



**MISSION  
IMPACT  
REPORT  
2025**

**am**  
alpharetta methodist





# Dear church family,

We are so thankful for each and every one of you. You continue to demonstrate generosity through your giving, your serving, and your encouragement. In this report, you will see the details of how your generosity has made an impact on the church, the community, and the world. In other words, how we have been a community of faith, hope, and love helping our neighbors, the next generation, and the nations. This report is not an effort to communicate everything that we did the previous year. Rather, this is an effort to highlight areas that have been growing and changing and to inspire and encourage you with stories of transformation and impact.

During the offering time on Sunday mornings, we routinely talk about the concept of our generosity being an overflow and a response to God's generosity to us:

*"And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work."  
2 Corinthians 9:8*

*"Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows."  
James 1:17*

As you read this report, I encourage you to reflect on these truths. This report is not intended to be a boast about what we did; this report is intended to demonstrate God's goodness and His work in the world through our church and through you! God has abundantly blessed us, so we will continue to honor God by serving others.

If this report stirs anything within you, such as a desire to serve your neighbor, a desire to join God's work in a different country, or a desire to learn more about how our church is living out our mission, please reach out to us. We would love to hear from you and get to know you and your gifts.

As we move forward, we continue to live out our vision to be a community of faith, hope, and love helping our neighbors, the next generation, and the nations take their next steps with Jesus. We hope that you will join us.

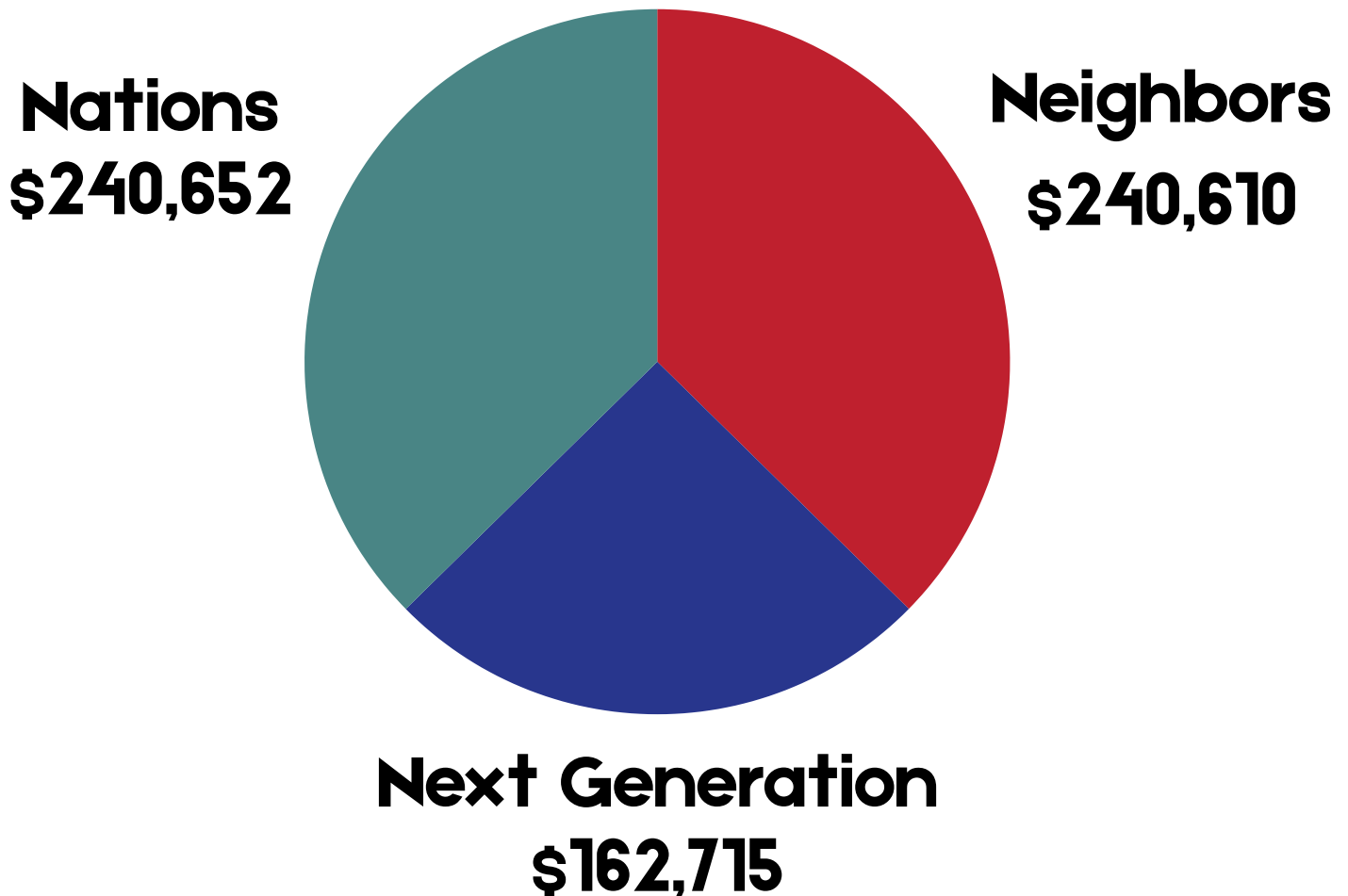
God Bless,  
Rev. David Walters, Senior Pastor  
Allison Nye, Director of Discipleship and Connections  
Maggie Brannon, Director of Outreach

**VISIT**

**[amchurch.com/serve](http://amchurch.com/serve)**

*to learn how you can make a difference today*

# Missional Giving



Because of your generosity, we were able to:

- Strategically partner with more than 20 organizations.
- Support 5 missionary families serving in Russia, Ecuador, Paraguay, and England.
- Provide over \$25,000 of emergency assistance to more than 12 local families facing eviction or water/electrical shut-off.
- Equip 4 college students from Alpharetta Methodist to serve on mission trips.

...and the list goes on.

The total amount that we were able to give generously to our neighbors, the next generation, and the nations was over \$640,000.

This figure and the above pie chart do not include any internal expenditures, such as expenses for Trunk or Treat, weekly worship services, Vacation Bible School, Student Ministry and Youth Events, or Care Ministries. For a breakdown of what is in each category, please visit [amchurch.com/missions](http://amchurch.com/missions).

# *Our Neighbors, the Next Generation, and the Nations at Manning Oaks Elementary School*

**In 2025, we invested just over \$25,000 into Manning Oaks Elementary School.**

*This number includes quarterly meals for the staff, two Community Connection Dinners for the entire school community, regularly stocking the snack closet for when students do not have enough food, paying off the lunchroom debt, and close to \$6,500 towards meeting the real, physical needs of individual families.*

## **However, the financials only tell part of the story.**

Our relationship with Manning Oaks Elementary (MOE) has taken off in recent years. We feel strongly that we are neighbors with MOE for a reason. In our vision statement, we say, "Alpharetta Methodist is a community of faith, hope, and love, helping our neighbors, the next generation, and the nations take their next steps with Jesus." We love that MOE is our neighbor (located just one mile away), is an elementary school filled with the next generation, and has over 50 languages represented by their student body.

Although Alpharetta is generally assumed to be an affluent area, there is still great need when you look closer. Through our partnership with the school social worker and principal, we have been able to identify families with tangible needs.

Many of these families are living in extended stay hotels or are in other transitional situations. We have been able to support the social worker and these families with a praying community, financial coaching, financial assistance, and so much more.

The staff turnover rate at MOE for the 2024-2025 school year was 50%. One of the goals of our partnership is to support the staff and reduce this turnover rate. We serve them quarterly lunches and provide snacks and rewards at their staff meetings. A new initiative for the 25/26 school year is the staff sponsorship program. Through this initiative, church members are paired with a MOE staff member. The 60 church members who are paired with MOE staff provide encouragement, prayer, small gifts, and many volunteer at the school regularly.

Another new initiative that launched this year is our Community Connection Dinners. Born out of a desire to further build relationships with MOE families and staff, we hosted our first Community Connection Dinner in October. These dinners are in the MOE cafeteria, and all the MOE students and their families are invited to attend as well as our church members. We offer crafts, food, and fellowship. These dinners are just another way that we are building relationships with our neighbors, the next generation, and the nations.

**Our 1<sup>st</sup>  
Community  
Connection  
Dinner**



**Church member,  
Lee, teaching an  
electrical lab to 5<sup>th</sup>  
grade students.**



# Focusing on Relationships: Transforming Our Benevolence Ministry Mindset



## Loving Our Neighbors with Wisdom and Compassion

Throughout 2025, Alpharetta Methodist Church continued a long-standing calling: caring for neighbors who find themselves in difficult seasons. When someone faces a sudden loss of income, an unexpected bill, or a moment of crisis, the church is often one of the first places they turn.

For many years, we have faithfully helped people who came our way. Over the past year, however, we have taken an important step forward: strengthening our Benevolence Ministry so that we can serve people not only generously, but wisely and sustainably.

Our goal is to help people in ways that truly help.

## Moving from Relief to Restoration

Quick financial assistance, while well-intentioned, does not always lead to lasting change. In fact, it can sometimes unintentionally create dependency or lead to overlooking deeper needs.

Because of this, Alpharetta Methodist has begun shaping our benevolence work around a philosophy called "Helping Without Hurting." This approach encourages us to respond differently depending on the situation:

- Relief is appropriate when someone is facing a true emergency.
- Restoration is the goal when people are navigating longer-term challenges.
- Relationships matter more than transactions.

We believe every person who comes to us is not a problem to be solved, but a person created in the image of God with gifts, dignity, and potential.

## A More Thoughtful Approach to Care

We are working toward a more thoughtful and relational process. Requests for assistance are prayerfully considered, and when appropriate we may offer:

- Financial assistance
- Connections to community resources
- Budgeting or planning support
- Ongoing relational care and prayer

Sometimes the most helpful response is not financial support but walking alongside someone as they take steps toward greater stability and hope.

## Looking Ahead

At the beginning of 2026, Alpharetta Methodist launched a Benevolence Team made up of trained church members who will help guide and strengthen this ministry. These volunteers will listen, pray, discern, and walk alongside those facing hardship.

Benevolence is not just about financial assistance, rather it is about showing up for our people in our community, listening to their stories, getting to know them as individuals, and helping them take their next steps with Jesus.

# 50+

Referrals Made



# 25

Families Supported by Program



# 12

Families Provided with Financial Assistance



# 5

Congregation Members Supported



# \$23,279

Total Financial Support Given





# Supporting One Another in Ministry: Collaboration Around the Globe

Our international partnerships continue to grow stronger as we deepen relationships with ministry leaders around the world. Rather than thinking of these partnerships as one-directional support, we are intentionally cultivating mutual collaboration— learning from one another, sharing resources, and encouraging each other in ministry. Through these relationships, we are discovering that the global church has wisdom, experience, and perspective that can strengthen our work here just as we seek to support theirs. Together, we are partnering in ways that build up the body of Christ across cultures, contexts, and continents.

**We had the opportunity to host all three of our mission partners in South America on our church campus at the same time. It was great to hear from each of them, and to give them time to be encouraged and learn from one another.**



## JKC

This year, the Jungle Kids for Christ basketball program has grown. They did not start this program to raise up basketball players but to connect with community kids who would never attend Antioch School.

Through the hard work of practices and competition, the coaches earn the trust of these players and speak into their lives during the ups and downs of a basketball game and the larger issues of life. What looks like basketball practice is actually discipleship in action.



## Dunamis

Dunamis educates the community and provides wrap-around services to girls as they heal from abuse.

This year, they have decided to grow! The San Vicente Project, located on the coast, has taken shape with a transformative vision: to be a sanctuary of healing, growth, and hope for young boys who have endured exploitation.

We are excited to partner with them as they expand their impact.



## Paraguay

Angelica and Christian's ministry had its 22-year anniversary this year. They continue to make trips to the interior of the country and run a tutoring program for students with learning differences.

In addition, 2025 brought lots of opportunities to mentor young adults sensing a call to the mission field, train and equip organizations who are wanting to run similar programs, and pour into their team in Paraguay through encouragement, Bible study, and practical guidance.



Our global partnerships also create opportunities for meaningful collaboration in ministry. Our Student Ministry team recently connected with a church partner in Russia. They shared ideas for student ministry games, small group structures, and discussed discipleship resources that could be adapted within our shared theological tradition.

In England, a ministry partner who serves refugees helped shape curriculum for a new class we are offering about reaching the nations. He brings valuable insight from his work with people of many cultures and backgrounds.

Our partners are not only people we support, but they are also co-laborers in the gospel. Their experience, wisdom, and faithfulness continue to strengthen our ministry just as we seek to encourage and support theirs.

# Growth and Collaboration

## **Buddy Bags Supports A Beacon of Hope**

Buddy Bags is a ministry at Alpharetta Methodist that provides a bag filled with a blanket, stuffed animal, books and crayons to children in need of comfort. In 2025, our Buddy Bag Ministry began providing Buddy Bags to A Beacon of Hope (ABoH), a women's health center who is a current mission partner of ours. Our hope was that the bags would provide comfort to a child who is coming into the center with their mother who is receiving counseling regarding her pregnancy.

The bags have been a great success. The center wrote to us to tell us of one mom in particular who was turned away from another facility because she was not allowed to bring her child with her. When she called to ask if she could bring her child with her to A Beacon of Hope, they assured her that she was not only welcome to bring the child, but that they had a gift to give to them. The Center said that the bag was a great help in preoccupying the child while the mother was able to discuss the options regarding her pregnancy.

We are so grateful that God has given us the opportunity to partner with ABoH!

## **The Buddy Bag Ministry Made and Distributed 2,500+ Bags to 50+ Organizations in 2025**

### **Multi-directional Support**

In 2025, we began building an exciting new mission opportunity that reflects our desire to build relationships with our mission partners by serving alongside them.

Through a connection via our Children's Ministry Director, we are partnering with a church in Northern Ireland to help lead a Holiday Bible School (VBS) in the summer 2026. What makes this opportunity especially meaningful is the way multiple ministries and partners are coming together. Our Student Ministry will lead and serve, while a youth group led by our mission partner in England will lead and serve alongside them, thus creating a shared, cross-cultural experience of learning, leadership, and ministry. Additionally, our students will stay with local host families which will help them become connected to the community.

Our students will collaborate in advance with their peers in England, then will lead together on the ground. They will learn flexibility, teamwork, and what it means to serve in a different cultural context. In addition, our partner from England will provide teaching on topics like unreached people groups and engaging people of other faiths, thus helping students connect their experience to God's global mission.

Even in the planning stages, this partnership has been a powerful reminder of God's heart for the nations and what we can accomplish when we value others, seek unity, and grow together.

# Mission Journeys

For many years our church has sent teams on what we often call mission trips. These experiences have been powerful opportunities to serve others and encounter God in meaningful ways. Recently, we have been encouraging a shift in how we think about them: not simply as trips, but as mission journeys.

A trip is something you take and return from. A journey shapes who you become. Mission is not just something we do for a week in another place. It is a lifelong calling to follow Jesus wherever we are, whether across the world, in our schools, or in our neighborhoods.

Because of this, we are becoming more intentional in how we prepare for and reflect on these experiences. Participants spend time preparing beforehand and debriefing afterward, asking how what they learned about God and themselves can shape the way they live and serve every day.

Our hope is that mission journeys help people discover that God is not only at work where we travel, but is also at work right here at home as we live out our faith in our everyday lives.



# Beyond 12<sup>th</sup> Grade, Beyond Our Walls

**After our students graduate high school, many of them have the opportunity to go on mission trips through organizations they are involved with in college, or they intentionally seek out mission opportunities during school breaks. As a church, we love to support our students in their service. Last year, we financially and prayerfully supported 4 college-aged students as they served the Lord internationally.**

“Over spring break, I helped lead one of Wesley’s freshman mission trips to Montego Bay, Jamaica. We partnered with a YWAM (Youth With A Mission) base, where we served by deep cleaning, painting, and doing major yard work to support their ongoing ministry. One day, we also had the opportunity to visit a home for individuals with disabilities—offering extra hands to the caregivers and spending time with the residents.

Each evening, our group gathered for worship, a message, and small group discussions. I had the privilege of leading one of these small groups, where we reflected on how the Lord was moving in our lives throughout the week and unpacked the themes of the nightly messages.

These conversations were a highlight for me and gave me a deeper appreciation for shepherding younger students in their faith.

The trip opened my eyes to just how great the Lord’s heart for the nations is. It was humbling to witness the Lord’s faithfulness in a new context and to realize how intentional His presence is—whether in Athens or Montego Bay. One powerful moment came on our final day, when the older students went into the city to offer prayer to strangers. It was an intimidating step of faith—especially in a foreign culture—but we asked the Lord to send us where He wanted us. Despite experiencing some rejection, we were met with meaningful conversations. One that stood out was a young woman newly pregnant and fearful about the future. We had the chance to pray over her and speak into God’s provision as she prepares to step into motherhood. This prayer was cool because it felt like the same fears we were experiencing just hour earlier. A fear that we were not fit for the assignment God had given us. So we got to pray into dependency and trust that the Lord, whose love is so evident, would provide for us.

I am so grateful to the church for being such a huge help in my fundraising efforts. Thanks to the church, I was able to experience this great trip, and it has greatly impacted me and what I know God to be.”

Kellen, Jamaica Trip with UGA Wesley Foundation



**Kellen in  
Jamaica**



**Kaylee in Europe**

“In the month I was in Europe I had the privilege of living life in a diverse city where I was able to learn about culture, evangelism, long term missions, language, the Gospel, and how to share with friends who have never hear it. Before my trip I prayed for the Lord to show me what serving overseas would realistically look like. I was able to experience the homesickness, struggle to grocery shop, adjustment time and so much more. Above all, my time spent abroad gave me a beautiful perspective on abiding in God out of your comfort and gaining contentment in his joy.”

Kaylee, Cafe 1040 (Mission Mobilization & Training Organization)

# Comfort and Care in Crisis

## Buddy Bags

In 2025, our Buddy Bag founder and leader, Pam, stepped down and Ann-Marie, alongside a great leadership team, took her place. They have grown into their space at the Bagley House and hit record numbers of Buddy Bags made and distributed.

This ministry is focused on helping kids in crisis by providing them with a canvas tote containing a bear, blanket, books, coloring book, and other items that can provide comfort and calm. They have developed partnerships with local emergency rooms, CASA groups, police departments, and other organizations that serve vulnerable children.



## Family Promise

Family Promise is an organization that serves families experiencing homelessness. One of their main programs is a rotational shelter hosted by congregations such as ours.

We hosted Family Promise families on our campus for 5 weeks during 2025. Because these families are hosted by congregations and are not in a typical shelter-type environment, whole families, regardless of age and gender of the children, can stay together.

In 2025, our coordinator who works directly with Family Promise and our volunteers, Lisa, turned over the role to Beth. We are so thankful for both of these women!

Because of your generosity, we send each family we host on a family "adventure" of their choice--from Dave and Busters to the Zoo. While this may seem like a simple gesture (or a frivolous expense depending on your perspective), we have found that this helps the families have fun and relax, two things they have not done in a while. Their outlook starts to shift and they begin to feel hope again.

**We are so thankful to the founders, leaders, and volunteers in these ministries who give generously of their time and talents to serve our church, the community, and the world.**

## Disaster Reponse Team

Our Disaster Response Team (DRT), led by Mike and a dedicated group of volunteers, responds to disasters with compassion, care, and remarkable skill through de-mucking homes, clearing large trees, and meeting urgent needs in the aftermath of crisis.

In 2025, the team deployed seven times. They served in rural Georgia after Hurricane Helene, in multiple areas across the southeast after tornadoes, and more, contributing a total of 1,830 volunteer hours.

While primarily made up of Alpharetta Methodist members, our DRT also includes volunteers from six different churches. When the body of Christ comes together, we can expand our reach, strengthen our impact, and serve those in need with unity and love.



## Blanket Ministry

Each year, our Blanket Ministry makes thousands of blankets for partner organizations and individuals in need of comfort and care.

They not only spend time cutting the fabric, hand-stitching the labels, surging the edges, and braiding the ties, but they also pray over each of the blankets.

This year, the Blanket Ministry experienced many changes--from leadership transitioning from Linda to Patti, to enduring a remodel of their space, to the closing of their main fleece supplier. However, they continue to be faithful to their mission and to serving others.



# To The Ends of the Earth

## **Discerning New Global Mission Partnerships**

In 2025, our church entered a season of discernment as we sought to expand our global partnerships. We committed to prayerfully vetting potential partners to ensure alignment with our church's vision. Throughout the year, we focused on two organizations: Mission India and Challenge Ministries in Eswatini. We evaluated their theology, approach to ministry, and long-term impact. We learned that both organizations share a commitment to strengthening local churches as the foundation for discipleship, family support, and community transformation.

## **Mission India- A Growing Burden for the Unreached**

As part of our discernment process, members of our team had the opportunity to participate in a vision trip with Mission India. This experience provided a deeper, firsthand look at the realities of ministry among unreached people groups. During this trip, we saw how Mission India equips local believers, also known as indigenous church planters, who have an understanding of the language, culture, and unique needs of their communities to establish Gospel-centered churches in areas with little to no access to the message of Jesus.

We witnessed how these churches are not only places of worship but also are centers of discipleship, care, and hope that impact entire communities. This experience deepened our understanding of the spiritual landscape in India and showed us how increasing Gospel access can transform lives. As a result, our church developed a growing burden for the unreached and a greater clarity around the role we play in supporting this work.

## **Challenge Ministries- Local Church Empowerment in Eswatini**

We also spent time learning about and evaluating Challenge Ministry in Eswatini, a country facing significant challenges due to poverty and one of the highest HIV/AIDS prevalence rates in the world. Through their ICBC program ("In Community, By Community"), Challenge Ministry equips local believers to plant and lead churches in their own communities. This model emphasizes discipleship, empowerment, and holistic care which allows the church to serve as both a spiritual anchor and a source of practical support. As we evaluated this partnership, we were encouraged by the way the local church is positioned to care for orphans, widows, and vulnerable families, thus reflecting Christ in both word and action.

## **Looking Ahead with Clarity and Confidence**

As we reflect on 2025, we see it as a year of preparation, prayer, and discernment. We did not rush into partnerships but instead sought to listen for God's direction to ensure alignment with our vision. Through research, relationship-building, and firsthand experiences, God has given us clarity and confidence as we move toward deeper engagement.

In Matthew 28, Jesus calls His followers to "go and make disciples of all nations." In 2025, we took intentional steps to discern how we, as a church, can faithfully live out that calling in partnership with others around the world.

We can't wait to see how God will grow these partnerships in the years ahead, and how He will use them to transform lives and expand Gospel access around the world. As we step forward, we do so expectantly, believing that the work God began in this season of discernment will bear fruit for His glory among the nations.



Church Planting in India



Adult Literacy Program in India



Challenge Ministries in Eswatini



Challenge Ministries in Eswatini

# The Need in Our Backyard



## By The Numbers

### North Fulton Community Charities

Total Individuals Served: 9,725

Households Received Support from Food Pantry: 3,730

Households Received Financial Assistance: 1,120

### Family Promise

Total Households Served: 2,262

Households Received Financial Assistance: 320

Households In Rotational Shelter: 14

As the number of people seeking financial assistance from the church increased, we increased our referrals to our community partners, namely North Fulton Community Charities and Family Promise. We recognize that they have the professional expertise, resources, and systems in place to best help those in our community through crisis. However, we realized that just as the number of calls we were receiving were increasing, these organization were also experiencing an increase in demand. Therefore, in an effort to strengthen our partnerships with these organizations, we decided to increase our giving in proportion to what we were receiving.

In our faith tradition, we believe in the concept of the tithe, or setting aside a 10% portion of our income towards giving. Additionally, throughout the Bible, we see God caring for the least, the last, and the lost. In order to honor these ideas with the donations the church receives directly for missions and outreach, we began to set aside 10% of all designated mission giving directly for North Fulton Community Charities and 10% of all designated mission giving for Family Promise of North Fulton/Dekalb. We are excited to continue to support these partners above and beyond what we budget for each year.

**In 2025, we started distributing 10% of the mission designated funds we receive each month to both North Fulton Community Charities and Family Promise, resulting in an additional \$8,456 going to each organization.**



In 2025, our church participated in Giving Tuesday for the first time by promoting this initiative and encouraging generosity to the church and community. We were blown away by the number of people who contributed, and in total we received almost \$13,000. We consulted with our local partners, and were able to immediately direct the funds we received to where it was needed most:

- 1. \$2,500 in food gift cards for 25 MOE families to use over Christmas break.**
- 2. \$2,500 to purchase shoes and coats for 50 children that the MOE counselor identified as having this need.**
- 3. Almost \$8,000 went to Family Promise and was used for emergency housing for families in the cold winter months.**

Overall, funds went to support local families, identified through our partnership with Manning Oaks Elementary and Family Promise, with food, emergency housing assistance, and other necessities such as jackets and shoes. Many of these families are in crisis, with some sleeping in their cars and others staying in unsafe or unstable places.

This giving, which was above and beyond what we normally receive, helped meet community needs when it mattered most. The average low temperature in December 2025 in Alpharetta was in the 30s. The extra food, coats, shoes, and emergency housing assistance kept kids in our community warm and gave families in our community a safe place to lay their heads at night.

# There is No "Little Thing"

While many of the pages focus on big initiatives and mindset shifts, there are many things that our church and our members do each day that make a difference in our community and in our world. While we could not include all of them in this booklet, here are a few.

3 Family and Teen Advocates at The Drake House

Multiple Neighborhood and Work Bible Studies

6 Camp Grace Scholarships

Multiple Regular Volunteers at NFCC

Church Staff Caroled at Manning Oaks Elementary School

Thousands of Food Items Donated to Backpacks of Love

A Volunteer Prepares Our Drake House Apartment Each Time a Family Graduates From The Program

25+ Stockings for the Drake House Christmas Party

500+ Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes

A Church Member Provides Communion for Homebound Members

6 Build Days with Habitat for Humanity

60+ Meals Provided on Holidays With Meals On Wheels

Multiple Foster Children Supported with Christmas Gifts

6 Mentors at Vickery Mill Elementary School

Tiny Stitches Made and Distributed 442 Layettees to Newborns in Need





**69 North Main Street  
Alpha Theta, GA 30009  
770-475-5576  
amchurch.com  
@alpharetta.methodist**