

"Rather you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." Acts 1:8

News and Opportunities for Mission and Outreach

October-December 2018

Fall Day of Service – October 20!

With love as our guide, guiding our thoughts, words, and deeds, let us go out into the world and bring love to all whom we encounter.

Our Church wide Fall Day of Service is October 20, 2018! No worries, both Georgia and Georgia Tech have open dates on the 20th!



We will gather at 9:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall for a continental breakfast (hosted by the REACH SS class) and then disperse for various projects inside and outside the church. The projects planned are as follows:

- **MUST Clothes Closet**-Sorting and organizing donations at the MUST Marietta Collection Center
- **Action Ministries**-Packing food boxes for those in need. Action Ministries Collection Center
- **Tillman House**-Painting entryways, hallways and other projects
- **UMCOR**-Collection of needed items and assembly of Hygiene Kits—see page 5 for more information
- **Soles4Souls**-Collection, pairing and boxing of gently used shoes for those in need in the US and around the world—see page 5 for more information
- **Cookies for Christ**-Bagging, tagging, delivery of cookies for Smyrna First UMC outreach
- **Belmont Hills ES project**
- **Green Acres ES project**
- **Gardens of Smyrna Visitation**

Why Have a Day of Service?

1 Peter 4:10-11 Common English Bible (CEB)
¹⁰ And serve each other according to the gift each person has received, as good managers of God's diverse gifts. ¹¹ Whoever speaks should do so as those who speak God's word. Whoever serves should do so from the strength that God furnishes. Do this so that in everything God may be honored through Jesus Christ. To him be honor and power forever and always. Amen.

Today we go out into our community to serve.

Some of us will serve by speaking loving words – even if the people we are speaking to don't understand us.

Some of us will serve by spreading dirt and pinestraw to benefit students who will use the planting beds

Some of us will serve by going to an unfamiliar part of the city and giving out food and hygiene kits.

Some of us will serve by playing games and making crafts.

Some of us will serve by baking and packaging cookies.

Some of us will serve by preparing and organizing today's activities.

Some of us serve by praying for this event and for every person involved.

Today we will be serving with the diverse gifts that God has given us. Let's remember to serve with the strength that God furnishes, not our own strength.

Katherine Hoskins, Day of Service Devotion, 2015

Over 150 people participated in our last Day of Service in March. Let's see if we can surpass 200 people in October as we do "small things with great love!"

Sign Up Today! <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0548ACA622A1FE3-smyrna2>

Fall Yard Sale!

October 6—8am-2pm

Location: West Parking Lot

- ◆ Please bring donated items to sell before 8AM to the GFN booths at the carport in the Parking Lot
- ◆ If you want to be a vendor and have a booth, please contact
- ◆ Sidney Pinkston 404-918-7386
- ◆ Come and buy from many diverse vendors and have lunch.



Benefits GOD'S FOOTPRINTS IN NICARAGUA



Smyrna First
United Methodist Church
OUTREACH

We are all called to be the hands and feet of Jesus throughout our community and to “**Love the One In front of you**”. The goal of the Outreach Team is to continue to carry this message to our community and to the SFUMC Family – “God Loves you and so do we at Smyrna First UMC”. Since the beginning of the year Outreach has shown God’s love at two KinderMarts, City of Smyrna Jonquil Festival, MUST Food Drive, four Food Truck Tuesdays, a Pot Luck Family Night, a Family Movie Night, coordination of SFUMC apparel (yes we’ve sold almost 200 shirts since the beginning of the year), Smyrna First Summer Outreach list, Blessing of the Animals, and through delivery of baked goods

Through our SFUMC baker Family sharing their gift of baking, the Outreach Cookies for Christ Ministry has spread the word “God Loves You and So Do We” to over 13,000 individuals in the Smyrna Community. This would not have been possible without you!!!! We thank each of you.

How can you serve our Lord and Savior thru our local mission efforts? It’s simple and we need many hands and feet. Below is just a few of the many activities coming up in the fall.

- ◇ **Day of Service- 10/20/18** – Cookies for Christ will engage every member of SFUMC family to take a cookie or bag of cookies to deliver out into the Smyrna Community.
- ◇ **CALLING ALL BAKERS PLEASE!** Cookies for Christ baking team is in need of **over 2,000 cookies** for the month of October, November and December.
- ◇ Outreach Wear – Help the Outreach team with selling tee-shirts .
- ◇ **Jonquil Festival- 10/27/18** – Help Journey Sunday School Class pass out water and a cookie (with church information attached) to those walking in to the Jonquil Festival.
- ◇ Next Family Movie Night is coming up in December (Date TBA)
- ◇ Serve on the Cookies for Christ Team or many other Outreach sub-teams that are working on multiple projects for the upcoming year.

For more information please contact Sherry Vining at sevining@comcast.net or 404.502.4525 or Kelly Vining at kelly092458@gmail.com or 404.394.5582

Stephen Ministry to Sponsor Healing Services on November 25

Our Stephen Ministry team at SFUMC is sponsoring a Healing Service on Sunday, November 25, at all three worship services: 8:45am and 11:00am in the Sanctuary and 8:55am in the Fellowship Hall. Come and extend an invitation to a friend. It is our hope that you will experience God's powerful healing presence through this special service.

For more information about Stephen Ministry and/or how you or a friend can receive the confidential care that our Stephen Ministers provide, please contact Rev. Barbara Hatchell at StephenMinistry@smyrnafumc.org



POWER in the blood

You can put the power of faith into action and help save a life!

- ◆ Our goal for the on September 6, 2018 blood drive was 38 pints and we collected 56! Definitely an answer to prayers!!
- ◆ Next blood drive Thursday, January 31, 2019 2pm-7pm. Location to be announced.



The General Board of Global Ministries is the Global Mission agency of the United Methodist Church. In addition to our support of these missions with our church's apportionments from the Smyrna First General Budget, we support the work of Kathy Griffith with our Faith Promise Giving. Kathy serves the GBGM as Program Manager, Maternity, Newborn and Child Health.

Mission Update from Kathy Griffith

I've just returned from a 10-day trip to Mozambique and my mind is still full of what I've seen – the women, children and men, the simplicity of health facilities and the distance people travel for services; the state of the roads, the determination of mosquitoes and the beauty of life. Mozambique has some very concerning health statistics and the church is working to address these. While at Cambine Health Center, I met Milza.



Three years ago Milza had been a sad young woman longing to have child, but she had miscarried twice. Although she was childless, she was chosen by her community to become one of the Health Center's network of Community Health Volunteers. During the training, she learned new things about pregnancy and how to keep healthy – but it was all for other women's children. And then the joy - she became pregnant again and knew how to take better care of herself! As a high-risk mother, she was referred to Chicuque Rural Hospital's Waiting Mothers' Home for care and delivered a beautiful girl, Emiliana, who has brought so much joy. The first years of life have many risks but this little girl has been fully immunized, sleeps under a mosquito net and eats well. Now Milza and her daughter manage a small chicken farm with skill and ability.



This is the kind of health, hope and empowerment we hope to bring through the Abundant Health Initiative of the United Methodist Church. Please pray for our family in Mozambique.



Trunk or Treat—October 24!!

One of our largest community outreach events is just around the corner! It's time to start saving candy for Trunk or Treat! Fall is in the air and we need to get ready for our annual Halloween Trunk or Treat scheduled for Wednesday, **October 24**, at 6:30 PM. Hot dinner provided, so please come enjoy the fun. Please remember to pick up bags of individually wrapped candy to help prepare for this awesome, fun night. Also, please think about hosting a Trunk for Trunk or Treat! For info on Trunk or Treat, contact marnold@smyrnafumc.org



Words from Pastor Derek . . . Thank You!

You have never met Mr. Joe, but I wish you had. Mr. Joe was one of the best story tellers I have ever heard. Some of his stories were of the made up variety, but most were from his life. He had the uncanny ability to make you laugh and cry through his humor and sweet personality. My favorite Mr. Joe stories always involved him laughing before he reached the punch line. I could sit and listen to this wonderful man laugh for hours.

However, it was not his stories or his laughter that I enjoyed the most. To hear Mr. Joe pray was to hear God speak with one of His dearest friends. I am sure He attended to a daily prayer life but it is what he did on Thursday mornings with other Methodists that never failed to make my heart smile. Mr. Joe, with his United Methodist friends, prayed for his neighbors and anyone else that needed some divine intervention. The sweetness of his prayers always included one element that I now try to include in my daily prayers. Thank you.

Sometimes we can be so consumed with what we think we need, we forget what we have. It is easy to forget to tell God thank you for all the blessings He has given us, especially when we stay focused on the negative that all of us endure. The essential nature of prayer is not in asking for more, but in saying thank you for what we have. We miss this point because many times we confuse prayers with dreams.

What are you dreaming of today? Most of us have our hearts set on some magical event or item that will solve all our problems. Maybe it is that new car or the perfect vacation. Maybe you are looking for that promotion at work which will validate all your hard work. Try this the next time you catch yourself frustrated with your dreams, say thank you for prayers already answered. Say thank you for the opportunities that God has given you and thank you for the blessings in other's lives.

Also, pray daily and pray fervently. Don't quit dreaming, dream about what God wants for you. Let your prayers and dreams be united in guiding your life into a deeper walk with God. Know that I and other United Methodists are praying and saying thank you for you today, and every day. God bless you as you serve the people of Smyrna and beyond.

In the hollow of His hand,
Derek

Tillman House—A Caring Partner in our Community

One of the goals of the Tillman House Resource Center is to partner with existing groups to address the needs of those living in poverty in our community and surrounding areas. Action Ministries mobilizes communities to address the challenges of poverty by focusing on hunger relief, housing and education. The vision of Action Ministries is a community in which the cycle of poverty is broken and everyone has the tools needed to reach their full potential.

There are several areas of partnership between Smyrna First and Action Ministries being pursued – especially in the areas of Hunger Relief and Education. The first to be implemented at Tillman House is Feed the Hungry - a food pantry distribution ministry. Tillman House will be a distribution center for boxes of food available to families in need. The boxes are assembled at Action Ministries (you will have the opportunity to help assemble food boxes on our October 20 Day of Service).

The distribution will be coordinated with MUST Ministries – offering assistance when MUST is not open or when a family's allotment of food from MUST has been used. Stayed tuned for more information and volunteer opportunities soon!



More on Our Fall Day of Service

Soles 4 Souls

Day of Service Collection Weeks
 Sunday, September 23-Saturday, October 20
 Collection Barrels-Welcome Center



Great time to clean out your closets and donate your gently worn shoes!

Donations Needed for UMCOR Hygiene Kits

As a part of our Day of Service, October 20, 2018, we will be putting together hygiene kits for UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief). We hope to assemble at least 200 kits to ship to the UMCOR Depot to replace kits that have been used for the recent hurricane and flooding. Items for the kits are **very specific** so please strictly follow what is requested. Donations will continue through Saturday, October 20, 2018. Barrels for donations are located outside Fellowship Hall.

The Sign-up Genius link to donate for Hygiene Kits-
www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0548aca622a1fe3-smyrna2

Tillman House is Smyrna MUST Christmas Toy Shop Location

This Christmas Season, Tillman House, in partnership with MUST Ministries, will be a host site for MUST's annual Christmas Toy Shop. The Toy Shop will be open from December 1-15, 2018 and will offer Smyrna First members numerous volunteer opportunities as well as opportunities to donate gifts for children in the Smyrna area and throughout Cobb County.

With the help of the community, MUST makes Christmas a cherished event for those in need. Thanks to hundreds of volunteers and donations of in-kind gifts from individuals, companies and churches, over 4000 children benefit from the MUST Ministries Toy Shop program in Cobb and Cherokee Counties each year. The Toy Shop program assists parents who may not otherwise be able to provide Christmas gifts for their children. Parents can shop at no cost in a department store-style environment for what their children want. MUST is currently seeking donations for the Toy Shop program. Unlike stores that can order merchandise as needed, MUST relies entirely on donations to restock the Toy Shop shelves.



Families must register to participate in the Toy Shop program. Registration for the Smyrna Toy Shop will occur on Oct 29 - Nov 3 at the Tillman House. Registration hours are Mon, Tues, Wed, Sat from 9am-2pm and Thurs, Fri from 2pm-7pm. Several volunteers are needed to assist with the registration process. Here is the link to the online application for volunteer sign up: <http://signup.com/go/RcDWAY>

The Smyrna Toy Shop will be open Dec 1 - 15 at the Tillman House. Toy Shop hours are Mon, Tues, Wed, Sat from 9am-2pm and Thurs, Fri from 2pm-7pm. Several volunteers will be needed to staff the Toy Shop. The online sign up application will be available in mid-October. Please check the MUST Ministries website for updates (www.mustministries.org).

Stay tuned for information on volunteering at the Toy Shop and where to bring your donations!

Annual Gift Mart Supports The Faithfilled Circle Ministries

The popular GiftMart handmade arts and crafts fair will once again return to Smyrna First United Methodist Church **November 7-10**, 2018, in the church's Welcome Center.

Space is still available for artisans and crafters wishing to participate in this year's sale. The vendor registration deadline is **October 31**. Proceeds from GiftMart sales benefit various women's and children's missions of The Faithfilled Circle. Sellers can now register online with their \$5 fee at <https://www.smyrnafumc.org/giftmart/>. Questions? Email sfumcgiftmart@gmail.com.



GiftMart is an annual handmade food, crafts and home goods festival. Items featured in previous years include hand-crafted baby items, children's toys and dolls, Christmas décor, clothing such as scarves and crocheted items, homemade food products, hair accessories, home and kitchen décor, jewelry, original paintings and artwork, pottery, ornaments, and other home goods and holiday gift items.

Help Smyrna First UMC continue collecting **SCHOOL SUPPLIES** for:



- ALL school supplies, including
- college ruled notebook paper
 - college ruled composition books
 - college ruled spiral notebooks
 - typing paper
 - thumb drives



Collection Barrels outside Fellowship Hall

Showroom shopping hours are Wednesday, November 7, 12:00-9:00 pm; Thursday and Friday, November 8-9, 9:00 am-9:00 pm; Friday, and Saturday, November 10, 9:00 am-1:00 pm. Admission and parking are complimentary. GiftMart coincides with the Smyrna First UMC "Hands on Christmas" children's craft fair on Saturday.

New this year, GiftMart will feature a "Bake Shop", where shoppers can purchase holiday baked goods. GiftMart is also offering a "Meet the Artist" night on Wednesday evening, where shoppers can meet the crafters, some of whom will personalize items onsite.

On Friday evening, a "Festive Friday" ladies' event will be held at the church, featuring a personalized holiday craft activity and snacks. Registration and fee required. Tickets for Festive Friday will be available soon.

Join the tradition! Annual Gobble Jog is November 22

The Gobble Jog is MUST's largest fundraiser. Every year, thousands of people converge on the Marietta Square for a 10k or 5k run before Thanksgiving dinner. It's become a tradition for hundreds of families in our area – why don't you come out and join them this year?



<http://www.gobblejog.org/>