

Missions Newsletter November 2020

LAW ENFORCEMENT MEALS

Ashford provided breakfast for 50 employees of the Oconee County Sheriff's Office on October 14 with biscuits from Suncatcher Café and coffee from Jittery Joe's. Ashford also provided breakfast for 12 Watkinsville City Police Officers on October 17, prior to the Watkinsville Fall Festival, with biscuits from Suncatcher Café and coffee from Dunkin Donuts. The meals were an expression of appreciation from our church to these agencies for all they do to keep our county safe.



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

All items have been purchased to create approximately 200 Shoeboxes this year. Due to Covid 19 safety precautions, only our AMMY Group will package the boxes in an outdoor setting in order to limit the number of people and minimize any risk. We appreciate the help of our wonderful AMMY Group!

You can make a monetary donation to this mission with a check earmarked Operation Christmas Child.

We also invite families who want to make their own Shoeboxes, to do so and bring those packed boxes by Sunday, November 15.

ACTS CAN-A-THON

The Can-A-Thon for Oconee County has started! Ashford will be collecting cans through the end of November. All donations will be delivered to ACTS (Area Churches Together Serving) and will help feed Oconee residents throughout the next year. Please see the list of suggested items they need. Please place all donations in the baskets or on the tables located in the Fellowship Hall. Thank you!

SPARROW'S NEST LUNCH

In lieu of serving a hot lunch at The Sparrow's Nest on the 5th Friday of October (October 30), our church was able to prepare 60 PB&J Sack Lunches for The Sparrow's Nest to pass out as a curbside pick up to our neighbors in need. Through monetary donations from Ashford members, we were able to purchase all items needed for the Sack Lunches, including individually wrapped PB&J sandwiches, apple, chips, cookies and water. Thank you for your continued support of this mission!



RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

The American Red Cross has asked Ashford to help with an additional blood drive in November, as they are experiencing an urgent need. Our Ashford Blood Drive is scheduled for ***Friday, November 20 from 2:00 – 7:00*** in our Fellowship Hall.

Blood drive safety precautions

Each Red Cross blood drive follows the highest standards of safety and infection control, and [additional precautions](#) – including temperature checks, social distancing and face coverings for donors and staff – have been implemented to ensure the health of all those in attendance. Donors are asked to schedule an appointment prior to arriving at the drive and are required to wear a face covering or mask while at the drive, in alignment with Centers for Disease Control and Prevention public guidance.

OCONEE AREA RESOURCE COUNCIL

The Oconee Area Resource Council has some immediate food needs that can be placed in the basket in the Fellowship Hall.

Campbell's Chicken Noodle Soup (pop top can)
Campbell's Tomato Soup (pop top can)

OCONEE COUNTY STUDENT CHRISTMAS ANGELS

Ashford will be sponsoring 12 students in need within our Oconee County School system again this year. We are working in coordination with the Oconee County Schools Social Worker to help provide gifts to these children in our area. The goal is to sponsor siblings, so that our church can provide a special Christmas to entire families.

Ashford members will be able to purchase items of need and wishes for each of these students. Once we have the list of children and their needs, a SignUp Genius will be sent out and information posted on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall. If you have any questions, please contact Laura Beaghan.

AREA CHURCHES TOGETHER SERVING (ACTS)

The next opportunity to serve at ACTS is Friday, November 27, from 9:00 – 1:00 at 130 E. Thompson Street. Our responsibilities include stocking shelves, checking expiration dates on food items, filling baskets for clients and working at the front desk. Please see the SignUp Genius link below to offer your time to this Mission!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/AreaChurchesTogetherServing>

ATHENS HOMELESS SHELTER

The Athens Area Homeless Shelter has been working harder than ever to provide safe shelter for families experiencing homelessness during the COVID 19 crisis. The AAHS has partnered with Best Western Athens to house their staff and 12 families in order for the families to stay in safe, healthy emergency shelter during this pandemic. They are helping to house 31 children and their parents!

There are two ways in which our Ashford Memorial Methodist Church can help:

First, our church will continue to donate \$80 per month to cover the cost of a meal in lieu of our Ashford families providing a meal at the homeless shelter. If you would like to participate in this monthly meal monetary donation, you can donate via the below SignUp Genius link or you can mail a check to the church, earmarked AAHS Meals.

Please see the SignUp Genius link below if you would like to donate.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/HomelessShelter>

Thank you, Ashford Memorial, for your continued generous and giving spirit!



A.C.T.S. CAN-A-THON



2020 Items Needed:

Beef Stew

Chicken Broth

Cereal

Cooking Oil (24oz)

Jelly – Any Flavor

Boxed Mac & Cheese

Saltine Crackers

Canned Chicken

Canned Meats – Spam, Canned Salmon, etc.

Canned Pasta – Spaghetti & Meatballs, Ravioli, etc

Ashford Memorial Methodist Church

Collecting donations during the month of November

Please place donated food items in the Fellowship Hall

Thank you for your continued generous and giving spirit!