

MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

The First United Methodist Church (FUMC) Missions Committee encourages anyone who feels a call to missions to contact the chair through the church office, whether it be serving on the Mission Committee, becoming involved with an existing mission or starting or expanding a mission.

FOOD MINISTRIES

Blessing Box / Food Bags - There is a Blessing Box located at the front of the church on Gaines Street. Food is placed in the Blessing box by church members for those in the community. The preschool classes also help by filling the box also. A different class each day adds food into the box. All are welcome to place food in the box or to take food as needed. In addition to food items that can be cooked, items easily opened and enjoyed for the homeless are great ideas for the Blessing Box.

Blessing Food Bags/Hygiene Bags – Church members supply food and hygiene items. Church members volunteer to place items into hygiene bags and food bags for the homeless and food bags for those at home to meet their emergency needs.

Thanksgiving Bags - A bag of food is provided to families as identified by social agencies. Preschool and Children's ministries create a colorful Thanksgiving picture on the bags, the youth pick up the food, Boy Scout Troop #65 packs the bags and church members give them out or deliver them on a specified date before Thanksgiving. Watch for announcements in the church bulletin in late October to help serve with Thanksgiving Bags.



Howard Chapel Saturday Soup Kitchen - Several Sunday School Classes and FUMC youth rotate in taking oatmeal cakes, crackers and 50 bologna & 50 peanut butter & jelly sandwiches to Howard Chapel United Methodist Church for their Saturday Soup Kitchen. This mission serves 30 to 150 children and adults every Saturday in the Howard Chapel and Katie Dudley housing community in Dublin's South Washington Street area. Contact Margaret Wheeler from Howard Chapel at 478-275-1042 to help serve with this local need.

LOCAL MISSIONS

Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) - Ministering to coaches and athletes in Dodge, Johnson, Laurens, Telfair, and Wheeler Counties, FCA works to engage, equip and empower coaches and athletes to know and grow in Christ and lead others to do the same. There have been many first-time faith commitments in our five-county area. Multi-Sport Huddle meetings are held on most campuses monthly - athletes come together to open God's Word and seek His will. www.facebook.com/HeartofGAFCATel



Good Samaritan Ministry - This ministry assists by providing food, partial assistance with utilities and rent, and temporary shelter for those in need. Contribute to this mission by laying funds on the altar during communion on the first Sunday of each month or give to the church office any time with checks or funds marked "Good Samaritan Ministry."

Habitat for Humanity - Habitat for Humanity partners with people in our community, and all over the world, to help families build or improve a place they can call home. Habitat home-owners help build their own homes alongside volunteers and pay an affordable mortgage. With your support, Habitat homeowners achieve the strength, stability and independence they need to build a better life for themselves and for their families. FUMC supports this ministry with monetary assistance and



church members helping with the build each year in Laurens County. The website www.dublinhabitat.com and our church bulletin will keep members posted on work dates and events.

Promise686 – This ministry mobilizes our church to care for local vulnerable children through a Family Advocacy Ministry (FAM). Dublin First United Methodist Family Advocacy Ministries helps provide what vulnerable children need most---**strong families**. Needs are met and lives are changed by creating a support system for biological families in crisis, foster families and adoptive families. Our church **FAM** is led by volunteers within the church. Volunteers raise community and church awareness around the needs of at-risk kids, foster care, and adoption, and support local families in need. Two ways our church can support local children and families;



1. Promise686's CarePortal tool – The CarePortal tool works through child welfare caseworkers or school social workers. When a case worker



discovers a child's need, that need is sent to church members through the CarePortal email system. If a church

member or church small group has the gently used item or would like to purchase the item, they simply respond to the email. Items are delivered either directly to the child's family or to the caseworker for delivery. This provides the church an opportunity to share God's love with hurting children, biological families, foster families, and even to the caseworkers. Six churches in Laurens County are involved with CarePortal currently. FUMC responded 28 times and served more than 195 children through this mission in 2019. FUMC has provided car seats, mattresses, food, cribs, diapers, clothing etc. as well as praying for the family. Caring for local children in need begins by simply signing up to receive an email. Sign up by sending a message to jnazerian@charter.net or calling the church office.

2. Volunteer-led Care Communities that provide a strong support system for biological families in crisis, foster and adoptive families. Care Communities create the opportunity to serve at-risk kids and their families in practical, hands-on ways such as providing meals, small chores around the home, transporting children to appointments, mentoring, or coordinating volunteers to serve. By supporting foster and adoptive families, we have the opportunity to provide a healthier context for a child's transition into their new home. When supporting biological families in crisis, we help prevent at-risk children from entering the foster care system. Learn more about Care Communities by contacting Janice Nazerian at jnazerian@charter.net or visit promise686.org/care-communities

River of Life – River of Life is a 5-day summer mission project in Dublin/Laurens County. During those five days, students and adults form crews that complete minor repairs and renovate the exterior of homes. The ultimate goal of this project is to form lasting relationships with our neighbors through mission work to share the love of Jesus! Watch for announcements in the church bulletin each spring to sign up to serve on a team, provide workers' lunches, or donate supplies and funds. Website: www.riveroflifedublin.com



Trunk or Treat - In October, we invite our community to share the joy of the season with festive trunks, food and games. Watch the church bulletin in early October to sign up with your trunk, donate treats, and volunteer.



INTERNATIONAL MISSION

Community Methodist Church Initiative - Pastor Samuel Magumba: Support is provided to two schools (900 students) and three orphanages in Uganda, Africa. They provide a Christian education to an area where public schools have a ratio of 100 students to one teacher. Because of the large Muslim population and lack of a Christian church in the school in a rural area, a church was started and is meeting in the school with 200 members and growing. A church building has been started. We continue to support Pastor Magumba and his ministries.



MISSIONARIES – the following are church members serving in mission

Edens, Mark - Out of Darkness (serving in Atlanta) works to reach, rescue & restore victims of sexual exploitation

Hobbs, Jessica - Oasis for Orphans (serving in Kenya, Africa) works in a Care Center near Nairobi to care for orphans (4.2 million orphans in Kenya)

Garner, Dorrie - Wesley Foundation/UGA (serving in Athens) works with Wesley UGA to enable students to encounter God and become disciples of Jesus Christ

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Mair, Katie - Cru (serving in Atlanta) works with students through fellowship to know Jesus, to grow in faith and equip them to share God's love with their families, communities & world.

OTHER MISSIONS - FUMC also supports Methodist missions throughout Georgia including:

Magnolia Manor <https://www.magnoliamanor.com>

Methodist Children's Home www.themethodisthome.org

Wesley Glen www.wesleyglenministries.com

United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) www.umcmmission.org/umcor

