



Canton First UMC
Missions Ministry

Mission Messenger

April/May 2019

Welcome to the April/May edition of the Canton First UMC Mission Messenger, a bi-monthly newsletter from your Mission Committee. We want our newsletter to communicate information about all CFUMC mission events and activities, so if you or your class or group are involved in mission projects, please let us know by contacting us at missions@cantonumc.org.

Opportunities for Service

Contact missions@cantonumc.org to get involved with any of these great missions!

Ministry Opportunity	Date
Door-to-Door Food Delivery – Volunteers needed to deliver food boxes to families in the community.	May 4 th
Murphy-Harpst Garden Project – Volunteers needed to help the youth work on their greenhouse and raised beds.	May 11 th
MUST Summer Lunch Program – The Must Summer Lunch Program provides weekly lunches to needy school age children over the summer break. Volunteers are needed to help CFUMC support this program.	June & July
MUST Ministries – Needs underwear in all sizes for men, women, and children. Drop off in bins in stairwell near chapel.	Ongoing
Ecuador Mission Trip – All adults welcome. Youth – rising 9 th /10 th grader with parent; 11 th grade and older without parent.	July 13 th -21 st
Murphy-Harpst Birthday Party – Volunteers are needed to help us sponsor the July birthday party for youth at the Murphy-Harpst campus in Cedartown.	July 20

Calling All Gardeners (and Helpers) – Service Opportunity at Murphy-Harpst

One of our projects with Murphy-Harpst will be an opportunity to work with the youth on their new garden project. Murphy-Harpst has recently added a greenhouse and raised beds to their campus and are setting up project work days for groups to come to the campus and work with them to get their gardens started. We will work from 9:00 AM to noon and then share a picnic lunch with the participating Murphy-Harpst youth.

The date of this event is Saturday, May 11, weather permitting. We will meet at the church at 8:00 AM and travel to the campus in Cedartown. This is a family-friendly event so children are welcome to participate under the supervision of their parents.

We are also looking for donations of seeds and perennial plants for the project. If you have unused seeds or extra plants from dividing your perennial beds, please consider donating them to this project. Please label seeds and plants and include planting/growing instructions.

To sign up to work, donate materials, or if you have questions, please contact missions@cantonumc.org.

International Leadership Ministries (ILM) Founder Paul Schmucker Visits CFUMC

On Wednesday, March 13th, Paul Schmucker, founder of ILM-Honduras visited with members of the congregation and the Missions Committee to give an update on the ministries of ILM. Their new feeding center walls are erected, and funds are being raised for installing the roof. Children are being feed and introduced to the love of Jesus through this ministry. There are many opportunities for us as a Church to reach the children. Preliminary plans were discussed for a mission trip in the future.

Ministry Focus

In each issue of the newsletter, we highlight some of the projects/agencies we work with so you can become familiar with their work.

Murphy-Harpst Children's Center

An agency of the United Methodist Church, Murphy-Harpst is an independent, not-for-profit organization, committed to meeting the needs of abused and neglected young people through residential treatment, placements in specialized foster care, and transitional living and community programs that serve at-risk youth and their families. Its mission is to provide a safe and nurturing environment where severely abused and neglected children and teenagers can thrive and heal toward a goal of re-engaging with society and leading productive lives. Located in Cedartown, GA, Murphy-Harpst has a 150 acre campus with 15 living units, chapel, gym, extensive outdoor recreation facilities, a therapeutic equestrian program, and administrative offices. Educational services are provided on-campus in cooperation with the local school district.

CFUMC has enjoyed a long relationship with Murphy-Harpst, including financial support and sponsorship of one of the monthly youth birthday parties. CFUMC is already signed up to sponsor the July birthday party this year on July 20, and the event will be open to the congregation. The Mission Committee is actively exploring additional ways in which we can partner with the Murphy-Harpst ministry.

Habitat for Humanity

Habitat for Humanity is a global nonprofit, ecumenical Christian housing organization. All who desire to be a part of this work are welcome, regardless of religious preference or background.

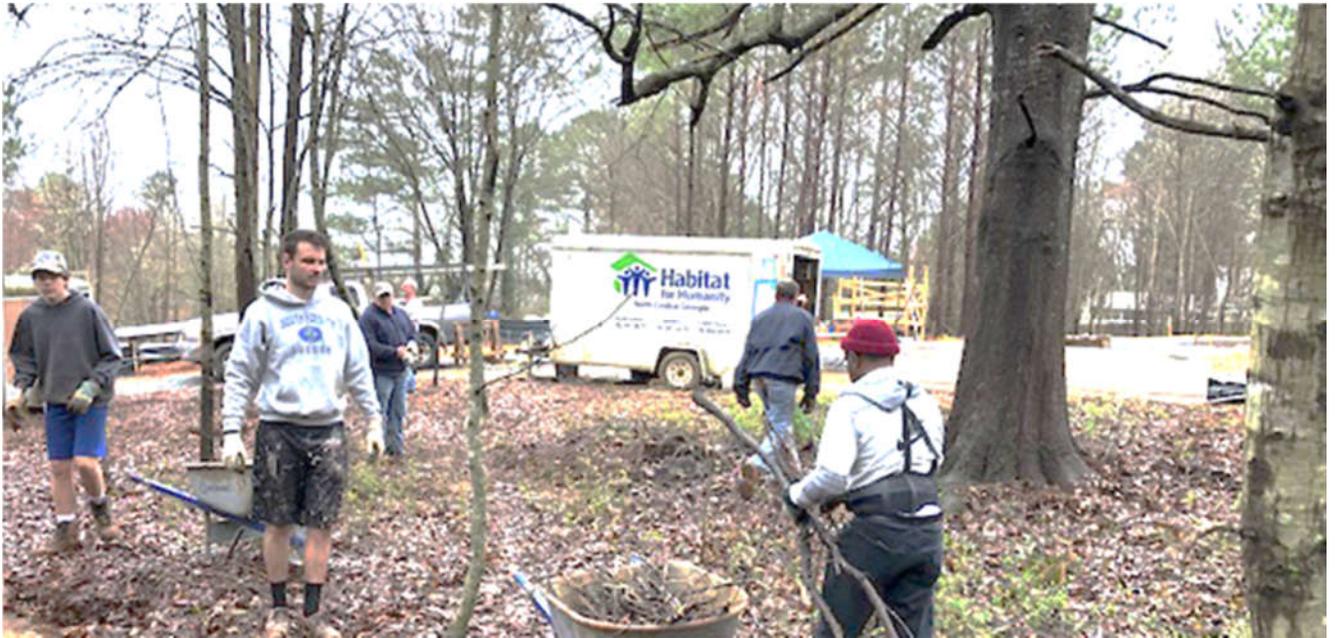
Habitat works in a number of different ways to create decent, affordable housing for people in need, including the following methods:

- Building new homes and renovating existing homes in many communities, particularly in urban areas.

- Helping people repair and improve their own homes and neighborhoods.
- Working with local communities through Habitat's Disaster Response efforts to address a variety of housing needs after natural disasters.
- Raising awareness and support for decent and affordable housing around the world.

The local Habitat for Humanity affiliate is North Central Georgia Habitat for Humanity headquartered in Roswell. Their website is <https://habitat-ncg.org/>.

CFUMC has had an ongoing relationship with Habitat for the past four years.



Habitat for Humanity Work Day

Jungle Kids for Christ – Ecuador

Jungle Kids for Christ (JKC) is a ministry devoted to empowering the children of the jungles of Ecuador through education and God's love. This happens through the ministry at Antioch Christian Academy, a school in the jungle with over 200 students enrolled from 1st thru 8th grades.

CFUMC is excited to partner with Alpha and Omega UMC, a sister church in Misahualli, on a mission opportunity this July.

Short term missionaries help JKC build relationships with people, churches, schools, and communities, both in the jungle and abroad, while also building facilities through manpower and funds. Each team brings with them accountability, momentum, strength, finances, and fellowship. Each work day in the jungle consists of a combination of VBS, manual labor, fellowship, and devotion.

The team serves the school, the church, and the community during VBS and has the unique opportunity to develop relationships with the kids. Each team plans, brings materials, and executes the four hours on their own.

The work portion of the day fills the other four hours. The team works on the school campus at the Alpha & Omega UMC or in the community. The work includes sanding, woodworking, painting, pouring concrete, and clearing brush. Each team “paves” the foundation for the next missionaries and much work is accomplished for the furthering of God’s kingdom.

Along with the work done, teams experience the culture of the historic city of Quito and the jungle with a canoe ride down the Napo River.

Join the team and make disciples for Jesus Christ, build relationships, sponsor a child, and serve God at the center of the earth! Contact Kelly.Beckley@cantonumc.org for more information.

Door to Door Food Distribution



Door to Door Food Distribution

The Door to Door Food Distribution ministry started at CFUMC around 2012-2013 as an effort to help those in need in the community. Sandi Anderson is the leader of this ministry. Food boxes with about 40 pounds of staple items are purchased for a nominal cost from Action Ministries in Atlanta (<https://actionministries.net/>). While the boxes are labeled with the Action Ministries logo, we add a sticker which identifies CFUMC as the donor.

In 2018 we made quarterly distributions, plus one by VBS for their mission project. Each time, 150-200 boxes were delivered. Typically about 10 to 20 people volunteer to help.

This year we are doing distributions on the first Saturday of every other month. Our next distribution will be May 4. If you are interested in participating in a distribution, please contact us at missions@cantonumc.org.