

Simpsonwood's Largest Outreach
Annual Walk thru Bethlehem
December 11 - 13
Simpsonwood Park (across the street)



December 5 Build Bethlehem

various times Our largest community outreach effort of the year, the annual Walk thru Bethlehem needs many volunteers to make it happen. Help transform the park field into the beautiful setting for the birth of Christ story to come alive for thousands of visitors. All props will be put in place, shops erected, stable created, etc. Contact Don at dortega@simpsonwoodumc.org to volunteer.

December 5 Create Luminaries for Bethlehem

You can be a part of Bethlehem from home! Milk jugs need cutting for Bethlehem luminaries. This is a take home job and you can pick up increments of 20. A great job for groups to do together. Jugs will be here by December 6 and need to be returned by December 11th. Great way to serve for families. Contact Linda at lromarion@simpsonwoodumc.org to help.

December 11 Final Set-Up for Bethlehem

9:30am–5:00pm Several jobs related to Bethlehem being ready cannot be done until the day of. Consider spending part of your day helping with these tasks. Duties include filling the luminary jugs with sand and placing them by roads and walkways, bringing and placing props in shops, village set up and hay spreading. Contact Linda at lromarion@simpsonwoodumc.org to signup.

December 11-13 Volunteer in the Village at Walk thru Bethlehem

Evening shifts Adults and children are needed to work in volunteer shifts to make Bethlehem come alive for the thousands who visit. All costumes are provided and it is an awesome experience to share the Christmas story with others. Work in the village shops, be a shepherd or wisemen, a guard, an angel or Mary & Joseph. Watch for signup opportunities coming soon. Contact Lora King at dukewife@comcast.net to volunteer.

December 14-19 Bethlehem Take-Down

9:30am–5:00pm Several opportunities to serve with this effort, including: pack up of all the props, return of props from the field to the church campus, help with closet organization and luminary clean up. Contact Linda at lromarion@simpsonwoodumc.org to help.



Contact:
Wendy Willis, Director
Missions and Connections
(770) 441-2181
wwillis@simpsonwoodumc.org

Holiday Serving

Know Christ and Make Him Known



November

2015

December

Opportunities to Serve in MISSIONS

"Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others.."
1 Peter 4:10





November Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes

Join the **UMW** in their effort to support **Samaritan's Purse**. Grab a shoebox and fill it with items to bring Christmas joy to a young boy or girl across the world. Instructions are at church entrances. Boxes must be returned by November 29th. For more information, contact Carol Gilliland at cmac.gilliland@hotmail.com.

November Adopt-A-Family and Adopt-a-Child

Our month-long outreach to provide our local neighbors in need with Christmas gifts. Christmas trees in Buildings A and C have the "adoption" ornaments with detailed instructions on the back. All gifts must be returned by December 6th. Benefitting **Hope Ministry** and **Norcross Cooperative Ministry**. Contact Bryan Coats at bcoats@simpsonwoodumc.org for more information.

November Donate Gloves & Mittens

Join the **Pre-School** and **Youth Ministry** in their effort to support the **Norcross Co-Op** through the "**Warm Hands-Warm Hearts**" effort. Bring NEW pairs of gloves for children of all ages and drop off at the collection bins at all church entrances. For more information, contact Jim Sampson at sampsonjames@bellsouth.net.

November 4 Bring Toys to Annual UMM Chili-Fest

5:00 - 8:00 pm Our annual Chili-Fest always brings large crowds. Don't miss the fun event and take the opportunity to help others this holiday season. Join the **United Methodist Men** in supporting the **Norcross Co-Op's "Toy Drive"** and "**Feed the Family**" efforts. New, unwrapped toys can be brought to Building C, as well as monetary donations for the Feed the Family meal gift-card effort.

November 5 SafeHouse Outreach

5:00 - 9:00 pm SUMC takes a meal the **1st Thursday of each month** to this urban, homeless outreach. Drivers, servers and meal preparers are needed. You can serve the day of in the kitchen here at the church or travel downtown in the evening to volunteer in multiple ways. Contact: Scott Adams, at scottdams@3csoftware.com for detailed information and to sign up.

November 10 UMW MAKE IT, BAKE IT, TAKE IT

6:30 pm Simpsonwood UMC Gym (Building C)

Bring your sweet tooth and your wallets! Our United Methodist Women will be selling baked goods and hand-made craft items. Proceeds support their work in missions. Come for fun, fellowship and delicious food!

November 12 Rainbow Village

5:30 - 7:30 pm Join the **Choir** as they provide and serve dinner to approximately 50 mothers and children involved in the **Rainbow Village** after school program at Pleasant Hill Presbyterian Church in Duluth. Contact Richard at rhamrick@simpsonwoodumc.org to serve.

November 18 Bring Canned Goods to the Thanksgiving Feast

5:00 - 8:00 pm As we reflect on our bountiful blessings and enjoy a delicious feast, let us remember our neighbors in need, right here in our own community. Bring non-perishable food items to the lobby of Building C, to donate to the **Norcross Cooperative Ministry**.

November & December Bell-Ringing for the Salvation Army

Saturdays 10:00am-8:00pm BELK AT THE FORUM

We have a wonderful opportunity to share Simpsonwood church and Christmas cheer with our neighbors in Peachtree Corners. Throughout November and December, volunteers are needed to work in 2-hour shifts to ring the bell at the kettle in front of Belk at the Forum. This is a great chance to **invite someone to serve with you** and support the work of the **Salvation Army**. All proceeds go to the "**Home Sweet Home**" housing program. Gather your family, neighbors, Sunday School class, scout troop, sports team, etc. and spend some quality time enjoying fellowship with your community. All ages are welcome. Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult. Sign up to serve at www.simpsonwoodumc.org/missions and click on the Salvation Army signup link. Contact Mark Willis at mawillis@me.com for additional information.



November 20 Clothes Sorting at the Norcross Co-Op

9:30 am Join our older adult **L.I.F.E. Group** for their monthly serve at the **Norcross Co-op**. Travel in the church van and assist with sorting clothes for the clothes closet. Contact Richard at rhamrick@gmail.com.

December 3 SafeHouse Outreach

5:00-9:00 pm SUMC takes a meal the **1st Thursday of each month** to this urban, homeless outreach. Drivers, servers and meal preparers are needed. You can serve the day of in the kitchen here at the church or travel downtown in the evening to volunteer in multiple ways. Contact: Scott Adams, at scottdams@3csoftware.com for detailed information and to sign up.

December 5, 6, 7, 10, 16 Norcross Co-Op Gift Pack: Load and Distribution

Volunteers are needed to help in many different aspects of the Christmas effort with the Norcross Co-Op. Everything from loading and unloading trucks, inventorying gifts, directing traffic, to Spanish translation for client recipients. Volunteer slots fill up quickly. If you would like to help with this effort, contact Wendy Willis at wwillis@simpsonwoodumc.org for specific times and locations.

December 10 Rainbow Village

5:30-7:30 pm Join the **UMW** as they provide and serve dinner to approximately 50 mothers and children involved in the **Rainbow Village** after school program at Pleasant Hill Presbyterian Church in Duluth. Contact Melissa at melisaclary5@gmail.com to serve.

December 11 Serve as a Bethlehem Host for Re-Christ Ministry

7:00 pm On the Friday night of WTB, we take all the children from **Re-Christ Ministries** and their families to the event. Last year we had about 150 from the two complexes served, plus other youth to whom RE-CHRIST ministers. We like to have a 3:1 ratio of children to adults who walk them thru the village and explain what each booth represents. Adult helpers are needed to keep track of the kids, make sure they understand the village, help them get hot chocolate and a cookie and get them back on the van. Contact Charles at battle2030@comcast.net to help.