

Interfaith Ministries, Inc.

CALHOUN COUNTY, ALABAMA



"Bringing God's People Together To Serve God's People in Need"

NOVEMBER 2016

Community Thanksgiving Service

First Presbyterian Church
Sunday, November 20, 2016, 4:00 pm
1701 Henry Road, Anniston AL 36207

Meals On Wheels: Special Volunteers

Meals on Wheels has felt deep sorrow this summer with the passing away of two dedicated volunteers. Both Mike Sheier and Rev. Billy Harris shared their faithful and devoted service to our program. The staff, volunteers, and especially the clients they served mourn their loss.

Mike Sheier was a devoted volunteer for Meals on Wheels for many years. He regularly drove at least two routes per week, and cared deeply about his clients. As a retired attorney, he did pro bono work for some Meals on Wheels clients who could not afford legal advice. He did this without fanfare; he was a person devoted to serving others wherever he saw a need. Mike was a member of St. Michael's and All Angels church in Anniston for many years and was devoted to many activities. He frequently and consistently served church members who could no longer drive by taking them in the church van to their various appointments. Mike loved people. His

positive attitude was present every day.

Reverend Billy Harris volunteered for Meals on Wheels for almost five years. He was always accompanied by his lovely and loyal teammate and wife, Phoebe. Billy was better than the Post Office. He drove his route through sun, rain, sleet, or snow! His dedication, friendliness, and dry wit was greatly appreciated by all. Rev. Harris was a retired Baptist minister. He served at Pleasant Valley Baptist and spent the bulk of his career at Parker Memorial Baptist Church in Anniston. One of Billy's passions was to visit people who were unable to attend church services due to illness or other situations. This quality made him a perfect fit as a Meals on Wheels volunteer. Because he was friendly and a clever storyteller, his clients adored him. Every day Billy demonstrated that he was a part of a caring and dynamic church with the selfless purpose of reaching out to those in need.



Billy Harris

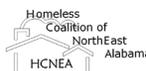


Mike Sheier

Meals on Wheels has also recently bid best wishes to the staunch and faithful team of Yvonne and Harold Humphrey. The Humphreys decided to retire from their deliveries with Meals on Wheels. Yvonne and Harold drove two routes per week for more years than can be counted! It was always a great pleasure to exchange jokes and fun conversation with them each time they picked up their meals. They are greatly missed by the MOW staff and all of the clients they served. We miss them and wish them all the best!



If you would like to know more about delivering Meals on Wheels to your neighbors, call 256-237-4538.



Opening Your Heart

At Interfaith Ministries, Christmas Clearing House is our way of sharing and giving to families in need in our community at Christmas. Our wealth in numbers of volunteers and the generous donations of faithful donors make Christmas Clearing House possible year after year. And we are so grateful!

Our volunteers meet those who come seeking help to make their children's Christmas a little brighter. Thankfully, mothers and fathers and grandparents come to us with the hope of receiving assistance. We hear heart breaking stories and experience the reasons for their tears. But often, as they leave, they say, "God Bless You." We, the volunteers, are the ones who are blessed for just being there and we pray that the people we see remember that someone took the time to listen, to talk, and to care.

Giving truly is the "Spirit of Christmas." The power of giving comes from a selfless act where you simply give from your heart because you want to share what you have with others. Our donors and volunteers do just that. They open their hearts and provide so much for so many in need.

Christmas Clearing House gives us the opportunity to share God's many blessings.



Sharing God's love and giving back enriches us all!

Merry Christmas!

Home "Making"



"Sandra" was living on the streets in Anniston. When she was finally able to find a place to rent, it took every dime she had to get moved in and her utilities on. Interfaith Ministries put out the word via Facebook that "Sandra" was in need of home furnishings. A friend of Interfaith almost immediately responded that he had a garage full of furnishings available. Another volunteered a truck and strong backs to move the furnishings. "Sandra" now has a bed, dining room table, chairs, lamps, sofa and heater. Her apartment is now a home!

When delivering her furniture, the volunteer recognized "Sandra's" neighbor as another Interfaith client who recently moved into housing on her own. This neighbor was sharing Sandra's joy at getting furnishings and mentioned, "One day I'll get me a chair for my living room." The neighbor hadn't a single stick of furniture in the room, only stacks of books on the carpet. The volunteer went back to the donor's garage and picked up a couple more easy chairs for the neighbor's home.

As of October 2016, Interfaith, with the generous support of our many donors, has assisted over 1600 people in our community through the Emergency Assistance Program. Whether it be rent assistance or negotiations to prevent homelessness; utilities funding for a disconnect; bus fare to relocate where an improved life style is projected; purchase of identifications for employment, or immediate prescription drugs, Interfaith can be there in those times of need and crisis because of the supportive volunteers and donors in our community.

Address Service Requested



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