

MISSION OF HOPE NEWSLETTER

STORIES OF THE HOPE



UPCOMING Events

- ✓ **29th Annual Back to School Program**
July - August 2026
- ✓ **Outreach Event - Morgan/Scott County**
July 25, 2026
- ✓ **Mission Pack the Bus at Turkey Creek**
July 31 - August 2
- ✓ **23rd Annual Golf Classic**
September 17, 2026
- ✓ **Outreach Event - Campbell County**
October 10, 2026
- ✓ **Keyboards at Christmas**
December 5 & 6, 2026
- ✓ **31st Annual Christmas Program**
December 2026

Dear Mission of Hope Friends,

As a new school year begins, thousands of children across Tennessee, Kentucky, and Virginia are stepping into classrooms filled with excitement, anticipation, and hope for the future. Yet for many families in the rural Appalachian communities we serve, this season also brings financial strain as they work to provide food, clothing, school supplies, and other necessities. Through your generosity, Mission of Hope is able to stand alongside these families, helping meet immediate needs while creating opportunities for children to thrive throughout the school year and beyond.

Every day, we see how meeting a practical need can open the door to lasting change. Whether it's providing backpacks filled with school supplies, delivering food to families in need, or supplying clothing and hygiene items, your support reminds people that they are seen, valued, and loved.

For many students, the support they receive today becomes the foundation for future success. A child who begins the school year prepared and confident is better equipped to learn and pursue opportunities that once seemed out of reach. Through programs like the Mission of Hope Scholarship Program, we continue investing in students as they take the next step toward college, technical training, and meaningful careers.

The impact of your generosity extends far beyond a single school year. It strengthens families, builds resilient communities, and creates opportunities that can change the trajectory of a child's life.

Thank you for partnering with Mission of Hope. Because of your support, children are entering classrooms prepared to learn, families are finding help in times of need, and hope is reaching communities across Tennessee, Kentucky, and Virginia.

With gratitude,
David Heatherly
Executive Director, Mission of Hope

Celebrating Diane

After nearly 19 years of dedicated service, Mission of Hope is celebrating the retirement of Diane Webster. Diane has been much more than a staff member—she has been a trusted friend, encourager, problem solver, and source of support for countless people throughout the ministry.

If you spent much time around Mission of Hope, you quickly learned that Diane was often the person people turned to when they needed help. Whether answering a question, coordinating a project, supporting a volunteer, or simply offering a listening ear, she had a way of making people feel valued and cared for. She was someone who could always be counted on, and her steady presence helped make Mission of Hope a better place for everyone around her.



Diane's love for people has always been evident in the way she served. She cared deeply for our staff, volunteers, donors, and the families we serve throughout Appalachia. Combined with her strong faith and love for her family, that servant's heart shaped the way she approached every day and every task.

While Diane's retirement marks the end of an incredible chapter at Mission of Hope, her impact will continue to be felt for years to come. We are deeply grateful for the countless ways she has served and the lives she has touched. We wish her nothing but joy, rest, and wonderful memories with her family as she begins this new season of life.



“Diane’s husband Jerry became one of my closest friends and was an integral part of the various aspects of our Mission of Hope family and all the different forms of ministry we were privileged to do together. His construction skills, passion for evangelism, and compassionate heart were a true blessing to those who knew him. His untimely passing a few years ago has made me realize even more how much I value his friendship.

I will always be grateful for the relationship Diane and I developed as we worked together serving those in need throughout rural Appalachia. She was an incredible, dedicated employee and deeply committed to the mission of our blessed ministry.”

— Emmette Thompson, Director Emeritus





SERVING TOGETHER

THROUGH EVENTS THAT MAKE AN IMPACT

SPORTING CLAYS TOURNAMENT

A Day of Purpose and Fellowship

Mission of Hope was blessed to host the 3rd Annual Sporting Clays Tournament on May 15, 2026, bringing together supporters, sponsors, and volunteers for a day filled with fellowship, friendly competition, and purpose.

Participants from across the community gathered in support of the Mission of Hope's various programs, such as Back to School, College Scholarships and Christmas. We are especially grateful to our generous sponsors—Whitetail Properties, Home Federal Bank, Rural 1st, and Mountain Shadow Farm—along with all the partners who made this event possible.

Your support makes a lasting difference in the lives of students we serve. Be sure to mark your calendars for next year's 4th Annual Sporting Clays Tournament on May 14, 2027.



BACK TO SCHOOL PROGRAM

Preparing Students for Success

Mission of Hope is preparing for our 29th Annual Back to School Program as we help students across Appalachia get ready for a new school year.

Through this program, children and families receive backpacks, school supplies, clothing, and encouragement as they begin the year with confidence and support.

To help make this possible, we will once again be at OfficeMax in Turkey Creek during Tennessee's Tax Free Weekend for our "Mission Pack the Bus" school supply collection event, taking place July 24–26.

We are grateful for the churches, businesses, and volunteers who continue to partner with us each year to ensure students have what they need to succeed.

MISSION OF HOPE GOLF CLASSIC

Presented by Chick-fil-A Knoxville

Registration is now open.

This event brings together community leaders, businesses, and supporters for a day of fellowship and friendly competition, all in support of the full mission of Mission of Hope. Proceeds help strengthen every area of our work, including scholarships, Back to School, Christmas programs, and ongoing support for families throughout Appalachia.

We are deeply grateful to Chick-fil-A Knoxville for serving as our presenting sponsor, along with all of our sponsors and partners who continue to make this event a success year after year.

Scan the QR code to register your team today and join us in making a lasting impact.



THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING MISSION OF HOPE



Meet Our New MOH Scholars



Each year, Mission of Hope is blessed to walk alongside students who are working hard to build a brighter future. This year's new class of Mission of Hope Scholars represents determination, perseverance, and hope for the next generation of Appalachia. As these students prepare for careers in education, healthcare, skilled trades, and more, we are reminded that their opportunities are made possible through the generosity and faithfulness of supporters who continue investing in lives and futures through scholarships, encouragement, and legacy giving.

WAYS TO GIVE:

- Online at missionofhope.org/donate
- Mail to PO Box 51824, Knoxville, TN 37950
(Donation Envelope Enclosed)
- Phone us at 865-584-7571

The Mission of Hope is a fully licensed tax-exempt, non-profit charity under Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Scan to Donate



Serving Rural Appalachia

PLANNED GIVING

HELP BRIGHTEN THE FUTURE FOR
APPALACHIAN COMMUNITIES



We Welcome:

- Qualified Charitable Distributions from an IRA. This donation can help you meet your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD).
- Stock or Mutual Funds
- Estate Gifts

By making planned gifts, you are helping to:

- Meet human basic needs
- Invest in educational opportunities
- Invest in economic opportunities
- Share the love of Christ
- Create a bright future for Rural Appalachian Communities

If you have questions or need more information, please contact us at the office.