2024 Missions In Review

WESTMINSTER

CELEBRATING GRACE. FOLLOWING JESUS. HEALING GOD'S WORLD.

1 Corinthians 25-26 (Message)

"The way God designed our bodies is a model for understanding our lives together as a church: every part dependent on every other part, the parts we mention and the parts we don't, the parts we see and the parts we don't. If one part hurts, every other part is involved in the hurt, and in the healing. If one part flourishes, every other part enters into the exuberance."

Benevolence Funding

Definition - The quality of being well meaning; kindness.

WPC provided a total of \$72,000 in one-time funding that was distributed among 13 organizations.

Biannual Mission Auction

The traditional Mission Auction was brought back since pre-COVID times. Between the "Lifting Up Families" Lent challenge raising money for local affordable housing and the Mission Auction event raising money for intergenerational mission trips, we raised, along with a matching gift, over \$110,000.

"Lifting Up Families" Housing Initiative

Provided financial assistance for emergency housing for six families. Three of those families came from working directly with Morehead Elementary's social worker. Partnered with Interactive Resource Center providing security deposits for two of their clients through their Rapid Housing Program. All eight kept families from living on the streets.

Greensboro Urban Ministry Weaver House

A program supporting 100 adult men and women with a place to lay their head at night, Westminster serves breakfast to these guests the 1st Sunday of every month starting before the sun rises. That's over 120 dedicated volunteers, 180 dozen eggs, 1,440 biscuits, 3,000 turkey sausage links, 3,000 pancakes, 36 gallons of milk and orange juice, and 1,200 bananas in 2024.

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Hurricane Helene Emergency Relief Efforts

Week long donation drive that delivered over 20 van loads of supplies to PTI airport days after the hurricane. Delivered additional supplies (water, tools, food) to Black Mountain and Montreat. \$5,000 gift to Black Mountain Presbyterian Church to support their emergency relief work. Attended Presbyterian Disaster Assistance area meeting in North Wilkesboro. Initiated the idea of a benefit concert with Steep Canyon Rangers (Thanks, Sam!) and helped sell merchandise at the concert. Westminster was well represented! Finally, 4 mission trips are planned between March and August 2025.

Westminster Affordable Housing Initiative Working Group

Re-engaged the WPC Affordable Housing Initiative Working Group since Ernie Thompson's retirement. The group has created a proposal to be submitted to the Session that Westminster partial gift money designated for an affordable housing project and partner with Partnership Homes and other churches to fund the construction of 5-6 units at the existing Partnership Place Apartments and that Westminster solicit churches from the Interfaith Affordable Housing Initiative group to partner and participate in the project.

Advent Honor Card Sales:

Sold honor cards each Sunday morning and during the week in Advent for 16 non profit organizations totaling over \$3,000.

Winter Emergency Shelter

Partnering with the City of Greensboro and West Market UMC providing a meal and overnight supervision each Wednesday. Started second week in December with Anne Hendrix taking the lead.

Puerta Plata, Dominican Republic - In partnership with Comunidad Connect, 13 Westminster volunteers impacted four families in four days of work improving accessibility by transforming homes to better suit the needs of individuals including building a cement front porch and overhang with a ramp, putting in a new cement floor and new roof for a kitchen, rebuilding stairs, adding grab bars to bathrooms, and more.

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Xpujil, Mexico

In partnership with The Outreach Foundation and Todd Luke, 6 Westminster volunteers ventured to the Yucatan for an inaugural trip where the team worked on 4 cement water catchment systems under the direction of local Ch'ol Presbyterians.

Kenya Missions

Re-engaged Kenya Missions Working Group and have made positive steps forward toward re-engaging with the congregation. \$15,000 budgeted toward Amani Children's Foundation directed to New Life Homes. Supported 50% of salaries for 18 teachers and 4 support staff, tuition for 4 college students, tuition for 26 high school students, and provided financial assistance for school materials. Invited Jane Stevens from Amani Children's Foundation to speak at Westminster. Christmas Eve Special Offering totaled over \$6,000 to replenish funds for high school scholarships.

Appalachia Service Project

Continuing our long tradition for over 30 years, a group of 13 Westminster volunteers ventured to Jonesville, VA in October to provide their helping hands to Appalachia residents making their homes warmer, safer, and drier.

Out of the Garden Project Saturday Fresh Mobile Market

Continue to coordinate every 3rd Saturday the OOTGP Fresh Mobile Market at Peck Elementary School helping to distribute between 50-70 lbs of food to families. With an estimated 100 families served each Saturday, that's 1200 families and well over 84,000 lbs of food loaded into cars in 2024.

Habitat Fundraiser Playhouse Build

Partnered with Oak Ridge Presbyterian Church for a one-day building event designing and building durable playhouses which was then gifted to a child of a Habitat homeowner.

Partnership Village Back to School Backpacks & Supplies

Collected and distributed 80 backpacks full of school supplies for students along with gift cards.

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Partnership Village Friday Food Delivery

Delivered 1 to 2 carloads of food every 1st and 3rd Friday from Urban Ministry to the apartment complex.

Partnership Village Angel Tree

Support families with children during Christmas with gifts for children and gift cards for parents. 30 families served. 308 gifts donated for children. 35 gift cards given to parents. 101 donors according to SignUp Genius.

Partnership Village Emergency Assistance

Provided emergency financial assistance when needed.

Partnership Village Shaping Stars Program

Bi-weekly mentoring program & developmental workshops at Partnership Village. Created and driven by a NC A&T college student majoring in business. WPC provided Walmart gift cards to help them buy materials for their program launch.

Sanctuary House

A nonprofit organization dedicated to the rehabilitation of adults living with mental illness, WPC collected hygiene products for their members, organized them, and provided a financial gift.

Emergency Support

Throughout the year, Westminster partners with local nonprofits providing emergency financial assistance to local families for basic everyday needs such as keeping the power on, the water running and for temporary housing. Estimated around \$4,000 a year.

Eastside Park Community Center College Scholarship

Last of the scholarship recipients graduated from NC A&T. Helped with final graduation fees and cap and gown so she could walk in the graduation ceremony.

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