



MISSION ARLINGTON[®] MISSION METROPLEX

Christmas 2020 Mission Arlington / Mission Metroplex Newsletter Vol. 20, Issue 06

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TILLIE BURGIN

"For unto us a child is born, to us a son is given." "And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." Isaiah 9: 6

What better Christmas could there be than watching children get a new toy; or having food delivered to your door when dad has just lost his job; or when you have lost everything in a tornado, and the next day furniture is being put into a new place to live. **Christmas happens every day at the Mission**, and we get to see it up close.

A dad and three children turned down 3 plates of food recently, saying that "one was enough" for them "to share," so others could also receive food. A man gave up his seat to a lady (who because of distancing was waiting outside), so that she could come in from the cold and have a place to sit down. "It's too cold for her to be outside," he said softly.

Or, when a child runs to his Mission Arlington[®] Bible Study leader to say, "Let's hear that story about Jesus!" All of this is what Christmas is about, and we experience it here every day.

Thank you for always standing in the gap for people as they recover from whatever crises they are experiencing. God bless you,

CHRISTMAS AT MISSION ARLINGTON[®]

Our free Christmas Store runs from **December 12th through December 22nd, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.** every day, excluding Sundays. The store also opens on December 23rd, from 10 a.m. until noon.

Volunteers are needed in every area of the Christmas Store, from childcare to gift wrap, to shopper-helpers, to stocking of the store. In order to maximize distancing, we have created a second Christmas Store. Additionally, all COVID-19 protocols will be in place to keep the store safe for all involved.

Toys and Christmas gifts are needed.

For children of all ages, up to age 18, new or nearly new gifts make such a difference in the life of a family in need. You can find a full listing of gifts, plus an "Amazon wishlist," on our website at www.missionarlington.org.



THE MISSION ARLINGTON[®] DIFFERENCE

Your support makes such a difference all year long, and especially at year's end. **THANK YOU.** Here are a few distinctives to remember:

1. There is "no charge" for our services;
2. We do not sell the gifts which you provide;
3. Our administrative overhead is documented at **less than 2%**;
4. We are accountable & transparent, governed by a local Board of Directors, audited annually, and in good standing with multiple charity watchdogs;
5. We operate holistically, caring for people's spiritual, physical, emotional, and educational needs.
6. We are faith-based, sharing God's love in everything we do, while treating every person with dignity and respect.
7. We are consistent. **We have not closed** even one day since March. Tillie has been here since the beginning (August 1986), and we are always grateful to God for you!

THE HOLIDAY SEASON AT MISSION ARLINGTON®

THE FALL FESTIVAL

1,243 children attended our socially-distanced, Fall Festival on October 31st. Bouncy houses, hay rides, carnival games, hotdogs, and candy were all part of the fun. We are grateful for you.



Hayride

Outdoor sports



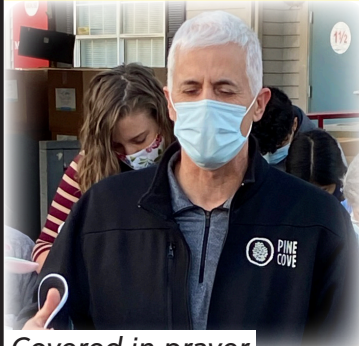
Family fun

Colorful costumes

THANKSGIVING DAY DELIVERIES

BECAUSE YOU GAVE, 6,019 families (24,559 people) received turkeys and food on Thanksgiving Day.

Thousands of volunteers delivered the food all across our community. **We are thankful** for you!



Covered in prayer



Preparing meals



Families serve together



Deliveries on the way

ONGOING DAILY MINISTRIES



100s daily come through the doors.

The numbers of people needing emergency assistance has increased significantly since March. Many have never needed help before. You are **making a difference!**



364 vibrant congregations



Health Clinics Stay Full

ONE CHILD'S "RACE TO KINDNESS"



O Orion Jean is 10 years old and in the 5th grade. After winning the *National Kindness Speech Contest* in July 2020, this young man took the initiative to create his own "Race to Kindness," partnering with Tango Tab to gather 100,000 meals for needy families. He joined our delivery efforts on Thanksgiving Day. What an extraordinary blessing!