

MINISTRY FOCUS FOR AUGUST:

BENEVOLENCE

HUMC has an active program to assist families in our community who need financial assistance. Most requests are for help with electric bills. On occasion we have assisted with rent, water, food, and gas. We coordinate with the 9th District and other churches in the county to provide help when needed. Funding for this program comes from your donations to the Benevolence/Altar Fund.

Requirements for assistance include:

- ◆ Resident of Towns County
- ◆ Interview
- ◆ Verification of information, which may include calls to other churches, place of employment, landlord.
- ◆ Assessment of need.
- ◆ Each case is discussed with and approved by Pastor Sam. We never give money directly, but issue checks to the service provider.

Since January we have paid \$ in assistance for families. Listed below are some families who, through your generosity, we have helped this year:

- ◆ An elderly woman, age 88, receiving \$1100/month from Social Security , with no other source of income. She has a heart condition and is now on oxygen. Somehow she manages to get by, but each winter she needs help with her heating bills.
- ◆ Single woman, 35, with 4 children. She is severely disabled from spousal abuse, numerous health issues. She receives \$750/month from Social Security/Disability plus \$715 in food stamps. We helped with her electric bill.
- ◆ Single woman, age 60, living on disability of \$1250/month. She previously owned a local café, then was severely injured in a car accident with broken neck and back. We helped with her electric bill.
- ◆ Family with 3 children. Both husband and wife work in housekeeping at a local resort. They are paid \$5 per room, so their income is dependent on the number of rooms to clean. We helped with electric.
- ◆ Single woman, age 30, 2 children. She has had 7 heart surgeries, plus brain damage from stroke. Receives total of \$970 disability & TANF plus \$450 food stamps. We helped with electric bill
- ◆ Elderly woman, 72, receives \$851/month in Social Security. Has no other income. We helped with rent.
- ◆ Mother of 2, victim of severe physical abuse. Upon Leaving Safe House, she had numerous medical bills, and needed help with an apartment, electric, furniture etc. We helped with deposit for apartment, and helped with electric.

This month we are focusing on donations to the Benevolence/Altar Fund, in preparation for the numerous requests we receive during the colder months. Every dollar you give helps your community and those less fortunate among us.