



Canton First UMC  
Missions Ministry

# ***Mission Messenger***

**September/October 2019**

Welcome to the September/October edition of the CFUMC 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](mailto:missions@cantonumc.org).

## **Opportunities for Service**

Contact [missions@cantonumc.org](mailto:missions@cantonumc.org) to get involved with any of these great missions!

### **Ministry Opportunity**

### **Date**

Welcome Kits for Murphy-Harpst – Donations of personal hygiene items needed. See the list on the church website at [cantonfirstumc.org/missions/murphy-harpst-welcome-kits/](http://cantonfirstumc.org/missions/murphy-harpst-welcome-kits/).

Sept/Oct.

Goshen Valley Boys Ranch – Volunteers invited to participate in a clean up day at the ranch followed by a cook out and fellowship with the youth.

October 12

MUST Ministries – Needs underwear in all sizes for men, women, and children. Drop off in bins in stairwell near chapel.

Ongoing

Door-to-Door Food Delivery – Volunteers needed to deliver food boxes to families in the community.

November 16

Cherokee Thanksgiving – Volunteers are needed (sign up information will be coming soon.) Financial donations are always needed. Checks payable to “Cherokee Thanksgiving” can be sent to the church.

November 28

## **July Birthday Celebration for Murphy-Harpst Youth**

On July 20, nine volunteers from CFUMC traveled to the Murphy-Harpst campus in Cedartown to host a birthday party for the residents with July birthdays. Volunteers decorated the dining room with balloons, and served Chick-Fil-A chicken nuggets, potato salad, and watermelon. For dessert, there were sheet cakes for the group, and each child celebrating a birthday received an individual cake, in addition to a gift card. We were blessed to have enough resources to also be able to provide gift cards for several June birthday youth who had missed being celebrated that month. To close the party, Jerald Hill and Brad Cox provided musical entertainment.

## **CFUMC Hosts MUST Summer Lunch Program**



On July 31, CFUMC completed its first summer as a host site for the MUST Ministries Summer Lunch Program. Our volunteers served 17,129 lunches, which is 23% of the total 78,608 lunches served in Cherokee county. The children appreciate receiving their lunches each week. Carol Jones recalls one child who jumped up and down singing "My lunch, my lunch..." when his meal was delivered to him. Overall, the program served 245,000 lunches to children in Cobb, Cherokee, Pickens, Gwinnett, North Fulton, and South Fulton counties. Co-coordinators at CFUMC included Kim Dodd, Jim and Kathy Anderson, Glen and Kathy Hansen, Jim and Gail Swanson, and Sherrie Baldwin. CFUMC members donated \$2,472.00 to the program.

## **CFUMC Student Week of Service**



On July 16-18, 25 CFUMC students and several adults worked together to perform service projects at six homes in the Canton area. Twenty youth participated each day. Their work included deck deconstruction and construction, yard work, and cleaning inside of the homes. The deck work was in partnership with Cherokee County Senior Services, and a second group came in the next week to finish the deck.

“These were folks whose life situations made it impossible for them to do the tasks we were able to complete,” said John Holloway, CFUMC Student Minister. “The youth pitched in, worked hard and got the jobs done—they saw how little things can be so important to someone else. More importantly, they formed relationships with the people we served. Our students love to serve, they have a heart to serve.”

### **Updates from Life for Children**

CFUMC supports ten AIDS orphans through Life for Children in Kenya. This support enables their extended families to care for them. Michael Agwama, Director of Life for Children in Kenya, reports that the ministry is functioning in all its many program areas with mixed successes and concerns. The primary program areas are:

AIDS Orphan Support Program  
Micro Finance Program  
Wachara Christian School

Street Boys Program  
Christmas Meal Program  
Developing Christian School in Kisumu

Currently, a major need is funding for the children’s school tuition. Prayer support for their programs is always needed. For more information, visit the Life for Children website at [lifeforchildrenministry.org/](http://lifeforchildrenministry.org/).