

April 2016

# Operation Reach Out

*"...As you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to Me." (Matt 25:40)*

A Christian organization in Union County, NC, helping meet people's physical and spiritual needs.

Phone: 704-289-4237

Email: [opreachout@aol.com](mailto:opreachout@aol.com)

Website: [www.opreachout.org](http://www.opreachout.org)

## "Reaching Out" to Offer Hope

*Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the laws my servant Moses gave you: do not turn from it to the right or to the left, that you may be successful wherever you go. Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips: meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful. Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go." (Joshua 1:7-9)*

How do you define "prosperous and successful"? The world would define it by numbers and financial gains. I define it by the number of people to whom we have offered hope, encouragement, and opportunity to grow in their faith.

While we certainly have grown financially this year with the increasing success of our resale store, Finders Keepers, the awesome support gained through Taste of Union and extremely generous donations, our true growth has been in the people we have invested in.

We have offered hope through daily Bible study, counseling, and hand-in-hand prayer. We shared the Gospel message with a former gang leader, struggling to survive but wanting to change his life. He wept as he accepted the forgiveness of Christ and vowed to live a new life. We have men in the church who have been mentored by Pastor Eddie and who now serve as Deacons within the church. We saw a homeless prostitute apply herself and get a job at Pizza Hut, choosing a different life. We were able to support her, encourage her and even provide her with new shoes that she needed for work and a bicycle in order to get there. We offered hope to a friend who ended up in prison but continued to write us and came back to us as soon as he was released. We were able to pray with him, mentor him and meet his needs as he struggles to re-enter society. Another friend who has lived in his car for some time is now taking classes at SPCC to update his resume and learn more about computers.

God has called us to be strong and courageous. He has called us to meditate on His Word, day and night, to obey His Word, not departing from it, and He has promised us He will be with us wherever we go.

That is exactly what we set our goal for every day! Have we had struggles? Of course, but God says do not be afraid & do not be discouraged. We are so thankful to God for blessing Operation Reach Out this year, and we will trust Him to lead us in 2016!

We must thank all of our volunteers, donors and supporters who have "Reached Out" with us to offer hope! We could not operate this ministry without your hard work at Finders Keepers, your delicious lunches, and your continued financial support.

*"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." (Romans 15:13)*

Sharon McFadden, Director of Operation Reach Out

## Reaching Out

This past month, ORO...

- Provided food to 87 families (124 adults, 63 children, & 85 seniors)
- Gave out 10 emergency food boxes.
- Delivered to senior sites 3 days a week.
- Shared food with other ministries.
- Served 700 lunches at our daily Bible study/lunch program.
- Provided 4 families with power assistance.
- Gave fuel assistance to 9 people.
- Gave a twin size mattress to a young man whose current mattress had springs poking through.
- Gave a box spring to a couple that has volunteered with us for years.
- Received a visit from a man that was moving and donated a working double-door refrigerator because ORO had helped his elderly mother with food and a power bill a couple years ago.
- Gave clothes to several young moms that needed summer things for their children because of the sudden warm weather. They had nothing that fit them.

## Dental Mission

FREE Cleaning,  
Filling, Pulling



Friday & Saturday

May 6 & 7, 2016

8:00 a.m. until 3:30 p.m.

Weddington UMC—Monroe Campus  
520 Engleside Street in Monroe

First come, first served!

# Finders Keepers

800 Skyway Drive in Monroe, across from the Farmer's Market.  
Hours: Tues-Fri 10 am-5 pm ~ Sat 9 am-4 pm ~ Sun-Mon CLOSED

## Sharing Our Blessings

We share our blessings with other organizations/agencies!

- **CHESCO**—adult workshop (Chesterfield Co., SC)
- **Ellen Fitzgerald Senior Center** (Monroe)
- **Union County Jail**—paperback books
- **Value Clothing, Inc.**—ships to Third World Countries
- **Council on Aging** (Monroe)



**Sorry! We cannot accept TV's, used mattresses, or electronics.**

## Wish List

- ◇ Gently-used furniture\*
- ◇ Gently-used prom formal dresses (and prom accessories)
- ◇ Pots & pans (with lids preferably)
- ◇ Kids denim jeans (sizes toddler to youth 16)
- ◇ Sheets, blankets, comforters—queen & king

*\*Thank you for understanding that we cannot accept moldy, water-damaged, smoky, pet-stained, feces and/or hair-covered pieces of furniture.*

## Nourishing Body & Soul

Daily Bible Study & Lunch 12:00-1:00 PM

Call 704-289-4237 or email [opreachout@aol.com](mailto:opreachout@aol.com) if you'd like to provide a meal.

| April 2016                                   |  |  |                                 |                               |
|--|--|--|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Mon  | Tue  | Wed  | Thu                             | Fri                           |
|  |  |  |                                 | <b>1</b><br>Blacks Memorial   |
| <b>4</b><br>Union Methodist                  | <b>5</b><br>Essence of the Cross               | <b>6</b><br>Weddington UMC                     | <b>7</b><br>Margaret & Margaret | <b>8</b>                      |
| <b>11</b><br>Waxhaw UMC                      | <b>12</b><br>Mountain Springs Woman on Mission | <b>13</b><br>Weddington Moms in Prayer         | <b>14</b><br>Open Hands         | <b>15</b><br>FBC Weddington   |
| <b>18</b><br>Bethlehem UMC                   | <b>19</b><br>FBC Weddington                    | <b>20</b><br>Prospect UMC                      | <b>21</b><br>New Hope UMC       | <b>22</b><br>Lakeview Baptist |
| <b>25</b><br>Diana Neer & Stephanie Madanski | <b>26</b><br>Roanoke Baptist                   | <b>27</b><br>Mountain Springs Woman on Mission | <b>28</b><br>AVAILABLE          | <b>29</b><br>AVAILABLE        |

| ~ May 2016 ~                     |  |  |                                 |                               |
|----------------------------------|--|--|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Mon                              | Tue  | Wed  | Thu                             | Fri                           |
| <b>2</b><br>Union Methodist      | <b>3</b><br>Essence of the Cross               | <b>4</b><br>Weddington UMC                     | <b>5</b><br>Margaret & Margaret | <b>6</b><br>Blacks Memorial   |
| <b>9</b><br>Waxhaw UMC           | <b>10</b><br>Mountain Springs Woman on Mission | <b>11</b><br>Weddington Moms in Prayer         | <b>12</b><br>Open Hands         | <b>13</b><br>Lakeview Baptist |
| <b>16</b><br>Bethlehem UMC       | <b>17</b><br>FBC Weddington                    | <b>18</b><br>Prospect UMC                      | <b>19</b><br>New Hope UMC       | <b>20</b><br>FBC Weddington   |
| <b>23</b><br>AVAILABLE           | <b>24</b><br>Roanoke Baptist                   | <b>25</b><br>Mountain Springs Woman on Mission | <b>26</b><br>AVAILABLE          | <b>27</b><br>Lakeview Baptist |
| <b>30</b> Memorial Day<br>CLOSED | <b>31</b>                                      |  |                                 |                               |