

*Changing the World, one life at a time  
with Mercy, Love & Grace  
Through Christ Jesus, Our Lord*

2016 has been a great year, thanks to each of you. We were able to Bless 7,600 children throughout the Appalachian Mountain Region, Central Kentucky and the East Tennessee Area. We provided over 108 tons of food, 42 tons of paper products, personal hygiene, feminine hygiene and diapers. We provided 3,292 shoes and 5,560 personal care kits thanks to your donations.

**God is our Jehovah Jireh, my Provider**

**Together, we are making a  
Difference in the kingdom of God!**

## From the Heart,

These days it is unusual to see a Nativity scene up in a business, especially a doctor's office that serves so many people. So, I am glad that as I entered my doctor for a visit, I saw a Nativity Scene sitting on a table, right next to the troubling scales. Upon a gaze, I didn't notice anything, but upon my exiting I noticed, something missing, Baby Jesus. I kinda laughed to myself, because our house had the same problem when the boys were small. Trace, would take Baby Jesus and put Him on his shelf, while Brennen would take Him and put Him under his pillow. I stated to the nurse, "I see someone has stolen your Baby Jesus," Oh, No, she exclaimed, He hasn't been born yet." I was confused for a second. She then stated, "He won't be born until Christmas Eve, we have Him stored away." I had never heard of a Nativity without Jesus. So, I pondered on it all the way home. Why, have a Nativity without Jesus? Jesus was and is the whole Reason! The next day, I was still thinking about it. How many times during the Christmas Season, does YOUR Jesus get put on the shelf, under your pillow or just stored away due to all the busyness the season brings.

**I hope you put Him in your Christmas Season, because He is the main Reason!**

*For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.*

*Luke 2:11*

## Thanksgiving & Christmas Distribution

It is exciting to report about our Thanksgiving and Christmas distributions in the Appalachia Region and Central Kentucky was outstanding. Our totals were down, due to the extreme weather.

Through the generosity of all you, our donors 1,782 outfits were received and hand delivered to the children. The following is a breakdown on the distribution details.

**723 boy's complete outfits**  
**1,059 girl's complete outfits**  
**37 infant and toddler outfits**  
**2,057 care kits**  
**1,582 pair of shoes**  
**2,233 Christmas Blessing Bags**  
**30 tons of food**  
**2 tons of food Blessing in a Backpack**  
**12 tons of paper products & diapers**

**Thank you all for making a Big  
DIFFERENCE!**

## Stories from our Trip

At our first stop, prior to us being in the new area. We were told by the school official they didn't want any religious tracts or Bibles in their packs for the children. I explained to them there would be NO PACKS handed out then, because God comes first. They informed me that we couldn't bless all of the children then. Upon arriving, the Principal came out saw our blessing packs and decided it was more important to Bless all the children than to worry about the complaints about the Bibles and tracts.

## Gatlinburg Relief

Gatlinburg has always been our home away from home. I want to thank everyone for your outpouring for these families that lost everything in these devastating fires that spread throughout the Smoky Mountains.

Several of our friends lost everything, including their jobs, due to the fire. We were setup in the heart of Gatlinburg. The

devastation is beyond what words can describe. We served over **678** with 95% of the families being Latino. We were donated Spanish bibles prior to leaving and many of them wept upon receiving them, because theirs had burnt up in the fire. There was a division in our language, but God's Love has no boundary.

This trip was an emotional roller coaster, because we had made so many memories camping, hiking and rafting there as a family and to see the devastation and hear the terrifying stories that the families went through.

## Gatlinburg Story

Before we left for Gatlinburg, our neighbor and dear friend brought us a bicycle to take with us. This one man came up and his eyes were dead set on the bicycle. He only spoke Spanish, but he grabbed the bicycle and looked at us with tears in his eyes. He touched his chest and then explained to our translator that he had one son and he lost his bicycle in the fire.

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# PUTTING PRAYERS TO ACTION

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## Easter Deadline is March 6, 2017

Be sure to mark the size on each garment you make. Please enclose a list of all your items inside of your package along with your address.

**Items for Boys** - Jeans may be purchased for the boys. Outfits consisting of pants, shirt, briefs, t-shirts and socks for boys are needed. Sizes Newborn - 18 are the requested sizes.

**Items for Girls** - Outfits for girls include a dress, or jumper, pants, or jeans and blouse, plus a slip and a little crocheted purse. Tights or socks, undies, hair bow, bracelet and barrettes can be purchased to complete the outfits. Sizes Newborn - 18 are the requested sizes.

**Items for Infants and Toddlers** - For infants and toddlers, we can use baby and toddler clothing, baby blankets, quilts, shoes and socks.

## Easter Blessing Bags Deadline March 6, 2017

We will be fixing approximately 1,700 Easter Bags for Easter 2017

**Mark appropriate age on bag.** These are like Christmas Blessing Bags.

**TOYS:** Cars, coloring books, balls, bible cards, dolls, stuffed animals, harmonicas, yo-yos, jump ropes, figures, makeup, nail polish, etc.

**HYGIENE ITEMS:** toothbrush, toothpaste, shampoo, bar soap, comb, brush, washcloth

**EXTRA ITEMS:** Candy, lollipops.

## MINISTRY NEEDS

**Boy Clothing** – All sizes are needed

We continually run very short on outfits for our boys, especially 10-18

**Girls' Clothing** – We ran out of our larger sizes again.

**The Coat Fund** – The cost of coats is \$25.00. Coats are purchased by the ministry with donated funds. Please indicate that your donation is for the Coat Fund.

**The Shoe Fund** - The Shoe Fund is ongoing as we like to provide a new pair of shoes with each outfit. Cost of shoes is **\$18 per pair**. If this is where you wish your monetary donation to be applied, please note on your check.

**Personal Care Kits** – shampoo, soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, lotion or lip balm, comb, tissues and washcloth.

## SHIPMENTS & CORRESPONDENCE

Putting Prayers to Action  
1336 Solway Meeting Rd  
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**Please check our Facebook page,  
Shutterfly account or website for  
pictures taken during our  
Thanksgiving, Christmas  
Distribution and our  
Gatlinburg Relief.**

We would like to thank you for making 2016 one of our best years in serving our children and families. It is only through your donations that we can reach the families in need.

Your contributions have helped make Putting Prayers to Action more sufficient in providing to our children

and their families. We are so grateful to you for supporting our committed to the underprivileged children and their families in the Appalachian Region and Central Kentucky.

Thanks to you, God has allowed us to touch and change the lives of thousands – whether they faced an urgent need, devastating hunger or sought to improve their spiritual life by asking Jesus into their heart.

Putting Prayers to Action is your Hands and Feet in this hurting world. We exist to serve God and to Change the world one life at a time with Mercy, Love and Grace through Christ Jesus, our Lord.

In this uncertain economic time, the ministry counts on your support – now more than ever. Your gift is extremely important to us because it provides resources that make an immediate impact – that will help us through these heart wrenching – and tough – times.

**Please consider making as generous a gift as you can.**

As the ministry grows, so does our needs, so we don't have to turn a child away. We are committed to serving our children and families – for God, for you, for your loved ones, for every person that donates to make it possible. Please help to make this possible with your contribution.

*Together, we are making a  
Difference!*

*Tina & Bryan Decker*

*The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor;  
he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted. Luke 4:18a*