



The J.A.M. Jar Newsletter

Jackson Area Ministries

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Thanksgiving

As we come to this time of the year, we have so much to be thankful for. I know that we all face different circumstances in our lives but God is always there to help us if we will just call out to him. Maybe some of you have had illnesses this year, faced the a loss of loved one, or faced flooding, but God was there with you through it all.

Take a moment this Thanksgiving season to just write down your blessings that God has given you. Just like the song says, "Count Your Blessings Name Them One by One". I'm sure if you will do that you can look back and see just how good God has been to you over this past year.

I will praise the name of God with a song. And will magnify him with thanksgiving. Psalm 69:30

Offer unto God thanksgiving; and pay thy vows unto the most High: And call upon me in the day of trouble: I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify me. Psalm 50: 14-15

Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, And into his courts with praise: Be thankful unto him, and bless his name. For the LORD is good; his mercy is everlasting; And his truth endureth to all generations. Psalm 100: 4-5



Election of Officers and Trustees

The Board of Directors of Jackson Area Ministries held an election of Officers and Trustees at the October 21, 2024 Board Meeting. Officers and Trustees are as follows:



President: Terry Cavanaugh
Vice-President: Sharon Stabler
Secretary: Cheryl Norton
Treasurer: David Dilley
Trustee: Gary Stabler
Trustee: Perry Prosch
Trustee: Tim Jones



REFLECTIONS FROM NORTH CAROLINA'S "HELENE"

On a Thursday evening, Jeff and I went to bed knowing that in the dark, Hurricane Helene would come the way of western North Carolina. It was to bring strong winds and heavy rains. To be honest, I slept through the night and the hurricane without disruption. This is not to indicate that it was not as advertised. Our region has been devastated and it will take months/years to restore the attraction and commerce of the area.

For four or five days, we like most others, were without electric, water, communications, and limited to food we had on hand. Today as I write this (Tuesday, October 8th), we still have no water, no internet, and a very small supply of food. I visited a large grocery

and there is no meat. Many in the region are surviving on peanut butter and jelly. For most of the time, Asheville has been cut off with no interstate open in any direction. The scenic Blue Ridge Parkway is closed and will be for about a year.

Currently, I have come to several observations that hopefully have personal/community insight. These forces are probably true, be it in North Carolina or elsewhere.

A disaster is the surest way to equality. On Monday, I joined hundreds of persons standing in line at a grocery hoping to come by some food. There around me in the same boat, was a lady who had lost everything (house, car, clothing, TV, etc.). Also, in line were two elderly ladies that had lost only their homes, and another woman whose family lived up in a mountain condo. There was nothing in common, race or economic status, yet there we were in one line with one goal. Get some food! No one knew of the other.

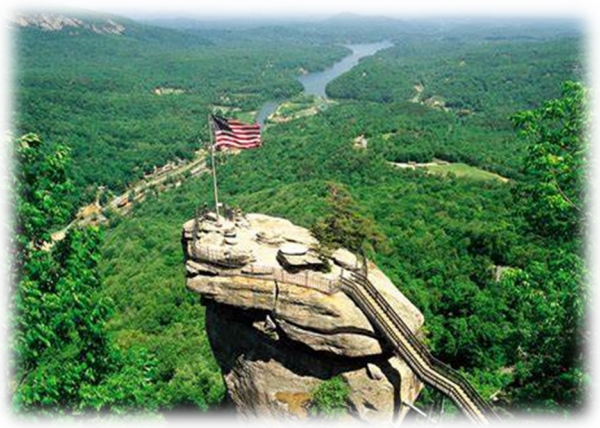
Some local governments simply live in "Another World." Not knowing how to communicate, but in an electronic world. For all this time, City Hall sends its word out via U-Tube. Without electricity and internet, this information is wasted. Even a family member of mine keeps telling me to go to the website. Yet, a local AM radio station went on the air 24-7 with people requested to call in. Many of the calls are asking, "Has anyone heard or knows about So & So"? Mostly family members. I remember after 9/11, the families holding up pictures, asking, "Has anyone seen my _____"?

The Federal/State governments have made their response political. On the news media, they almost brag about the number of relief workers and supplies. In this disaster, it has been the locals that are the first responders, using their trucks, and whatever else they can find to traverse water, mud, and trees to help neighbors and other trapped families and their pets.

It has been the local churches that are the backbone of recovery. Large and small band together to provide shelter, food, and whatever. Many of them probably won't be around much longer, but they have come to the rescue. They, at this moment, being the Church Jesus hopes we would be. God Bless Them All!

Regards,

Bob and Jeff Davis



Chimney Rock before Hurricane Helene in September

Update on Bob Davis as November 5, 2024

Things are improving in Asheville, NC. Their utilities have been restored and some of the roads have reopened..

The week of November 4th Bob was able to return to his volunteer position at A-B Tech Community College.

2024 Garden Program



The Jackson Area Ministries Garden Program was a success this year. Seeds and monetary donations were received from fourteen different states, and we were able to serve twenty-three agencies and individuals with garden seeds and tomato plants. We would like to thank Sharonville United Methodist Church for their very generous donation to JAM from the proceeds of a pie auction. All garden vegetable seeds are donated and JAM purchases the flats of tomato plants.

2024 Work Camps

Jackson Area Ministries hosted seven work camps with a total of 188 people this summer. Twenty-eight projects were completed in Jackson, Ross, Scioto, and Pike Counties. This year “temporary” ramps were constructed where possible. If a client must move, the ramp can be relocated with them. If a client recovers or no longer needs the ramp, it can be removed and given to another person in need. Work camp fees will remain the same for the coming year. Registration fee is **\$700.00**, and the material fee is **\$125.00** per person.

Perhaps you have an adult or youth group in your church that would like to participate in a summer work camp with Jackson Area Ministries in 2025. We would like for you to be a part of this wonderful life changing ministry.



Jackson Area Ministries would like to thank Mid-American Conversion for their generous donation to us.



Peter Coutts, MCS Program Director. and Deidra Libby, Office Administrator, Jackson Area Ministries

Water Leak at the JAM Office

On August 20, 2024, we had a major water leak. This turned out to be a great expense for JAM. Our water meter is across the street from the office so for it to be repaired we would need a contractor to dig across the road. After getting two estimates with different contractors, we were able to get the water leak repaired. For a total cost of \$6,845.00 Sexton's Excavating did the work and did a wonderful job and, two days after they started the job, we had water once again.

Since we are a non-profit organization, this was a very large extra expense for us. If you or your church would like to make a donation to Jackson Area Ministries for the water line repair, it would be very much appreciated. Send your donation to Jackson Area Ministries, PO Box 603, Jackson, Ohio 45640. Please note in the memo "Water Line Repair".



Thank you to the churches and individuals who give to Jackson Area Ministries through The Advance. We appreciate what you are doing and hope that you will continue to give.

JAM Advance Number 194431

Christmas Dinner Baskets



Jackson Area Ministries is pleased to be able to share that we will be able to continue providing Christmas Dinners for families in need. We would like to thank New Albany UMC for providing the dinners for several years in the past. They were not able to continue doing this for us this year. We are happy to share that we have received some donations and that we will be able to provide these Christmas Dinners for families. JAM would just like to say a big thank you. The Lord does provide. May we be a blessing to those families.



Dear Supporters and Friends of J.A.M.

I wish to take just a few moments of your time to introduce myself. My name is Terry Cavanaugh, and I have been elected to serve as president of this time-honored organization. I consider it a privilege to be invited to serve. Some of you, who have been with JAM for a while, might remember I was president about a decade ago. Time sure does fly.

Back to the introduction. I have served in ministry since 1982, yes, I am that old. I was a United Methodist pastor from 1988 until 2021 when I moved to Wesley Cove Church here in Jackson, Ohio.

My hope is to keep JAM growing as together we meet the needs of the people of Southeast Ohio.

My plan, during my tenure, is to grow our capacity through grants from corporations and foundations.

I am excited about our future together.

Someone asked me recently what was my favorite passage of scripture. There are so many, of course John 3:16 came to mind, also called the Gospel in a nutshell. And who can forget Romans 12:1-2. But my all-time favorite is Philippians 4:8.

Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, dwell on these things.

[*New American Standard Bible: 1995 update.*](#) La Habra, CA : The Lockman Foundation, 1995

I love that because it keeps us focused on the pure, and excellence. May we always dwell on these things.

Pastor Terry Cavanaugh
President, JAM