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Fall Newsletter, 2016

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MOH KEY CALENDAR DATES 2016

November	Christmas Planning and Prep Time at The HOPE (We Welcome your Volunteer Support) (We Welcome new Toy, Clothing and Food Donations) (We Welcome your Financial Support) (Most importantly We Welcome your Prayer Support)
November 3	Annual Celebration & Fund Raising Banquet at Rothchild's
November 10 -13	Zoo for The Hope Food Drive at Knoxville Zoo (Admission \$1 with Can Food Donation for MOH)
November 18 - December 5	21st Annual Christmas Program and Barrel Collection Drive Knoxville, TN and Lexington, KY (We welcome your Collection Drives and Volunteer Support)
November 18	Christmas Tree Lighting Event--The Pinnacle, Turkey Creek
November 27	Keyboards at Christmas at Tennessee Theater (2 p.m. and 7 p.m.)
December 1	LMU Christmas Concert and Tree Lighting (Toy Collection for MOH)

(For more information visit our Website or call the MOH office)

Inside this Newsletter:

Christmastime at The Hope 2

Keyboards at Christmas Program 2

Christmas Barrel Collection 2

The Pinnacle Tree Lighting 3

Bibles for the Children 3

Right Before Christmas at the HOPE 3

Back to School 4

Scholarship Update 4

Golf Classic 4

Greetings Dear Friends:

It's now here! The chill in the air, logs aglow in the fireplace and leaves of brilliant colors falling from the trees let us know this most awesome season has arrived: IT'S FALL! Let us cherish and be grateful for this time of the year. It is truly a gift of beauty from God.

There's an excitement in the air as we move closer to our busiest time of the Year--Christmas at The HOPE. We are well underway with the plans for our largest Christmas Collection and Delivery Program ever. This year we have added another school to our program which means we will be assisting 28 rural elementary schools and serving almost 18,000 children and their family members. This is our "Leap Of Faith Moment," and we are trusting that God will provide the harvest needed to meet our goals for this new venture of faith.

May God bless you and your family each and every day. Thanks for your friendship and know we are immensely grateful for all you do to help us extend the HOPE.

Sincerest regards,
Emmette Thompson - Executive Director @ Mission of Hope

CHRISTMASTIME AT THE HOPE

“This Is Our Story – The Story Of... HOPE”

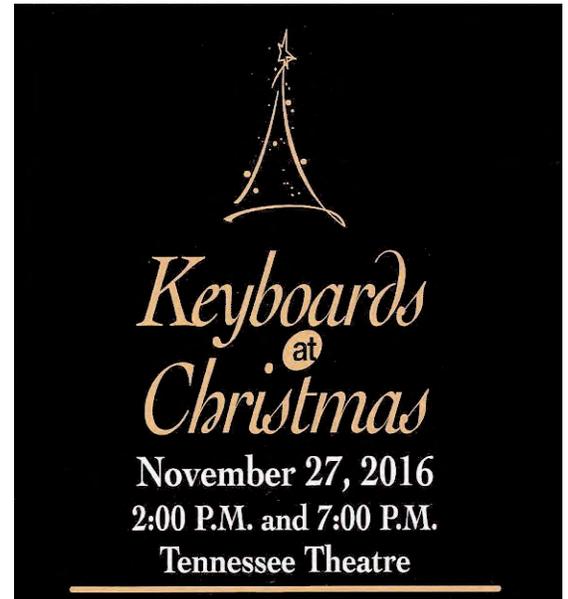
The 2016 Mission of Hope Celebration & Fund Raiser on November 3rd proved to be a wonderful evening of warm fellowship, super shopping, tasty food, good music, light hearted entertainment and inspirational messages filled with *HOPE*. The MOH Celebration Team worked for months to plan, prepare and direct this special evening to celebrate another blessed and successful year for our ministry efforts; and to kick off our 2016 Christmas Program and raise support as well as funds to enable MOH to serve some 18,000 children and their families through 28 elementary schools and several mountain ministry centers across economically distressed Appalachia.

The doors to Rothchild's Conference Center opened at 5:00pm with a time of socializing with old friends, making new friends, and a lively Silent Auction including entertainment and travel opportunities, collectibles, gifts for all ages and desires, yummy treats, and lovely handcrafted items. Amongst a warm down home setting of daisies in glass jars, quilts and tea lights, the guests enjoyed a delicious dinner followed by traditional mountain and gospel music performed by the talented Highlander Bluegrass Band of Scott High School in Huntsville, TN.

Ms. Colleen Addair served as Hostess for the evening and East Tennessee's own Barney Fife and his buddy Gomer kept the guests laughing with their antics. Mr. Bill Williams was honored for his compassionate support and advocacy for MOH by a presentation on the establishment of the Bill Williams Servant Heart Center at Alice Lloyd College in Pippa Passes, KY. Several of our Faces of *HOPE* and some heart touching videos shared how MOH is giving The Gifts of *HOPE* to our less fortunate neighbors across Appalachia. Mr. Sammy Sawyer delivered a moving message on *HOPE* from The Bible and how each of us can give the Gifts of *HOPE*. Thank You to all our Guests, Donors, Entertainers, Volunteers, and everyone who helped make this event a success. Stay tuned for pictures and more highlights in the MOH Winter Newsletter.

KEYBOARDS AT CHRISTMAS is a gala event of holiday music featuring six Grand Pianos (provided by Lane Music) and the Mighty Wurlitzer. Tickets may be purchased online at Tennesseetheatre.com or at the Theatre Box Office for \$15 (plus processing fee).

This program is a benefit for Mission of Hope.



Make your plans now to attend this exciting holiday program featuring talented musicians.

CHRISTMAS 2016 BARREL COLLECTION

At Christmas, we focus on **New Items Only**. Below are listed suggested items that may be placed in our Blue Barrels. Knoxville locations for barrels: Chick-fil-A, Fisher Tire, Food City, Home Federal, Kmart and Knoxville TVA Employees Credit Union. In Lexington, barrels are located at Chick-fil-A, Central KY, Curves, Lexington Family Magazine Location and Appalachian Regional Healthcare (ARH)

TOYS

(Suggested \$15 value and above)

Musical Toys
Action Figure Playsets
Nerf Toys
Sporting Goods
Lego Sets
Disney Playset
Doll Playsets
Gifts for Children Ages 10-14

(New and unopened items only)

CLOTHING

Coats - Warm Winter
Hats and Gloves
Socks and Underwear
Shirts and Blouses
Jeans and Pants

(Kindergarten through 8th Grade)

FOOD

(Non-Perishable Items)

Tuna - 6-7 oz.
Entrees: Stews, Chili, etc. 24 oz.
Soup - 10.5 oz.
Fruit - 16 oz.
Canned Vegetables - 15 oz.
Macaroni & Cheese - 8-7 oz.
Oatmeal - 18 oz.
Peanut Butter - 18 oz.
Dried Beans - 2 lbs.
Rice - 2 lbs.

(No Glass Containers)

HYGIENE

(Full Size Items Only)

Toothbrushes
Toothpaste
Soap Bars
2 in 1 Shampoo with Conditioner

Financial Donations

Checks: Send to: Mission of Hope, P.O. Box 51824, Knoxville, TN 37950
Credit Cards: Visit our Website at www.missionofhope.org or call our office at 865-584-7571

THE PINNACLE AT TURKEY CREEK

Join us Friday, November 18, from 4-8 p.m. as we kick off the Mission of Hope's annual Christmas Collection & Blue Barrel Campaign at The Pinnacle at Turkey Creek's Tree Lighting Ceremony. The event will include live reindeer, pictures with Santa, holiday crafts, Christmas carolers, holiday performances from area schools, the lighting of the 60-foot Christmas tree and more! You can bring cash donations or NEW toys, New clothing and non-perishable food items and place them in the Blue Barrels for the children of Appalachia. Mission of Hope is preparing to help over 18,000 children and their families in this the 21st year of their Christmas Campaign. Blue Barrel Collections will continue through Monday, December 5.



November 18 is the Christmas Tree Lighting at The Pinnacle at Turkey Creek

RIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS AT THE HOPE

The busy Christmas season at the Mission of Hope has just begun, Happy Volunteers give their time to the work that must be done. They sort, size and pack clothing in all sizes from tots to teens, And select and group toys children will greet with delightful screams. Non-perishable food items are packed in boxes with thought and care, Each family will appreciate them for the meals they prepare.

The delivery schedule is posted, the warehouse is buzzing with chatter, Everyone stops what they are doing to see what was the matter! Trucks and trailers have arrived--it's loading time and everyone is ready. The drive over the mountain regions would be slow and steady. Pallets and boxes are loaded quickly and they just seem to disappear As they roll into trucks and trailers not "powered" by reindeer!

Preparing for deliveries is done so homeward we go to rest for the night, Praying prayers for good weather to greet us at daylight. As the day begins it is bright and clear, we have nothing to dread, Beautiful visions of excited and happy children dance in our heads. Our drivers are alert, they are lively and quick-- If they were wearing red suits, we would think they were St. Nick.

So much work needs to be done in a short period of time, Boxes must be opened, toys sorted and placed in line. Children will be coming soon and with a little bit of help, Select the toys they want; their smiles make our hearts melt. Just seeing the joy and excitement dance in their eyes, No words need to be spoken, only hugs and happy sighs.

Appreciation and thanks from the children are expressed To those who came and brought them the very best. Happiness and contentment set their faces aglow, Love and joy are our gifts as homeward we go. Christmas in Appalachia--what a beautiful sight-- A blessed Christmas to all and to all a good night!

--by Mary Sue Miller

BIBLES FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

The Mission of Hope is blessed to serve so many people in so many different and special ways. We feel the most special way we can serve is by giving Bibles and Tracts to all of those children and families that allow us to share these publications with them. It is our way of letting them know that God is their Greatest Source Of Hope.

We are preparing to purchase about 11,000 Bibles and 11,000 Tracts to share at our upcoming 2016 Mission Of Hope Christmas Delivery Program. If you would like to have a part in helping to purchase these supplies, we would be immensely grateful for your generous support. You may Donate online at: www.missionofhope.org. or by mailing a check to: Mission Of Hope, P.O. Box 51824 Knoxville, TN 37950 or by calling the MOH Office at: 865-584-7571.



With God's love and with your kind-hearted support, we can help bring The HOPE to our less fortunate neighbors in Appalachia.

BACK TO SCHOOL PROGRAM BIG SUCCESS!

We had an extremely blessed Back To School Program this year. We went to 28 rural Elementary Schools and assisted almost 12,000 Students with BRAND NEW backpacks, schools supplies, and hygiene bags. Each delivery team had a safe and blessed program and trip. We did our Stay In School Pledge Program at each of the 28 schools we serve. I think almost every student at every school we go to signed the Pledge. It's really just another attempt MOH uses to try and encourage the students we are so privileged to assist. They must know the importance of staying in school and GRADUATING from High School. Perhaps this will renew their determination and desire to do just that. It really can be a "Life Changer."

A volunteer on one of our Back To School Delivery Teams came back and told me this story: "I assisted a young man today that couldn't believe all of "The Neat Stuff" we brought to give them and that every bit of it was FREE! He wanted to go home and get a small item to bring back and give to me as a Thank You. But I thanked him for the gesture and told him that wasn't necessary. It's the first time that has happened to me, and it really blessed my heart to know how much the students really do appreciate all we do for them and their Schools."

CHICK-FIL-A AND MOH GOLF CLASSIC

We will never be able to say Thank You enough to all of those who recently deemed our humble Appalachian Ministry worthy of the incredible gesture of support for our annual Chick-fil-A Golf Classic. What a true Blessing this has been for MOH for the past 13 years. This Event helped us raise the Financial Harvest we needed to help with the purchase the backpacks, grade-level school supplies and hygiene Items that MOH Teams delivered to almost 12,000 Students at the 28 rural Elementary Schools we assist. How thankful we were to be able to complete all of our scheduled Delivery Programs for the 2016 school year. Please take a moment to say a prayer of thanks to all of our dear MOH friends. We are truly honored to have your friendship and support.



SCHOLARSHIP UPDATE

Austin Dixon is from Bell County, KY and a MOH Scholarship recipient. He is now a student at the University of Kentucky. Austin shares with us how strongly he feels about The Mission of Hope and its Scholarship Program.

"Growing up in a small town was really a struggle in some aspects. There are times when you don't know what to do or what's out there. Mission of Hope is a light in my life. They have been the one thing I know I can count on. They've given me the encouragement I needed. They've given me role models. Without them I wouldn't be here, and I know that for a fact. So get out there and do good things and good things will come to you."

Presently, Mission of Hope has 43 scholars attending school this fall. We proudly congratulate two scholars who will be graduating in December:

Jessica Napier
Midway College
Bachelors in Business Administration

Delilah Sizemore
King University
Bachelors of Science in Nursing

NEEDS AT THE HOPE

We are continuing to receive more and more urgent and desperate requests here at The Hope.

Food – canned goods, soups, canned meats and stews, peanut butter, pasta, crackers

Hygiene – bar soap, shampoo, toothbrushes and toothpaste

Furniture – good used beds, dining suites, sofas & chairs, stoves & refrigerators

Bibles, Tracts, Christian Books and Bibles on CD

If you can help the MOH with any of these items, we will be grateful. Perhaps your church and/or business would like to help. Please call the MOH office for more details.

Mission of Hope is a fully licensed 501c3 nonprofit charity and your donations are tax deductible as allowable by law. We have all the proper licenses for local, state and federal requirements. If you would like additional information, or have questions regarding our ministry, please contact the MOH office.

Thanks to Editor Mary Sue Miller, MOH Staff members Shirley Plant, Diane Webster and Lesa Medley, Coleman's Printing and Awards, and Direct Mail Services for their help in compiling, preparing, printing and mailing our Newsletters.

Thanks also go to Brian and Tammy McKinley for doing a great job maintaining our Website at www.missionofhope.org. Please visit our updated Website to keep informed of MOH activities.