

MISSION ARLINGTON[®] MISSION METROPLEX

Christmas 2009

Taking Church to the People

Volume 09, Issue 6

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We are so grateful that, as we enter our 24th year, Mission Arlington/Mission Metroplex has been consistently available to help people in

our community facing difficult situations.

A lady came to me one night recently to ask if we had candles. I told her we usually did not keep them because of the risk of fire. When asked why she needed candles, she said her electricity had been cut off. She was very thankful to have a job, but her salary had been reduced. Her electric bill was \$214.00. That day someone drove up in the back alley, handed me \$200.00 and said, "Use it where there is a need". You know the rest of the story . . . that family now has electricity.

Soon after, we received the following note:

Thank you, Mission Arlington. Thank you for caring. Thank you for your Bible Study. Thank you for not knowing me and helping me anyway.

Thank you, our dear friends, for your continued support. You are an encouragement to us and to the people receiving help because you give.

The Christmas Store will open Saturday, December 12th, and remain open every day except Sundays until Christmas Eve.



Mission Arlington's Christmas Store provides free gifts for families in need. Last year, 30,080 children received gifts through the Store. This year, more families than ever before need your help. Here are some ways you can make a child's Christmas special this year:

Volunteer:

Volunteers are already hard at work getting the Christmas Store ready. Here are some ways you can plug in:

- Wrap gifts
- Stock shelves
- Help people shop
- Take care of children while parents shop
- And more!

Give:

All the gifts in the Christmas Store are donated. We need gifts for children ages newborn through 18 years old. Especially needed are:

- Dolls
- Balls
- Gifts for youth
- You can find other suggested items on our website.



Volunteers Make Impact



Kraft Foods employees, pictured above, collected coats and blankets for Mission Arlington families and provided funds to purchase Thanksgiving food.



Girl Scout Troop 1802 demonstrated leadership and service when they brought food to Mission Arlington for people in need.

Finishing Strong: Helping at Year's End

- More people have needed our help this year **than ever before**. Six days each week, 1,000 people receive help from Mission Arlington's front room.
- In these difficult economic times, you have continued to give sacrificially **so that others can receive what they need**.
- **Every gift matters**, no matter the size. 96 cents out of every dollar goes straight to the people.
- Your support at year's end means so much to us, and the families we serve every day. Thank you!

English Language Tutoring



Mission Arlington/ Mission Metroplex teaches **English as a Second Language** classes each week in multiple locations across our community.

Fall Festivals - Safe and Fun



Nearly **3,000 children, youth, and adults** attended Mission Arlington's annual Fall Festival. Bouncy houses, food, carnival booths, hay rides, and so much more were all part of the fun.

Doing More Together



The Arlington Fire Department, the Arlington Police Department, City of Arlington officials, and other non-profit organizations come together with Mission Arlington/Mission Metroplex once a month to care for Sam Houston High School students. This past month, more than 1,000 students ate a meal provided by this team.