJZ Joy 620 AM.

Lexington, KY Sponsors: Chick-fil-A, The Bull Radio 98.1, WLAP 630 News Radio, Life Changing Radio 99.1 FM, 770 AM Radio, WKYT-TV, Curves, Appalachian Regional Healthcare, and Valvoline Instant Oil Change.

THE YEAR IN REVIEW

As we take a look back at 2014 and begin the new year of 2015, our hope is that we will continue to have the resources needed to assist those struggling to get by in the very depressed and rural communities we serve throughout Appalachia. We were privileged to assist 27 Elementary Schools. From the 13 high schools we assist, we now have 47 students receiving MOH Scholarships. They are attending Community Colleges, Technical Schools and Universities located in both Tennessee and Kentucky. At various times, we have assisted 55 different Mountain Ministry Centers. We were blessed to partner with RAM (Remote Area Medical) on Medical Clinics in the areas they serve. We have done home repairs and built handicap ramps for those who desperately needed our help.

Throughout the year we sent over 100 MOH Trucks loaded with various items of food, hygiene, clothing, furniture, household items, appliances, building materials, Bibles and tracts, etc. All of these items were in turn given to those who were truly in need. Our Back-to-School Program provided NEW backpacks and school supplies to almost 11,000 students. As stated previously, our just completed Christmas Program assisted over 18,000 children and their family members. We also were able to assist six Mountain Ministry Centers with items for their Christmas Giveaways. The number of children and adults we were privileged to pray for and help them as they asked Jesus into their heart and life is yet undetermined.

We have been immensely blessed, and for that we are extremely grateful. We could never do what we do without you. **Thank You** for what you do in so many ways to help us extend True and Genuine HOPE.

NEW MOH FRIEND IN LEXINGTON, KY

Last year in the late fall I was introduced by a MOH Friend; to WKYT - TV in Lexington, KY. I shared our Story with their Staff and humbly appealed to one of their people in management, Aimee Kidd to go on a Mission Of Hope Christmas Delivery. She did and the phone message she left me on her way Home, spoke volumes: "Emmette, I Get It Now. Come see me in January about our station getting more involved." Well I went and they have been involved all year with an incredible show of support for our humble Appalachian Relief Ministry: Scholarship Promotion in the spring, Back-To-School Promotion this summer and Christmas Promotion in recent weeks. I am so grateful to Aimee and her entire WKYT Team for the Mission of Hope Christmas Delivery Story they did at Owsley County, KY, Elementary School. One Volunteer expressed well what this delivery meant to him. "The true spirit of Christmas is not about the stuff; it's about the smiles and the excitement that you're feeling when you see the kids."



MOH VOLUNTEERS SHARE THEIR STORY

Judith and Richard Mynatt, along with our MOH Team from Central Baptist Bearden Church, led a very special day at Mountain View Elementary School. Their words express what it means to be a part of sharing and helping those who are in need of our love and support.

"Thank You to all who purchased items for the children, worked at the warehouse, packaged teacher gifts and served on the delivery trips. Christmas could not have come to Mountain View Elementary without each one of you contributing. We are grateful to DeRoyal for the use of their semi-truck and their employees Eddie Crockett and Jamie Gibson. Thanks also to New Balance Shoes for donating their shipping boxes to us."

"While we were there the school principal Heather Gay and 21st Century Coordinator Sarah Osborne were making arrangements with their own churches to pay a family's utility bill. They had been without power for months Mrs. Gay would not leave for Christmas break until she was sure this family had heat. Another staff member, a grandmother of four children -- ages infant to HeadStart -- was very grateful for food, clothing and extra toys for them. She is the sole support for five children and her disabled husband. She heats their home with whatever she can get-- coal or wood. A homebound eighth grader was able to come and choose toys with her classmates. She has endured months of chemotherapy battling ovarian cancer."

NEEDS AT THE HOPE

We are continuing to receive more and more urgent and desperate requests here at The Hope.

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

Hygiene – bar soap, shampoo, toothbrushes and toothpaste

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

Bibles, Tracts, Christian Books and Bibles on CD

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 as allowable by law. We have all the proper licenses for local, state and federal requirements. If you would like additional information, or have questions regarding our ministry, please contact the MOH office.

Thanks to 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 for doing a great job maintaining our Website at www.missionofhope.org. Please visit our updated Website to keep informed of MOH activities.

THANKS TO OUR AMAZING MOH FRIENDS

We are so immensely grateful for the recent \$25,000 donation check presented to us by Tim and Robin Harris, the owners of Knoxville Wholesale Furniture here in Knoxville, TN. They have been long-time supporters of the Mission of Hope. This is truly an incredible gift for our humble Appalachian Ministry. A very special THANK YOU to all of their employees, team members and many others involved with promoting this event and for deeming MOH worthy of their support.



Tim and Robin Harris Present Emmette Donation Check

MOH friends at The Pinnacle at Turkey Creek held their second Annual Christmas Tree Lighting and Festival Event on November 21. Afterwards they invited us to join them around the center's Christmas tree where they presented us a check for \$8,548.97. A special Thank You goes to Kiley Fleanor and Darryl Whitehead and their staff and businesses for deeming us worthy of this awesome donation.



The Pinnacle at Turkey Creek Kiley Fleanor and Darryl Whitehead

Keyboards at Christmas was presented for the first time at the Tennessee Theatre on November 30. The program featured five Steinway Grand Pianos and the Mighty Wurlitzer. It was a fantastic way to begin the Christmas Season. We extend our thanks to all who purchased tickets and attended this event. After all expenses were paid, the Mission of Hope received \$15,749.05. Our very special "Thank You"



goes to Donna McNeilly who provided the driving energy and passionate leadership and worked tirelessly to make this wonderful and inspiring evening a most enjoyable time for all in attendance. The Underwriting Sponsors for the event were: Fisher Tire, Jewelry Television, Greg Coleman Law Firm, the Tibbetts' Family Foundation and Appalachia Business Communications.

