

The Hallelujah

Here's the good news!

January 2021



As of this writing, our Ministry Plan for 2021 is well on its way to being fully funded. We currently have about 37% of our Be Renewed Estimate of Giving Cards in. *Of those who turned in a Be Renewed Estimate in Giving Card, the average increase in giving was 79%!* This means that on average the people who submitted their card increased their giving over their current giving by an average of 79%! This is an amazing step of faith for many of you. We currently stand at \$623,000 committed so far through Be Renewed. We are at around 89% of our Ministry Plan goal of \$700,000. If you have not filled out your Be Renewed Estimate of Giving Card, help us reach 100% participation by turning your c in to the church office or filling out the online card found on the website at foleyumc.org/berenewed.

OUR EMERGING FUTURE: THE TABLE

Friends of Foley Cookie Event

December 17, 2020 was an exciting day at Foley UMC. Lora Horn facilitated our Friends of Foley UMC event. About a dozen people baked or gathered in the Spirit Center to package 43 plates of cookies, candy, and kumquats. As you can see from the pictures, gloves and a mask were required and we did a great job of social distancing. Then, the fun really began as we filled our gas propelled sleighs. Phone calls were made, making sure the recipients were home, plates were handed to others as we stretched out our arms, plates were left on porch benches, in unlocked cars, and even on the hood of a Jeep. Thank you, Jesus, for good friends and good memories. We continue to see the way that food is a tool for encouragement, nourishment, and mission at and through Foley UMC.



“

About a dozen people baked or gathered in the Spirit Center to package 43 plates of cookies, candy, and kumquats.

”

OUR EMERGING FUTURE: THE TABLE

Fill the Truck Food Drive for Ecumenical Ministries

Thank you to everyone who donated food during the Commitment Sunday Drive Thru. Once again, I asked for our church family to fill my truck with food to go to Ecumenical Ministries and you answered the request with over 1,300 pounds of food. We had so much that Peggy Ratcliff had to help me take some of the food in her vehicle. The folks at Ecumenical Ministries were so appreciative of our giving congregation and I am truly blessed to call FUMC my home. That food drive was such a success and I can't tell you how great it was to see the faces of so many of our church families. I haven't seen many of you since this whole Covid thing started. After all the food was delivered, I thought to myself, why couldn't we do a food drive maybe once a month in the parking lot to help Ecumenical and other local food banks throughout the year? The struggles for so many people in our community are going to continue in 2021 and I believe we are called, as the hands and feet of Jesus, to try and provide help wherever we can. So please be on the lookout for more info or one of my ridiculous videos asking for your help in fulfilling one of our missions: feeding our community. Thank you again for everyone's support and may God bless you all during this glorious season as we celebrate the birth of our Saviour. MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR.

~ AJ Joellenbeck



OUR EMERGING FUTURE: REAL LIFE NEEDS

Sally Recovery Updates

In December, Foley UMC was able to reach out into our community and help with real life needs.

- We were able to purchase a used washer and dryer for a lady who had been displaced by Hurricane Laura and Hurricane Sally.
- We helped pay an electric bill for an elderly man who was also displaced and lived in a tent for awhile after Sally hit our community.
- We had a coat drive for a family who now has a warm, safe place to live because we were able to help them purchase a camper. We also purchased some warm clothing and groceries for them. Bob and Lyle built them a porch for their camper so that they could safely enter and exit it. A beauty salon in Foley donated a toaster oven for them because they don't have a working stove.
- We are currently helping one couple find a safe apartment that they can bring their children home to.
- Because of the many contacts we've made around the county since Sally, I was also able to reach out and get help for a grandmother in Spanish Fort whose heater was broken. Clark Ratcliffe, our Bay Pines District Disaster Coordinator, was able to go out and repair it for her immediately. She took care of her four grandchildren and was heating her home with her oven.
- In the days leading up to Christmas, we delivered lots of gifts, food, and home-cooked meals given by our church members to several families in our community.

For many of us, 2020 has been a very difficult year. However, I have been blessed this year to be able to help show God's love to so many in our community. Thank you for your continued generosity!

If you would like to get updates about our Sally recovery work and volunteer opportunities, you can text SALLY to 251-333-0515. If you know people outside of Baldwin County who may wish to help us on our recovery journey, invite them to visit our website at foleyumc.org/helpbaldwin.

~Charlotte Plumb

ECUMENICAL MINISTRIES

Update from one of our ministry partners



ECUMENICAL
MINISTRIES, INC.

December 18, 2020

Foley United Methodist Church
915 N. Pine St.
Foley, AL 36535

Dear Friends,

As Christmas arrives, we would like to let you know how much we appreciate your support of our Christmas Sharing Program. In a year when our community has been devastated by a pandemic and a hurricane, it is amazing to see the generosity that surrounds us as we were able to get every one of our children sponsored this year.

In 2020, with your help, we provided Christmas presents to 527 children representing 198 families! We are so blessed to serve in a community that is not only faithful, but also cooperative. We work diligently with the other agencies on the area to make sure that all of the children we sponsor are entered into a database in order to make sure that we are not duplicating services to any families—this way, we make sure that our resources are able to stretch to help as many children as possible.

Our hope is that the Christmas Sharing program will help to share the spirit of Christmas and bring joy to not only the children, but also their parents who may be able to, if only for a moment, have their burdens eased by seeing their child's excitement on Christmas morning. We also hope that the extra weight of holiday expense will be lifted so that the family can save their limited income for living expenses.

Our best wishes for a happy New Year and a blessed and renewed 2021!

Dana Jepsen
South Baldwin Director

102 W. Spruce Ave. Foley, AL 36535 • 251-943-3445
A comprehensive social service agency partnering with
United Way of Baldwin County

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



01/01 Carl Hodge
01/01 Sawyer Peed
01/03 Judy Morse
01/03 Tate Stanley
01/04 Stuart Brantley
01/07 David Brown
01/09 Pamela Baker
01/09 Nathan Norris
01/09 Geraldine Stiffler
01/10 Allen Longshore
01/11 Haley Alexander
01/11 Anita Campbell
01/12 Mele Christopher

01/12 Becky Longshore
01/12 Larisa Rhodes
01/12 Kyle Schoen
01/13 John Fortner
01/13 Dorothy Lampshire
01/13 Barbara McAdams
01/13 Garland Smoak
01/13 Betty Somer
01/13 Donna Vildibill
01/13 Chip Dalton
01/16 Ruby Margewick
01/16 Jim Kelly
01/17 Charlotte Plumb

01/19 Nate Hill
01/19 Christian Thompson
01/24 Madelyn Christopher
01/24 Kevin Stanley
01/26 Bernie Tindall
01/27 Lynne Cabaniss
01/27 Robert Deas
01/28 Marion Bethea
01/28 Mary Burke
01/29 Mary Claire Lewellen
01/30 Charlotte Ainsworth
01/31 Caroline Cook

THANK YOU

Thank you for the 2 Friday lunches. When I came home from getting a shot in my retina, it was so nice to have a lunch of chicken and rice waiting for me. I really appreciated it. Thank you to all who prepared and delivered them. Betty Somer

Thank you for having the service in the park so more can be with you. God Bless.

Greetings! Thanks to the Foley United Methodist Church Family! We the Snook Youth Club of Foley have enjoyed the treats you all provided. The students and staff are most appreciative. Sincerely, Loretta

Thank you for all you do for me and the community. Hopefully 2021 will be a better year for all of us. Connie Bradshaw

To the Friends of Foley UMC, Wishing you a season of peace and happiness. God bless you all for thinking of me in this holy season. Emma Crossman

I would like to thank the volunteers who came to my home and helped clean my yard. Debbie and Charlotte were in this group. Please extend my thanks to all. I am proud to know my Foley United Methodist Church were volunteering. It was greatly appreciated. Margie E. Kennedy

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Condolences for Terry
Underwood's family, a private
service was held on Dec. 19, 2020.

Susanna Donald
Becky Longshore
Emery Martini

Jack Brasher
Emily and Will Schoen
Barbara Beam
James and Judy Jackson
Liz Kinsey
Amanda Grant

KIDSQUEST



In January, our kids are learning about the connection between responsibility and God's character as shown through God's Big Story. The psalmist wrote, The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, (NIRV). God is the author of creation, and God has entrusted us to care for and cultivate it. We do that by taking responsibility. From the work we need to accomplish to people we meet to the words we use; life is filled with moments where we can decide to reflect God's character, take responsibility, and use what we have wisely. When we follow through and do what needs to be done, we can point others to Jesus, the One who took the ultimate responsibility for us and made it possible for us to be with God forever.

**Kids meet under the tree at the
service at Heritage Park on
Sundays at 8:00 a.m.**



Foley United Methodist Church

Reaching Up. Reaching In. Reaching Out.

915 N. Pine Street
Foley, AL 36535
251-943-4393



To receive text notifications about weather cancellations of outdoor services, text RAIN to 251-333-0515.

foleyumc.org