

Appalachia Reach Out

October/November '20

November 30, 2020

Issue #14



Prayer List For 2020

1. Winter Ministry Schedule through each local serve ARO provides.

2. Future partnerships for ARO

3. Peace in our homes, peace in our churches, peace in our communities, peace in our nation, peace in our world

"ARO truly cares for its community. It's seen through every action of love they share."

- **Work & Witness Team Coordinator**

The picture to your right is the Blanchester (OH) Church of the Nazarene Work & Witness Team

He Is Enough

Is He enough? It's easy to put these words to paper, but when we're going through our most difficult of trials and tribulations, do we believe Christ is enough? In my life I must admit, I've have gone through some of the darkest valleys, and from my experiences with the Lord, I can say with a resounding, YES, He is enough! Just a few days ago Thanksgiving was celebrated. One of family's traditions is go to around the Thanksgiving table and each family member share about something they are thankful for as we reflect over the past year. I shared with my family, I'm so thankful God is enough for me. Zephaniah 3:17 says, **"The LORD your God is in your midst, a mighty One who will save; He will rejoice over you with gladness; He will quiet you by His love; He will exult over you with loud singing."** It's in these words by the prophet Zephaniah we know, God is with us. If the Creator of the world is with us, it's enough! I'm so thankful the 2020 Advent season has begun; it's great to know Immanuel, God with us, is here and walks with us each day. Because of His faithfulness, He is enough! So as you walk through this Advent season, be thankful that our God is enough no matter what lies before us.

- *Dwayne P. Mills, ARO, Executive Director*

A Life of Thanks Shared with Giving

What a joy for ARO to partner with the Blanchester (Ohio) Church of the Nazarene and the Martin County School District Family Resource Centers for our 2nd Annual Weekend of Thanksgiving. It's been ARO's motto, during the months of the COVID-19 pandemic, ARO's "why" must remain the same while our "how" looks different. Last year our Weekend of Thanksgiving was a large gathering at Inez Freewill Baptist Church to love on 25 families the weekend before Thanksgiving. This year instead of gathering together in a large group, we had a drive through Thanksgiving giveaway celebration on our campus. 25 families received a Thanksgiving meal, air mattress, bedding, pillows, laundry detergent, shoes, clothing items, towels, wash clothes, shampoo, children gift bags, Bibles, etc... It was a time to share the gift of Thanksgiving with these families. After the day was complete ARO with these partnerships had the opportunity to bless over 130 people with the love of Christ through Thanksgiving. Even though this year's Thanksgiving looked a little different, our goal was not to cancel Thanksgiving because of a worldwide pandemic. It was to share the love of Jesus through the faithfulness of His people. ARO is thankful for the family of God coming together to love on those in need! When we are faithful to show up, He will show out!



"The Lord your God is in your midst, a might One who will save; He will rejoice over you with gladness; He will quiet you by His love; He will exult over you with loud singing" – Zephaniah 3:17



Napoleon (OH) Nazarene provided 125 Crisis Care Kits for the Martin County School District Family Resource Centers

Thanks!

Thanks to all of you who support us through prayer, serving, and financial support. You can learn more about supporting us online at www.appalachiareachout.com.

Our address is:

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We need each other. ARO wouldn't be possible without ALL support. It's a great reminder of Ecclesiastes 4:12

A cord of three strands is not quickly broken.

You can contact Dwayne Mills, ARO Executive Director at dwayne.p.mills@gmail.com

From Pennsylvania & Ohio with Love

One of ARO's key tenets is education. ARO believes it's imperative if the chain of generational poverty is going to be broken it begins in the life of a child. This can only happen if ARO has an impact through education as the child is living in their formative years. Since education is so important, its imperative ARO has a wonderful working relationship with the Martin County School District. God has opened up this door for the last handful of years. ARO's Executive Director, Dwayne Mills, has full access to the schools in Martin County. Mills said, "It's humbling to know these doors have been open and what a joy to work with all principals, teachers, staff, family resource directors, students and their families in all 5 Martin County Schools." Toward the end of September ARO had a meeting with all 5 Family Resource Directors in the schools. It was brought to ARO's attention the need for shampoo, soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, and other hygiene items. As soon as this meeting was over ARO was on the phone to a handful of stakeholders. Of course we have many stakeholders, but picking up the phone and calling our partners in Pennsylvania and Ohio was first on our list. In just a few weeks Pennsylvania brought down a trailer full of these supplies to distribute to all of our schools. There were a few Crisis Care Kits handed out to our resource centers with this donation. When they saw these kits they knew they needed more. So ARO called our partners at Napoleon (Ohio) Nazarene and they came through with another 125 Crisis Care Kits. It has been through these partnerships God supplied all of these needs. One of the Resource Directors said, "Because of ARO we're able to support the most underserved families in our community. It wouldn't be possible without your love for our students and community." This is why ARO is passionate about being, "Christ's Love in Action." Thank you Pennsylvania and Ohio. You showed up in a big way.

2020 End of the Year Giving Campaign!

November and December is our Annual End of the Year Giving Campaign. Will you pray and consider a special end of the year gift to the mission and ministry of ARO? It takes all of us working together to continue our mission and ministry in the heart of Appalachia. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to our Executive Director, Dwayne Mills.



Thanks to the Pittsburgh, PA District for their overwhelming show of support for the Martin County School District Resource Centers. Above is a snapshot with ARO's Executive Director, Dwayne Mills, Marlana Slone, Eden Elementary Resource Director, Denny, from PA, Bill Zuidema, ARO's Thrift Store Manager, and Andy, from PA.