

# Appalachia Reach Out

## November/December '19

December 2, 2019 Issue #9



### Prayer List Fall Schedule '19

1. Families in need during the Thanksgiving and Christmas seasons
2. Churches and ministries in Martin County, Kentucky
3. ARO Staff! The Mills, Zuidema's, and ARO Store Staff.

"My family wasn't sure how we were going to do Thanksgiving this year after our house burned down a few weeks ago. You all gave us hope today." – **Parent (Attending the 2019 Martin County Thanksgiving Harvest Fest on Saturday, November 23)**

### A Thanksgiving to Remember

What an amazing 2019 Thanksgiving for Appalachia Reach Out. It was a joy for ARO to partner with a number of churches, organizations, and ministries for the first Thanksgiving Harvest Fest in Martin County. This partnership included a special group from the Blanchester (Ohio) Church of the Nazarene, Martin County Schools Youth Service Center Directors, Martin County Ministerial Association, Cloud 9 Café, Sure Foundation Christian Academy, and Inez Free Will Baptist Church. Each school in Martin County selected 5 families to be part of this wonderful celebration as these families were shown the love of Christ through God's word and in very tangible ways. Close to 130 showed up for this event and with all of the partners and support there were close to 200 in attendance. Every family was served a delicious thanksgiving meal, enjoyed harvest games, and took home food/supplies/clothing and other needed items during the holiday season. What a joy to serve beside each organization/ministry and see the smiling faces of children, parents, and guardians. One of the best quotes from the event was, "my family wasn't sure how we were going to do Thanksgiving this year after our house burned down a few weeks ago. You all gave us hope today." God is moving in these mountains.

### A Special Thank You

I want to personally thank each individual, family, church, and business who has supported the ARO ministry through your financial gift this year. Our mission, Christ's Love in Action, wouldn't be possible without your desire to see the ministry of ARO continue to flourish in this part of Appalachia. Each time I walk to the PO Box at the US Post Office in Inez and receive a support check, I'm reminded of God's faithfulness through the generous giving of His people. Each dollar you send our way is a blessing and is spent to impact the Kingdom of Christ "here on earth as it is in heaven." The year 2020 is just a few weeks away. As you look at your family budget, church mission budget, and business budget, my prayers is will continue to support financially the mission and ministry of ARO. Our calling is to continue to be Christ's hands, feet, heart, and mission in all we do. This is only possible with our partnership with each of you. Thanks for having a heart to give so others might see Jesus through our ministry. – *Dwayne P. Mills*, ARO, Executive Director



**What a joy to love on 30 families in Martin County for the first Thanksgiving Harvest Fest. Thanks to all who invested in this day.**

**"For to us a Child is born, to us a Son is given, and the government will be on His shoulders. And He will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." Isaiah 9:6**



**What a great sight to see families enjoying the Thanksgiving Harvest Fest.**

#### **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](http://www.appalachiareachout.com).

Our address is:

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#### **The Greatest Gift – Prince of Peace**

In a world filled with turmoil and strife, I'm so thankful for the true meaning of Christmas. Isaiah 9:6 gives us a handful of descriptions concerning the Christ child, but one really has caught my attention as I reflect during this first week of advent, Prince of Peace. Even though all around us we see unrest, anxious people, broken situations, the hungry, the needy, the best gift we can give anyone is, the Prince of Peace. My prayer this Christmas season is to rest in knowing the Prince of Peace has come into the world to redeem, restore, and transform. He is the one I turn to each day for peace in the midst of my busyness as a minister, husband, and father. It's my prayer for anyone reading this newsletter, you will take the hand of the Prince of Peace and know with completely certainty He loves you and desires peace in your life this Advent season. I'm thankful for the Prince of Peace! – *Dwayne Mills* – ARO, Executive Director

#### **ARO Food Pantry Continues to Grow**

One of our greatest months of ministry through the ARO Food Pantry was in November. It was an honor and joy to serve 107 families, 263 people, and 36 new people. As changes have been made to the ARO store location, how clients pick up their food, and other added amenities in 2019, we have noticed it's helping us serve in a greater capacity those who are in need. Our wonderful volunteers continue to give their precious time each Wednesday from 10-2 p.m. This ministry wouldn't be possible without our faithful volunteers; Aurelia Howard & Norma Jarrell. These two ladies give faithfully each week to those who come through the doors of the ARO Food Pantry. We are blessed with the wonderful leadership of the food pantry given by Bill & Jana Zuidema. They are a true blessing! Thanks for your faithfulness to give to this ministry.

#### **ARO Needs You!**

Please know ARO values each ministry partner. Your prayer and financial support is vital to our ongoing impact each month of the year. If you have any questions or need any updates, please feel free to reach out to our Executive Director, Dwayne Mills, via email. His email address is [dwayne.p.mills@gmail.com](mailto:dwayne.p.mills@gmail.com).



***Blanchester (Ohio) Church of the Nazarene  
Work & Witness team for our  
Thanksgiving Harvest Fest***

You can contact Dwayne Mills,  
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#### **Special Note:**

**Our next ARO Newsletter will be sent out at the beginning of February 2020**