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Blessings in the name of Christ, Hilldale UMC Family!

Wow, this has been quite a year! Everyone in our church family and community has been affected by the ongoing pandemic and social turmoil that none of us saw coming. But, here is what I know about God: **God has always seen us through and is seeing us through right now!**

It can be easy to lose sight of the amazing things of God that have happened. Our church is a church on the move and our missional DNA has not been stifled. I continue to believe God is getting us ready to do even more for the Kingdom. And, if you'll give me just a few minutes of your time, I want to remind you of the things God has used our church to do this year...

- ❖ Over **2,196 shoeboxes** packed and sent through Operation Christmas Child
- ❖ **Thousands of children fed** EVERY school week through our FUEL program with our church as the hub for receiving, packing, and distribution
- ❖ **Tens of thousands of dollars** for assistance through our Good Neighbor Fund
- ❖ **Thousands of dollars given** to local nonprofits, from our general budget, like...
  - Loaves & Fishes, Urban Ministries, Manna Café, Safe Place, Meals on Wheels, Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA), YoungLife, YMCA Restore Ministries, Soldiers And Families Embraced (SAFE), Habitat House, College Scholarships, and more!
- ❖ And all of this doesn't even include the **countless volunteer hours our people give** to the community and those in our congregation!

My friends, you have one proud Pastor and Leadership Board! We truly are a congregation that lives its mission of "Making Disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the World." And we do that by...

- Loving God. Loving people. And, making this world a better place!

Earlier this year we walked through our "2020 Vision" series where we explored the five (5) purposes of our church: **Evangelism, Worship, Fellowship, Discipleship** and **Mission**. These purposes are pulled straight from The Great Commission (Matthew 28:16-20) and The Greatest Commandment (Matthew 22:36-40).

I also want to remind you that no matter what went on in the world, **OUR CHURCH WAS NEVER CLOSED!** If you say it was, then you and I will have some "intense fellowship!" We had to move a few things out of the building but that's been God's plan for the Gospel since the beginning of time! Imagine if the Israelites could only be faithful to God if they had a Temple! Our mission, worship, discipleship, evangelism, and fellowship continued faithfully the entire year no matter what the world









































