

THANK YOU MCC RICHMOND FOR THE CHRISTMAS JOY!

Dear Friends,

I am overwhelmed by your response to the request to help others in our community this Christmas season. In the early part of December, we came to you to ask for your help in caring for families who needed a little something extra this Christmas to make the season a little brighter. And what a response you offered. In less than 3 weeks, with open hearts, hands and wallets, the appeal was made and you generously responded.

We initially asked other organizations to help us identify a family or two that could use some Christmas joy. We were originally hoping to adopt 1 or 2 families and **lo and behold**, there was much need so we took on 9 families, which including 29 children and 9 mothers / grandmothers. What an overwhelming effort and your response is to be **commended**.

In the end, each child received at least 3 gifts, 87 gifts in total, and the adults received seven \$150 grocery cards, two \$100 gift cards, and diapers and wipes. In the summer of 2023, we became part of a group called Faith United organized by First Baptist that is coming together to serve the needs of our community in Richmond. Through them we reached out to find families that needed some assistance. The organizations from St. Vincent DePaul, St. James Episcopal, Corinth United Methodist Church and our very own Vicky Hester Food Pantry patrons, helped put this list of families together for us.

The caring and generosity was over the top.
Here are a few pictures of the presents that were given.



CHRISTMAS
JOY

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We also did other amazing things like continuing our food pantry, and hot lunch program. This past year our VHFP served 3900 meals and provided 35,000 pounds of essential groceries weekly on average to 80 individuals. We also had 10 volunteers help with Habitat Humanity's first ever PRIDE build effort. And our caring did not stop there, we secured a hotel for 3 nights over the Christmas holiday for a mother and her 3 children who were living in their car; we provided transportation and bus tickets for two folks to head north for a safe place to stay; and you did all of this in addition to your regular giving to support the church and our ministries.

You are so incredibly generous and on behalf of the church and community we serve, please accept the heartfelt Thank You that you truly deserve

