

Westgate Church Outreach Activities

December 2020

Westgate Church has been very active this year reaching out to our community, involving many people and small groups in a variety of ways. Here are some of the special things that have happened:



Since April, the Outreach Team has provided meals and/or goodie bags to 10 hospitals and nursing homes, the most recent being Oak Knoll in Framingham. These meals have all been accompanied by a note or letter telling the staff at these care facilities that we care about and appreciate them.

In July Westgate collected 646 pairs of socks for Northstar in Boston and, more recently, gave a baby shower for a Boston Center for Pregnancy Choices client. She was thrilled and we're staying in touch. Ladies from the Prayer Shawl ministry also knitted 34 hats for the men at Bridge House in Framingham.



Since October, Westgate has been hosting an American Red Cross blood drive twice a month in Fellowship Hall, and plans to continue to do this through June 2021. The quantity of blood donated has been beyond expectations: 158 units of blood as of the end of December. Important to us is that it brings many people

into our building that have never been here before, some of whom didn't even know that Westgate Church was here. Westgate provides two or three volunteers each time and they have opportunities to talk with people while they're waiting. We also have a welcome table with Christian books, many of which have been taken.



Operation Christmas Child saw 55 shoe boxes filled with purchased and hand-made gifts for boys and girls worldwide. This is something Westgate has done for many years and Westgate's generosity came through even in these difficult times.



The annual Angel Tree project, another project Westgate has done for many years, ended on December 13. This year because of the impact that the pandemic has had on the prisoners' families we also provided a "care box" full of groceries in addition to Christmas gifts for the children. Most care box items have been tagged with scripture verses that relate to that item. We provided 5 virtual and 15 physical gifts to 8 family units. As in the past, Mabel has headed this up with special help from Nancy and Tom and others from the Outreach Team. The COVID Fund provided funds for grocery gift cards which were included in the boxes.



This has been a tough year for our police who serve and protect us in spite of the danger. Between COVID and the negative publicity, they need some encouragement and appreciation. Two days before Christmas we provided the Weston Police Department with a meal which was greatly appreciated.

As we enter 2021 we look forward to more ways to share the love of Jesus with our local community and neighbors.