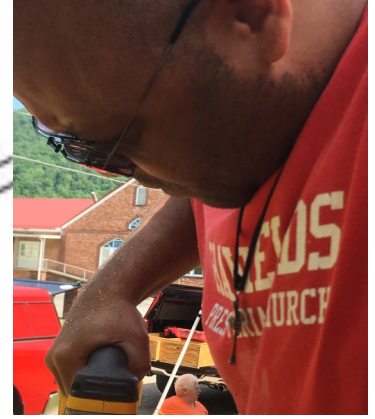


WV MINISTRY OF
**ADVOCACY &
 WORKCAMPS, Inc.**

The season of Giving Thanks is upon us,
 and WV Ministry of Advocacy and Workcamps
 has so much for which to be thankful.
 In particular, YOU! Your prayers, your support,
 and your helping hands have made a difference
 here in West Virginia.



WVMAW is a Long Term Recovery agency, responding to families in need in the wake of disaster. Some of our work this year was finishing up flood recovery from June 2016. However, even when disaster is not the issue, Poverty continues to plague our communities., compounding disaster when it comes. With a hand up to families who cannot get repairs done on their own, perhaps we can help to mitigate against wind, storm, and flood. But more than just mending homes, volunteers are mending hearts in the name of Jesus as they bring hope.

Mingo County groups are led by Cab Wolford with lots of help from "Deacon Johnny." They stay at the Freedom Full Gospel Assembly House of Prayer in Hampden (near Gilbert). Thirteen families, 34 individuals were helped by eight weeks of groups. They built three wheel chair ramps; Four porch/decks were repaired or built. A bedroom and a bathroom were built for a family who adopted their grandson—a situation WV families are seeing more and more of as opioid crisis increases in many areas. Flooring, siding, insulation, wiring, and roofing were all part of the outreach projects to help seven of those families.

Summersville Presbyterian Church hosted 12 teams led by Tim Stewart that have completed five wheel chair ramps, did flooring, ceiling repair, built a three porches, repaired deck flooring, underpinned one home, and converted a storage shed into a safe home for a young man. They served 12 families, 26 individuals.



Greenbrier County groups are led by Gary Ratliff: Ronceverte Presbyterian and Edgewood Presbyterian (Lewisburg) hosted 17 groups. They worked mainly in Western Greenbrier helping 19 families, and 47 individuals received a hand up. They built one wheel chair ramp, 11 porches, and repaired drywall, flooring, framing, painting, plumbing and even yard work. Many of these projects were flood recovery from the 2016 flood.

Colcord teams are led by Art Petty, and they stay at the Home School at First Presbyterian. Five groups built six wheel chair ramps, five porches and five new sets of steps. They repaired and coated five roofs, and painted two interior homes. They also replaced flooring in a mobile home. The total jobs completed were 25, serving 47 individuals.

Point Pleasant groups were led by Jeff Whitman and George Dowell in June, and Mike D'Aversa in July. Four teams total built seven wheel chair ramps for seven families. Groups stayed at First Presbyterian Church.

Webster Springs teams were led by Greg Flanagan. Staying at the Mission Center in Webster Springs, formerly a Methodist Church, six groups completed four wheel chair ramps, and built two decks. They also put up dry wall, underpinned three homes, and did some general remodeling and pairs. They served eight families, 24 individuals.

St Albans First Presbyterian Church of St Albans hosted seven groups, led by David Bush. From July through September four groups served five families, 13 individuals. They built two ramps, stairs, a porch. They repaired two porches and a roof and replaced a ceiling. They helped to convert a garage into a new home for a couple whose home has been damaged by moisture and termites and was collapsing. Groups put up framing, sheetrock, ceiling, insulation, wiring and replaced garage doors with walls and windows. Some of the team did some landscaping for a home and a church.

Clarksburg Three groups stayed at First Presbyterian of Clarksburg. Jeff Mitchell led the teams to help 16 families, doing such projects as fencing, installing flooring, tile, building a retaining wall, and even vacuuming, cleaning out a garage, and helping at the Clarksburg Mission Center for the homeless. Also many worked at the Mustard Seed, stocking shelves, and giving out clothing and food. The congregation was blessed by singers from Loysville, PA at worship one Sunday morning!



"I Can't Do Anything"

That excuse doesn't hold much water when you come to WV! Nine women from Valencia, PA will tell you how seven of them built two porches. Two stayed behind at the church and cooked. The only complaint was that the sleeping facilities were small....(kidding—she is in the nursery play room!)



A team from Westfield, PA brought mats to our St Albans site made from plastic grocery store bags that can be used as sleeping mats for the homeless. These mats were distributed in Huntington through First Presbyterian Church as well as in homeless shelters in Charleston.



...What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with your God.

Micah 6:8

As you help to bridge the gap between the rich and the poor, between those who have and those who do no, between those who are able and those who can, you are doing justice. Your kindness, your mercy, is your relationship with the family you serve, and sharing in the community. Humility is not thinking less of yourself as much as it is not thinking of yourself at all. When we walk humbly with God, what amazing surprises are in store!

