

MISSIONS NEWSLETTER

Opportunities to Serve, Updates, and Futures Events

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE OCONEE SECRET SANTA



As a part of Oconee County School System's Secret Santa Program, Ashford has sponsored 20 children in the area. Ashford members have committed to fulfilling around 120 gifts from the 20 children's wishlist.

To select a wish off of the list, please visit the APP or www.ashfordmemorial.ccbchurch.com. Click on "Groups" at the bottom of the app or on the left side of the screen on the website. Click on "Ashford Members and Friends." Click on "Needs." Choose the the person and item you would like to take. Please bring donations to the Fellowship Hall by December 15, 2024. Thank you!

SALVATION ARMY BELL RINGING

Thank you to our Ashford families who have signed up to ring the Salvation Army Bell on Saturday, December 7th from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm at Hobby Lobby (5770 Parkway Blvd. Athens Ga). The majority of the Salvation Army's needed annual donations come from money collected during the holiday season. If you are In that area on Saturday, please stop by to support this mission!



CAROLING FOR OUR ASHFORD COMMUNITY



Please join us on Thursday, December 19th at 3:45 In the Ashford parking lot as we drive the van to carol to our Ashford shut-ins. We will leave Ashford promptly at 4. We plan to sing at Arbor Terrace, The Grove, and for the Welton's and Miss Jane. We hope you can join us!

ONGOING MISSIONS

SPARROW'S NEST SACK LUNCHES

Ashford will be providing 60 sack lunches to our neighbors in need at The Sparrow's Nest on **Thursday, December 5**. These lunches will be distributed on **Friday, December 6**. Our next day to provide lunches is **Friday, January 3rd**. Lunches need to be delivered on **Thursday, January 2nd**.

Ashford provides sack lunches for The Sparrow's Nest on the first Friday of every month. If your Ashford group would like to sign up to packing the sack lunches, please reach out to Katie Ryan or Laura Beaghan.



FAMILY PROMISE OF ATHENS

Our upcoming opportunity to provide dinner for Family Promise will be in 2025. If your Bible study group is interested in providing a dinner at some point in the year, please reach out to Katie Ryan or Laura Beaghan.



AREA CHURCHES TOGETHER SERVING

Thank you to our Ashford members who continue to volunteer at ACTS on the 4th Friday of every other month! Our next opportunity to serve is on **Friday, January 24, 2025**.



SAVE THE DATES

January Missions Events

American Red Cross Blood Drive: January 14, 2025

Our next blood drive is schedule for Tuesday, January 14, 2025 from 2:00 - 7:00. Please make plans to donate and help sperad the word In our community! The link to sign up to donate blood is: www.redcrossblood.org/donate If you would like to volunteer to help greet and register donors, please sign up on the form on the APP.

Sparrow's Nest Sack Lunches: January 2, 2025

If you would like to help with Sack Lunches for January, please reach out to Katie!

ACTS Service Day: January 24, 2025

UPDATES

Sparrow's Nest

Ashford's children packed 60 sack lunches for our neighbors in need at the Sparrow's Nest on Thursday, October 31, which were distributed on Friday, November 1. Thank you to the precious hands that made the lunches!

Operation Christmas Child

Thanks to donations and the hard work of our Ashford children, youth, and parents, we were able to package a record 318 shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child! The boxes were blessed by our church and then delivered to a Shoebox Drop Off location during the National Collection Week. Stay tuned to see where our boxes go!

Family Promise

Thank you to our Ashford members who helped provide dinner for two Family Promise families on November 26th. If you would like to help with an upcoming meal, email Katie!



ASHFORD MISSIONS MONTHLY GIVING

Ashford Memorial Methodist Church is dedicated to helping various missions in our local and global community. Below is a list of our monthly donations to which your tithes allow us to commit and make a difference in our community.

\$500/Month

Global Samaritans
Tranquilidad

\$300/Month

ACTS
Mercy Health Center
Oconee Area Resource Council

\$200/Month

Athens Pregnancy Center
Hope 139
Project Safe

\$100/Month

Genny Hargrove Pencil Fund
Family Promise of Athens
Sparrow's Nest
ESP

5TH SUNDAY FOCUS: MERCY HEALTH CENTER

For our 5th Sunday on December 29, the Missions Committee invites you to make a special contribution for one of our mission partners, Mercy Health Center.

On December 22, Dr. Cole Phillips, Interim CEO of Mercy, will join us to speak briefly about Mercy Clinic at both the 9:00 and 11:00 services.