

# LOCAL MISSIONS

## NURTURING CHILDREN

### ADOPT-A-SCHOOL – CHASTAIN MIDDLE SCHOOL

Contact: Nancy Lockhart at 601-898-3009 or [nel0522@bellsouth.net](mailto:nel0522@bellsouth.net)  
Katie Meador at 601-853-9071 or [katiemeador@att.net](mailto:katiemeador@att.net)

Chastain Middle School and Christ UMC benefit mutually from This 20-year part-nership that promotes academic achievement and good citizenship and boosts teacher morale. Our UMW also provides monthly birthday cakes for the teachers.

**Needs met:** Encourage teachers and support special needs children.

#### Opportunities for servants:

- Mentoring students Monday – Thursday of the school year (Noon – 1:00 p.m.)
- “Encouragers” needed for individual students needing extra support and prayer
- Prayer partners needed for teachers and the school
- Provide refreshments
- Serve as judges of science or book fairs or proctor for exams
- Help host or greet at annual city-wide Partners in Education awards breakfast held at Christ United

### BETHLEHEM CENTER

Contact: Missions Office at 601-914-7-108 or email [missions@christunitedjxn.org](mailto:missions@christunitedjxn.org)

This United Methodist Mission center opened its doors over 70 years ago to address the growing problems of children and youth in Mid-town Jackson. The Center provides quality and affordable childcare for infants and preschoolers and after-school care for children up to age 12.

**Needs met:** Provide support for United Methodist Community Centers.

#### Opportunities for servants:

- Read to and with a child one day per week, Monday through Thursday from 3 to 4 p.m.
- Help with spruce-up projects
- Help expand and develop ministries at Bethlehem Center

### BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS

Contact: Nina Redding at 601-956-6958 or [ninaredding@bellsouth.net](mailto:ninaredding@bellsouth.net)

In partnership with the Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro Jackson, Christ UMC began an afternoon mentoring program in 2009.

**Needs met:** Provide encouragement and financial support.

#### Opportunities for servants:

- Read to and with a child one day per week, Monday through Thursday from 3 to 4 p.m.
- Assist with special projects as needed

## **NORTHTOWN CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER**

**Contact:** Nina Redding at 601-956-6958 or [ninaredding@bellsouth.net](mailto:ninaredding@bellsouth.net)

Children enrolled in the Northtown program are from diverse backgrounds and the center's overall goals are to allow each child to develop his/her unique self and talents, and to provide meaningful experiences while promoting education.

They also believe it is important to create an inclusive community program, which is responsive to the individual needs of all children. There are emerging possibilities to incorporate families into the Eliminate Poverty program.

**Needs met:** Partner with to promote education through the Ready Reader

### **Opportunities for servants:**

- Read to and with a child one day per week, Monday through Thursday from 3 to 4 p.m.

## **CARING FOR THE VULNERABLE**

### **GRACE HOUSE**

**Contact:** Missions Office at 601-914-7-108 or email [missions@christunitedjxn.org](mailto:missions@christunitedjxn.org)

Grace House is a place where people with HIV/AIDS may live with dignity and in safety with compassionate and caring people.

**Needs met:** Provide a meal and other opportunities of fellowship with individuals that are ordinarily overlooked.

### **Opportunities for servants:**

- Join the residents and other church members for the annual Thanksgiving Day lunch sponsored by Christ UMC
- Provide Christian fellowship
- Help with special events

### **GUARDIANS OF JUSTICE (CASA)**

**Contact:** Missions Office at 601-914-7-108 or email [missions@christunitedjxn.org](mailto:missions@christunitedjxn.org)

Each Christmas Christ UMC adopts children who have been placed under the care of court appointed special advocates. These children are in some way involved in the judicial system, usually as the result of incidents involving their parents or legal guardians. We have an opportunity to provide these kids with gifts and love during the Christmas season.

**Needs met:** Provide Christmas gifts.

### **Opportunities for servants:**

- Provide Christmas gifts for children in the Hinds County Court system

## HOPE HOUSE

**Contact:** Paige Stowe at 601-992-2774 or [pstowe@bellsouth.net](mailto:pstowe@bellsouth.net)

A home away from home is provided for the seriously ill and their families who have come to Jackson for outpatient treatment. Because of tremendous community support and excellent stewardship of donated funds, Hope House has recently expanded the facilities so that 30 Mississippians can be accommodated at any one time, which is more than triple the previous numbers of patients who could benefit from these services. With only two full-time paid employees, Hope House is completely dependent on volunteerism to make these services available to our guests.

**Needs met:** Provide one meal per month and support the overall mission and goals of the ministry.

### Opportunities for servants:

- Provide & serve evening meal for up to 30 residents on the fourth Thursday of each month, 4:30 – 6:00 pm
- Provide fruit, towels, sheets, paper products and other needs for the residents
- Delivering collected items to facility
- Help with landscaping, including cutting grass
- Provide transportation for the patients to and from the hospital for treatment
- Visit with the patients and lead Bible studies

## HOSPICE MINISTRIES

**Contact:** Bob Jones at 601-992-2774 or for grief counselor training, Hospice Ministries at 601-898-1053, ext. 258

Hospice provides a home-like environment where terminally ill patients receive care and are made as comfortable as possible. Hospice Ministries includes The McLean Fletcher Center, a grief support center for children and teens that have experienced the death of a loved one.

**Needs met:** Provide support and a caring presence.

### Opportunities for servants:

- Visit, read, and write letters for the patients
- Make flower arrangements for the patients' rooms or help with gardening projects
- Help with landscaping maintenance
- Train and serve as a grief counselor

## KAIROS OF MISSISSIPPI

**Contact:** Beth Reeves at 601-856-8784 or [koreeves@bellsouth.net](mailto:koreeves@bellsouth.net)

Kairos brings inmates into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and provides follow-up groups. They achieve this goal by conducting two weekend-long re-treats per year in each prison and through monthly reunions and weekly small group meetings. Kairos Outside is designed to support the families of men and women who are or have been incarcerated in state and federal correctional facilities, as well as county jails and youth offender programs. The spouses, parents and other relatives of the incarcerated often “do time” right along with their loved ones. It is important for them to know that they are not alone and that there is a Christian community that cares. And a third ministry, Torch, ministers to incarcerated young offenders age 25 and under.

**Needs met:** Assist in meeting the goals of the ministry.

### Opportunities for servants:

- Serve on a team
- Provide prayer support
- Write letters, decorate placemats, and make banners and posters

## MUSTARD SEED

Contact: Jana Smith at 601-957-1280 or [jts750@yahoo.com](mailto:jts750@yahoo.com)  
Suzanne Laird at 601 -957-6266 or [laird\\_g@bellsouth.net](mailto:laird_g@bellsouth.net)

The Mustard Seed seeks to meet the spiritual, physical, emotional, and intellectual needs of adults (called the "Seedsters") with developmental disabilities by providing a loving and protected Christian community and meaningful activities that allow the participants to fulfill the potential that God has created within them. The Mustard Seed has grown to include two group homes, a swimming pool, a multi-purpose activity center, and a ceramics studio and workshop. All of this is on nearly 8 acres in Brandon, Mississippi, with 41 clients, ranging in age from 21-67.

**Needs met:** Provide fellowship and fun activities for the Seedsters.

### Opportunities for servants:

- Sponsor the monthly "Birthday Bash" for the Seedsters on the first Wednesday of each month, 2:30 p.m.
- Send cards and notes to the staff for encouragement
- Help in the ceramics shop or with the landscaping
- Support other events as needed

## LOCAL WORK TEAMS

### DISASTER RESPONSE

Contact: Judy James at 601-919-0214  
Pat Sullivan at 601-790-0465 or [asullivan4@comcast.net](mailto:asullivan4@comcast.net)

Disasters are always local first. We step into our local community where needed and provide care and support to those who are left vulnerable after disaster. UMCOR trained Early Response Teams respond to disasters outside our community when invited. In disasters, our strength as United Methodists is long-term recovery and rebuilding in partnership with UMVIM. We are still working diligently to finish well after Hurricane Katrina. In addition, our very dedicated local work mission teams have spent significant hours over the last several months rebuilding following last years tornados in Yazoo and Holmes County.

We have two Disaster response trailer equipped with supplies for response and recovery efforts. Several members of our church have completed the ERT training. **Needs met:** Train individuals to respond quickly to local disasters, provide relief when invited and assist with long term recovery efforts.

### Opportunities for servants:

- Volunteer to assist with disaster response.
- Train to be a part of an Emergency Response Team (ERT). Training is made available to us through the UM Conference.
- Donate to support our work teams and those affected by disaster

Contact: Missions Office at 601-914-7-108 or email [missions@christunitedjxn.org](mailto:missions@christunitedjxn.org)

## HELPING HANDS LOCAL WORK MISSION

**Contact:** Joe McCoy at 601-992-1710 or [joemccoy@cgdsl.net](mailto:joemccoy@cgdsl.net)

This project includes assisting a needy (handicapped, elderly, or low income) individual, family, or ministry with needed carpentry, plumbing & other repair projects.

**Needs met:** Provide an opportunity for individuals to use their passion, interest and time in a missional way.

### Opportunities for servants:

- Organize materials
- Coordinate work teams
- Provide leadership to oversee the work
- Work on selected projects

## SUSANNA STITCHERS

**Contact:** Roanoke McDonald at 601-853-8823 or [roanokem@att.net](mailto:roanokem@att.net)

This very productive group uses its skills in sewing, ironing, and prayer to make personalized handmade items for our ministry partners who serve the disadvantaged and homeless. These items include: blankets, Christmas stockings, pillow cases and baby clothes. Even if you don't know how to sew there is a job for you.

**Needs met:** Provide an opportunity for individuals to use their passion, interest and time in a missional way.

### Opportunities for servants:

- Help cut material, iron, or sew on the second Saturday of each month & other dates as needed
- Deliver completed gifts

## FEEDING THE HUNGRY

### GLEANERS

**Contact:** Steven Ball at 601-991-0307 or [scbwjcp@bellsouth.net](mailto:scbwjcp@bellsouth.net)

Gleaners at 601-956-4740

Gleaners serves as a clearinghouse that provides leftover food to 70 Jackson area shelters and charitable organizations. Perishable food and produce is picked up 6 days a week from a variety of donors such as grocery stores and hospitals. This past year Gleaners provided over one million pounds of food.

**Needs met:** Assist Gleaners in their ministry goals.

### Opportunities for servants:

- Drive to collect food in mornings and/or afternoons
- Volunteer to help weigh, label, and package food
- Donate your plastic grocery bags to Gleaners

## **MEALS ON WHEELS**

**Contact:** Robbie Carmichael at 601-977-0535 or [peacock131@aol.com](mailto:peacock131@aol.com)  
Susie Allen at 601-366-0406 or [susieallen3@hotmail.com](mailto:susieallen3@hotmail.com)

This group shows the love of Jesus by preparing and delivering good, nutritious, hot meals to the elderly in Jackson. We currently partner with Covenant Presbyterian, Northminster Baptist, Colonial Heights Baptist, Fondren Presbyterian and St. Richard's to provide 13 meals per month to the 24 individuals on our two routes. We provide and transport meals three days per month. The UMW circles manage one of these days per month.

**Needs met:** Provide meals and meet the goals & missions of the ministry.

### **Opportunities for servants:**

- Deliver food on the 2nd Thursday & 4th Wednesday & Thursday of each month
- Prepare food for 24 individuals

## **STEWPOW COMMUNITY KITCHEN**

**Contact:** Missions Office at 601-914-7108 or email [missions@christunitedjxn.org](mailto:missions@christunitedjxn.org)

The noon meal is provided to the homeless and poor each day of the week, including some holidays. The Stewpot staff prepares the meal Monday through Friday with volunteers serving the meal. Our church provides and serves the Saturday meal 6 times per year, feeding between 100 – 150 people each time.

**Needs met:** Supporting the ministry and mission of Stewpot Community Services

### **Opportunities for servants:**

- Purchase, prepare, and serve the Saturday meal on either of the following days: February 9, April 13, June 8, August 10, October 12 & December 14
- Serve the weekday meal on designated days

## **STEWPOW FOOD PANTRY**

**Contact:** Olivia Parks at 601-956-7114 or [medistatol@aol.com](mailto:medistatol@aol.com)

Stewpot Community Services provides food, clothing, shelter, and nurturing care to children, elderly, disabled and poor persons to help them during difficult times in their lives. They also provide volunteer opportunities to anyone who has a heart and passion for service. The Food Pantry is a one room grocery store open Monday through Friday from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. that provides a four-day supply of food to individuals and families.

**Needs met:** Supporting the ministry and mission of Stewpot Community Services

### **Opportunities for servants:**

- Distribute food four to five times per year in one hour shifts.  
Dates so far for 2013 are February 18 – 22.
- Donate non-perishable food items (Grocery carts located in Great Hall & Fellowship Hallway)

## **CARING FOR THE HOMELESS**

### **HEARTWORKS**

Contact: Stacy Underwood at 601-353-5858 or [stacyu@comcast.net](mailto:stacyu@comcast.net)

HeARTworks is an art ministry that serves the people in and around the Stewpot community near downtown Jackson. This ministry has created a way for Stewpot clients to find a voice through their art, share their talents and earn money from doing so.

**Needs met:** Provide the homeless, who are often looked at negatively, with an outlet for their creativity.

#### **Opportunities for servants:**

- Donate art supplies (Missions Collection Carts)

## **HOMELESS CONNECT**

Contact: Paul Matens at 601-898-1363 or [paulmatensOO@comcast.net](mailto:paulmatensOO@comcast.net)

Project Homeless Connect is a week long event hosted by the City of Jackson and Partners to End Homelessness (PTEH). PTEH is a coalition group covering five counties (Hinds, Madison, Rankin, Copiah, and Warren) and the City of Jackson. Projects for the week include a Service Fair, Concert in the Park, Art Reception and Conference on Homelessness. The dates for 2012 will be published when available.

**Needs met:** Provide support through food, music, & supplies for this event.

#### **Opportunities for servants:**

- Help with or participate in the activities listed above

## **STEW POT BRUMFIELD HOUSE**

Contact: Paul Matens at 601-898-1363 or [paulmatensOO@comcast.net](mailto:paulmatensOO@comcast.net)

The Billy Brumfield House is an overnight shelter for homeless men. In addition, the house provides an in-house 90 day Alcohol/Drug program for homeless men seeking work/transition back into the community. Another 90 day in-house pro-gram is for mentally or physically challenged homeless men. The overnight guests receive an evening meal, a shower, a safe sleeping environment, and Christian hospitality.

**Needs met:** Supporting the ministry and mission of Stewpot Community Services

#### **Opportunities for servants:**

- Donate personal -size toiletries
- Assemble toiletry kits
- Donate bath towels and wash cloths
- Donate Bars of soap
- Donate Disposable razors
- Donate men's underwear, tee shirts, socks
- Participate in work projects-recent examples-painted group room, built wooden outdoor chairs
- Meeting specific concrete needs-recent examples-AA/NA literature, barbecue grill
- Current need - A used or new weed eater

## **STEWPOW FLOWERS' HOUSE**

**Contact:** Missions Office at 601-914-7108 or email [missions@christunitedjxn.org](mailto:missions@christunitedjxn.org)

Flowers' House is a transitional shelter for women and children. For up to one year, residents live in safe, caring surroundings while they work to find jobs and permanent housing.

**Needs met:** Supporting the ministry and mission of Stewpot Community Services

### **Opportunities for servants:**

- Help with material needs of the shelter
- Create fellowship opportunities with the residents
- Assist with Christmas Party for shelter residents
- Provide meals

## **STEWPOW MATT'S HOUSE**

**Contact:** Missions Office at 601-914-7108 or email [missions@christunitedjxn.org](mailto:missions@christunitedjxn.org)

Matt's House Emergency Shelter for Women and Children provides shelter for homeless women and children who have no other place to go. For over 300 guests a year, Matt's House offers a safe, nurturing environment while staff assists residents in finding housing, employment, or transportation back to their families.

The residents receive an evening meal and a light breakfast in addition to a safe place to sleep for the night.

**Needs met:** Supporting the ministry and mission of Stewpot Community Services

### **Opportunities for servants:**

- Help with material needs of the shelter
- Create fellowship opportunities with the residents

## **STEWPOW SIMS HOUSE**

**Contact:** Missions Office at 601-914-7108 or email [missions@christunitedjxn.org](mailto:missions@christunitedjxn.org)

Sims House is a transitional shelter for women and their children. It provides a 90-day stay for its residents and serves over 60 guests a year. While at Sims House, residents must find a job, participate in group and individual therapy with a li-censed family counselor, help with chores around the house and learn about financial planning and wise money management. The women are also provided with guidance by a full-time case manager who aids them in finding permanent housing, jobs and GED programs.

**Needs met:** Supporting the ministry and mission of Stewpot Community Services

### **Opportunities for servants:**

- Provide Sunday dinner once a quarter for the residents
- Collect personal hygiene items
- Help with school supply drive, Christmas party, etc.



## **ELIMINATING POVERTY**

### **BRIDGES OUT OF POVERTY**

**Contact:** Missions Office at 601-914-7108 or email [missions@christunitedjxn.org](mailto:missions@christunitedjxn.org)

Using a relational model to eliminate poverty, each group initiative consists of a family working to get out of poverty and several “Encouragers” who befriend them. With the friendship of the “Encourager,” each family sets and achieves goals unique to their own situation.

**Needs met:** By broadening our understanding of poverty, working with individuals to break the cycle of poverty as well as addressing systemic issues that sustain poverty.

#### **Opportunities for servants:**

- Become an “Encourager” to a family in need, attend a minimum of two meetings per month
- Prayer for groups
- Provide meal for meetings
- Assist with transportation needs

### **EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE**

**Contact:** Missions Office at 601-914-7108 or email [missions@christunitedjxn.org](mailto:missions@christunitedjxn.org)

This in-house program responds to requests for assistance to people who are in financial need. The Good Samaritan Center assists us by screening potential recipients when needed.

**Needs met:** Provide appropriate temporary relief for individuals outside our congregation.

### **HABITAT FOR HUMANITY**

**Contact:** Monte Luehlfing at 601-981-1317 or [mlilfing@comcast.net](mailto:mlilfing@comcast.net)

Habitat provides decent, affordable housing and the Habitat families receive stability, increased self-esteem, and hope for the future as a result of home ownership. Our congregation will blitz this fall in the midtown Jackson area in partnership with other United Methodist Churches.

**Needs met:** Provide support and an opportunity for United Methodist churches to work together to help a family own a home.

#### **Opportunities for servants:**

- Provide or serve food and beverages
- Serve in shift work (carpentry, painting, landscaping)

## COMMUNITY OUTREACH

### COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Contact: Missions Office at 601-914-7-108 or email [missions@christunitedjxn.org](mailto:missions@christunitedjxn.org)

Christ United is looking for ways in which we can be in mission with and to persons in our local community. If you have a heart for local missions please consider volunteering your time to discerning how we might increase our partnership with our neighbors throughout the Metro-Jackson area.

**Needs met:** Discerning the needs in our immediate community.

#### Opportunities for servants:

- Participate in planning next steps in our community

### DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

Contact: Missions Office at 601-914-7108 or email [missions@christunitedjxn.org](mailto:missions@christunitedjxn.org)

The Christ United Disaster Response Team is continuing to prepare our congregation for future disasters. Several times throughout the year, we will offer materials & resources to prepare us to care for our families, our church family, and our community.

**Needs met:** Provide information regarding disaster preparedness.

#### Opportunities for servants:

- Prepare & keep emergency supplies on hand for your household. Lists of supplies are available online or in the Missions Office.



Contact: Missions Office at 601-914-7108 or email [missions@christunitedjxn.org](mailto:missions@christunitedjxn.org)

Our Second Saturday outreach ministry will give us each an opportunity to be a part of something bigger than ourselves. We are a church that cares about others, especially those in need. We don't want to just sit back and talk about making a difference...we want to make it a priority to volunteer our time and energy on a monthly basis to share Christ's love for those around us. Whether that involves feeding the hungry, sewing blankets for the homeless shelter, picking up trash in our community, doing home repairs, or writing letters of encouragement to soldiers and missionaries, our desire is to love others as Christ loves us.

We will continue our monthly Second Saturday of sharing the love of Christ with our community. Whether that involves feeding the hungry, sewing blankets for the homeless shelter, picking up trash in our community, doing home repairs, or writing letters of encouragement to soldiers and missionaries, our desire is to love others as Christ loves us.

**Needs met:** Provide a monthly opportunity to experience missions and for groups to serve together.

#### Opportunities for servants:

- Our Second Saturday dates for 2013 are: January 12 (Incarnation), February 9, March 9, April 13, May 11, June 8, July 13, August 10, September 14, October 12, November 9 & December 14.

## **MISSIONS GARAGE SALE**

**Contact:** Missions Office at 601-914-7108 or email [missions@christunitedjxn.org](mailto:missions@christunitedjxn.org)

A garage sale is held each year in the fall to supplement our Missions funding. The next sale will be on Saturday, September 13, 2014.

**Needs met:** Supplement our Missions funding.

### **Opportunities for servants:**

- Contribute non-clothing items for the sale
- Volunteer to help sort and price items for the sale
- Volunteer to help on the day of the sale
- Volunteer to help load unsold items for delivery to the Good Samaritan Center