

It Worked for Us 2006

Ardmore

Supporting Students Through School Supplies: Distributing school supplies for people served by Johnston County Department of Human Services. UMW started providing school supplies to all area Johnston County Schools in Jan. 2004 as our Hands-on Project. Tishomingo-First UMC

Chuck Stewart, Lay Leader

Bartlesville

Attendance Challenge Sunday and The Walk of Faith:

The goal for Challenge Sunday VI was "206 in 2006." A total of 233 people attended the service. Walk of Faith VI attracted 41 participants for the 10-mile walk. A total of \$2,458 was received in pledges and donations for the Walk.

Fairland-First UMC

Alan Loehr, Lay Leader

Clinton

Weatherford Food Bank:

The pantry serves residents in need throughout the Weatherford area. It recently moved to a rented location in downtown Weatherford, in coordination with the Weatherford Ministerial Alliance. A church member continues to operate the Food Pantry and coordinate its efforts.

Weatherford-First UMC

Enid

The Shepherd's Cupboard, because of a need, was initiated in Oct. 1999 as an outreach mission. Starting out as a food pantry for low-income senior citizens, single parents, migrant workers, and the homeless, the project has grown to include Devotional Time at the church site on Tuesdays before the food is delivered. The devotional time started with two people and has grown to 80-90 people currently attending.

Enid-Bethany UMC

George Ezell, Lay Leader

Lawton

Sole Sunday:

For over the last five years, members of the congregation have donated money to

buy new school shoes for Duncan children who otherwise might go to school in old, ragged footwear or in shoes that do not fit properly. We also donate new socks for each child.

Duncan-St. Paul's UMC

Jonathan Pipkin, Lay Leader

McAlester

Open Gym Ministry:

Every Wednesday night, we open the doors to our gym for area youth — ages 3 and up — for basketball, dodge ball, pool, video games, ping-pong, outdoor playground, and food. It's a safe place to have fun and feel loved. We introduce kids to prayer and to Jesus. Several adults are always available, and high school kids even tutor.

Henryetta-First UMC

James H. Williams, Lay Leader

Muskogee

Adair County Resource

Center/Vista Program:

First UMC and four other churches in Stilwell are working together in an ecumenical mission to provide emergency food assistance to more than 3,000 families each year. The Adair County Resource Center operates downtown in an old house next to First UMC. Twelve to 15 mission-minded adults, ages 55 and older — known as Keenagers — form the backbone of the volunteer team. Stillwell-First UMC

North OKC

Pumpkin Fest:

Our church held our first annual Pumpkin Fest on the property for our new facility. We had games, hot dogs and door prizes, but the main attraction was that each child got a free pumpkin. We had almost 800

people from the community participate.

Choctaw UMC

Afton Morton, Lay Leader

South OKC

Random Acts of Kindness:

Youth work in the community, doing things for people who are not able to do the job that needs to be done. The youth are recognized in the community for their excellent work and their willingness to participate in these activities.

Blanchard-First UMC

Stillwater

Love Bears:

The ministry has two activities: 1. The participants make stuffed bears. 2. The bears are distributed to hospitals, homes, and shelters throughout the state. In turn, the bears are given to children, youth, and women who are in the care of these facilities. This project was started in Nov. 2004, and the participants have made and distributed over 1,699 bears.

Perkins-Eden Chapel UMC

Cyril Clarke, Lay Leader

Tulsa

Mountain of Food:

An idea came about to purchase canned goods and actually build a mountain of food to be donated to Restore Hope Ministries, for Thanksgiving baskets. A local grocer allowed us to make purchases at case prices, and then we simply asked our congregation for donations. In 2005, a total of 8,888 pounds of canned goods (valued at \$4,900) were delivered to Restore Hope.

Tulsa-New Haven UMC

Danny Hall, Lay Leader

Woodward

Woodward County Toy

Giveaway: This project involves the entire community of Woodward, but the leadership comes from New Horizon. Through our fund-raising

letter and the participation of local individuals, schools, and civic groups, about \$18,000 in cash and toy donations are raised to purchase toys for Woodward County's disadvantaged children. The day of the giveaway, one parent from each family comes to pick out gifts for their children. Usually, around 500 children receive gifts through this ministry which has been in place for 25 years. Woodward-New Horizon UMC

Jeff Ralston, Lay Leader