



# Outside Our Walls

Covenant United Methodist Mission & Outreach Newsletter

September, 2021

### Upcoming Events:

- Sept 18: Red Cross Blood Drive** at Covenant
- Oct.: Christmas Angel Project** - collection of hats & gloves for Lincoln & the Rescue Mission
- Oct. 23: Project 216 Food Packing Event**
- Nov.: Christmas Angel Projects** - collection for Byron Residents and Soup Can Drive
- Dec.: Christmas Angel Projects** - gift collection for CASA children & Christmas Eve Offering



**You don't need a special reason to give blood - you just need your own reason!**

- Some donate because asked by a friend.
- Some know a family member or friend might need blood some day.
- Some believe it is the right thing to do.
- Some for the free cookies & juice.

Whatever your reason, you can make a much needed donation at Covenant on **Saturday, Sept. 18 from 12-2:00**

**Ready to Help Save a Life?** [Click here](#) or contact Gina Loomis at 489-1888.

**Learn more at** [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org)



**Thank you, Covenant, for your generosity in supporting the "Christmas in July" Collections!**

- 522 items of deodorant, sanitizing wipes and other personal care items were donated for the Rescue Mission with a guesstimated value of at least \$1,600!
- \$6,514.25 was given to purchase supplies for a Project 216 food packing event on October 23 and has been added to the \$4,925 collected for Project 216 in 2020 (2020 packing event cancelled due to Covid). A total of \$11,439.25 for Project 216 is now available to purchase food for hungry people.

**You have touched so many lives. You may never know what a difference you've made but be assured you have made a difference!**



### A change in the collection of "Box Top\$ for Education" labels Covenant will no longer be accepting paper "Box Top\$ for Education" labels but.....



you can still make a difference for Lincoln School every time you shop! Scan your receipt & earn cash for Lincoln or a school of your choice.



Use the Box Tops' app to scan your store receipt, and instantly add cash to your school's earnings online. From playground equipment to technology to library books, the school you choose can use this money to help teachers and students get the supplies they need.

- Convenient** - redeem anywhere, anytime within 14 days of purchase
- Easy to Use** - Automatically finds Box Tops products on your receipt
- Real Time** - your school's earnings are updated online with every scan

If you see this label on a product, use the Box Top\$'s app to scan your receipt. The app will identify Box Top\$ products on your receipt and automatically credit your school's earnings online. Twice a year, your school will receive a check and can use that cash to buy whatever it needs!



Please consider using this app as an easy and quick way to help earn money for Lincoln School.



### UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) Neighbors Helping Neighbors - Across the Street and Around the World

Given the unprecedented catastrophes occurring nationally and globally, UMCOR's disaster response efforts are more important now than ever!

Throughout the hurricanes, floods, drought, wildfires, pandemic, and civil conflict of 2020 and 2021, UMCOR has been there to help survivors both in the United States and around the world.

#### Disaster by Another Name:

As civil conflict impacts millions throughout the Middle East, UMCOR is responding to the needs of survivors - with your help. Hurricanes and floods may be rare in this part of the world, but the area is no stranger to civil unrest - an equally devastating kind of disaster that has been exacerbated lately by spiking COVID-19 infections.

**No matter the distance, we are neighbors ....  
be a neighbor to those in need.**

Give now or write a check to Covenant and indicate "UMCOR & the Advance #" on the memo line

- \* for Where Most Needed - Advance #999895; or
- \* for US Disaster Response - Advance #901670;
- \* for International Disaster Response Advance #982450



**100% of what you donate will be used to help those in need!**

To learn more visit [umcor.org](http://umcor.org)



**News from Alyn Biddle,  
Leader of Inasmuch Ministry**

*"I am planning to retire in April of '22. We have been looking several months for that person God has called to take the ministry to a new level. We think we have found such a person and I will be introducing that person to you soon. Pray for me as I release this ministry. October will be 35 years since I started this ministry. Churches will face many challenges in the coming months. Having a family of churches partnering together will be essential if the church is going to make a difference for Jesus. Blessings, Alyn"*

Jesus said, "Inasmuch as you have done this to one of the least of these, you have done to me." The ministry is to the "least of these", and thus the name "Inasmuch".

**The mission of Inasmuch is to help people in need, offer hope through a relationship with Jesus Christ, and promote personal responsibility.**

Covenant is one of 30 churches that make up the "Family of Churches" that help support Inasmuch Ministry financially and with volunteers.

The Mission & Outreach Team has been helping to support this ministry since 2012 with monthly donations provided by the congregation's support of the church budget. Funds have also been donated by persons writing checks to Covenant for the Inasmuch Ministry Designated Account.

**Want to financially help support this ministry?** Write a check to Covenant indicating "Inasmuch" on the memo line.

**Want to learn more about the ministry and how you can volunteer?** Contact Barb Hering at [barbhering@gmail.com](mailto:barbhering@gmail.com)



**Changing lives for good with your help!**

By supporting the Rescue Mission you help those facing a homelessness crisis move from merely surviving to thriving.

The Rescue Mission provides more than a meal and a warm bed. Their Christian ministries address the true causes of homelessness. Your investment helps them to meet immediate needs of food, clothing, shelter and basic healthcare. And for individuals who choose to make a commitment to real, lasting change, your gift provides restorative programs to help them build confidence, gain skills, heal from trauma, recover from addiction and gain access to life-saving resources.

The Rescue Mission is uniquely equipped to help those facing a homeless crisis. Their staff includes trained experts and their Community Resource Center connects individuals to other local health and human service agencies. From the moment someone walks through the doors, they are offered one-on-one guidance in a safe, structured environment and are treated with compassion, dignity and respect.

To help change lives for good become a [monthly donor](#) or write a check to Covenant, indicating "Rescue Mission" on the memo line.



**News from Michael Agwanda -  
founder and leader of  
Life for Children Ministry (LCM)**

*"Greetings in the name of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.*

*Kenyan has reported some high numbers in infection of covid-19 lately. They are specifically being spread by politicians who are holding rallies now that next year will be a general election in Kenya. Only about 2% of the population has access vaccine and the rest are still waiting for the vaccine itself that is not available.*

*As a family, we ask for your prayers and continue being healthy and in ministry. I' got covid-19 and not all is back as I' was expecting. Still have some irregular pulse rates and the doctors are still monitoring the condition.*

*As a ministry; We are experiencing some financial low time. This is due to so many people that must have been affected with covid-19 as well as my absence from the donors in person for so long due to covid-19. I' plan to travel to the US next year but in the meantime we pray that some of our partners who have not dropped will pray to give significantly to bridge the gap.*

*Because of covid-19 we have not been doing gathering for street boys feeding program. However we have been on target in building homes for widow. We have done 9 so far since the beginning of the year. We plan to do 12 this year and I' see us blowing the target.*

*We have just taken kids to school and I' need \$30,000 but was only able to get \$15000 for tuition, school shopping and transport for kids to school . Due to covid-19 the schools only closed for one week and they were back in school for another school calendar year. The ministry of education here is trying to do a catch with out school calendar due to almost a year of covid-19 wasted school time last year.*

*The ministry is in need of the following now and please pray with us;*

1. A one classroom block \$15,000
2. Furnish a Library and buy books \$10,000
3. Paying tuition for the children \$15,000
4. Pay a pastor for a whole year \$3500

*Any help in this areas will go along way.  
Be blessed.*

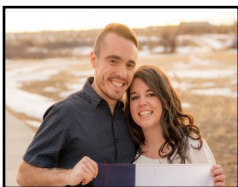
*Michael Agwanda"*

**Want to help Life for Children Ministry?**

1. **Pray** for the ministry, Michael, his family, and the orphans LCM provides for.
2. **Make a monetary donation** to the ministry which will be used by the ministry to help those in need. Write a check to Covenant and indicate LCM on the memo line.

- ◇ The Mission & Outreach Team, thru your giving to the annual church budget, supports 15 orphans (\$975/mo.) and helps to support Michael's salary (\$262/mo.)
- ◇ Additional money is sent to LCM as funds are available through your giving specifically to LCM.
- ◇ Covenant makes a difference in the lives of children, widows, and families thru your generous giving.

**Caleb and Amy Cox's Adventures in ministry with Cru (August '21)**



Back in January, we received a surprising email completely out of the blue:

*"Hello, I recently learned that Cru is not only a college ministry but is also involved at the high school level! This is my first year teaching at Vines High School, and I would love to be in contact with you about what Cru at Vines looks like and if there might be a way for teachers to get involved."*

At a time when we were praying for more open doors at Vines, this science teacher, Susan, heard about Cru's high school ministry, tracked down our email addresses online, and reached out, excited to help. She is a huge answer to our prayers! Before last year, Susan served as a missionary teacher with a ministry called Mercy Ships. Now as a teacher at Vines, she sees her classroom as a mission field, which makes her a fantastic ally and partner.

Her passion for the gospel and reaching students is so encouraging! She's taken the initiative to set up prayer times and has some great ideas for things we can do together to build relationships with students and bless them. Susan

has also been incredibly proactive with the paperwork that allows Cru to be an official student club at Vines. Before school had even started, she filed that club paperwork. Last year, no clubs were allowed due to COVID, so we're grateful that those restrictions are finally relaxing. And thanks to Susan's sponsorship, Cru is now an officially recognized club at Vines!



Students at Monday night Cru that Caleb helps disciple

This year, we'll have a weekly club meeting after school in a classroom that any student can come to, not just the separate outreaches for different sports teams like we did last year. We're praying and trusting God to bring a large, new group of students who are hungry for community that we can love on and tell about him.

Thank you for your consistent partnership! God loves the students of Vines high school, and has sent Susan, us, and I'm sure so many others to join him in reaching them. Thank you for your crucial role in allowing us to be sent to that school and for your faithfulness to join God in what he is doing there!

**PAST**

Praise God for connecting us with Susan and that we are an officially recognized club at

**PRESENT**

Pray for students to come to Cru club and experience Jesus in a compelling way that makes them want to come back and bring friends.

**FUTURE**

Pray for favor and partnerships with the faculty and administration at Vines. Pray that they would see Cru as a great thing for their school.

Caleb.Cox@cru.org  
(256) 258-9537  
Amy.Palmer@cru.org  
(260) 704-8753  
4402 Cordova Lane  
McKinney, TX 75070  
[give.cru.org/0864190](http://give.cru.org/0864190)

Covenant helps to support Caleb & Amy and their ministry by sending them \$415 a month, which comes from the Mission & Outreach Team's budget. Your donations to the church budget make this possible - thank you!

**What has Covenant done at Lincoln School this year?**

- ⇒ We've prayed for the students, teachers, staff and families
- ⇒ We helped prepare items and volunteered at registration
- ⇒ We set up a breakfast for the staff on their first official day back
- ⇒ We've prepared encouragement cards for each student
- ⇒ We've helped students as they brought in plants for the Plant Show
- ⇒ We've donated numerous items requested by the principal

Want to help in a classroom? Contact Barb Hering ([barbhering@gmail.com](mailto:barbhering@gmail.com)) for information or to be put on an email distribution list to learn of ways to help as they occur.



**Do you have a passion for serving others?**

Want to help make decisions on the direction the Mission Team is going and how our funds are used?

Join the Mission & Outreach Team!

Check us out! We meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup>

Monday

of every month at 5:30 at the church

If you have questions, contact Barb Hering or Terry Pargmann thru the church office at 489-1888.

