



DECEMBER 2021

NEWSLETTER

Volume 9 • Issue 1

"And the angel said unto them: Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people."

Luke 2:8



Winter Freeze Shelter guest Austin prepares to place the angel on the tree while Chief supervises.

Tidings of Great Joy

As President Tammy Kruse left the Hazel Atlas Building one recent evening, she found two men huddled on the steps. She asked how they were, and they said: "Cold." She gave them the blankets you donated, and they wrapped themselves in them. They said they were hungry. She presented them with food you donated, and their faces lit up. She asked if they were going to the Winter Freeze Shelter that night. They said they were.

We want you to know: The support you have faithfully and diligently provided brings real comfort and joy to your neighbors in need.

The 13th annual season of the Winter Freeze Shelter Ministry began on Dec. 6, nine days earlier than usual to help accommodate our friends who were displaced from the 18th Street encampment. We had 13 that first night and the numbers have steadily climbed.

On Christmas Eve, we had

42 guests. That day, Santa and his Head Elf — aka CEO John Moses and assistant Holly Fox — loaded up a truck with presents and hauled them to the shelter, which is located at the former Hillcrest facility owned by the City of Wheeling. On Christmas morning, guests gathered around the Christmas tree in anticipation. They smiled and laughed while opening their gifts containing items from their very own wish lists, including boots, games, sweatshirts, phones and more. One man asked nothing for himself, only a prayer for his father and gifts for his grown children.

We are blessed and grateful to be able to clothe, shelter and feed men and women in our community who find themselves without shelter during the coldest months of the year. Even more, we are thankful to give them the joy of being seen, heard, welcomed — the joy of belonging. Thank you for making it all possible.

Members of the Christ United Methodist Church in Wheeling made up the beds for the first night at the Winter Freeze Shelter.



THE MANY FACES OF GIVING



Knights
of
Columbus
Councils
504 and
12195



West
Liberty
University
Women's
Basket-
ball Team
& Paree
Insurance
Centers



Ohio
University
Eastern
Social
Work
Program



Warwood
Middle School
Student
Government



St. Vincent de Paul Parish Preschool



Wheeling Rage Baseball Team



So many already have given so much, and we are grateful. We continue to have need for donations of food, water, clothing and hygiene products, which can be dropped off at 87 15th Street in Wheeling. Monetary donations are always welcome. If you would like to give to the Winter Freeze Shelter, text FREEZE to 44-321 or send a check with Winter Freeze Shelter in the memo line to Youth Services System, PO Box 6041, Wheeling, WV 26003.



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(Continued on back)

While we have done our best to ensure this list accurate and up-to-date, human errors do occur. If your name is misspelled or has been omitted, or if you would like to opt out of receiving these mailings, please email Betsy Bethel-McFarland at bmcfarland@ysswv.com or call 304-218-2894. Thank you!

(Continued from inside)

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