

Flowers last about a week, gift cards get lost, and cash gifts dissolve into checking accounts. Now, imagine being able to turn your monetary gift into priceless human investments. What better way to honor the holy Christmas season and celebrate important milestones in the lives of people you care most about!

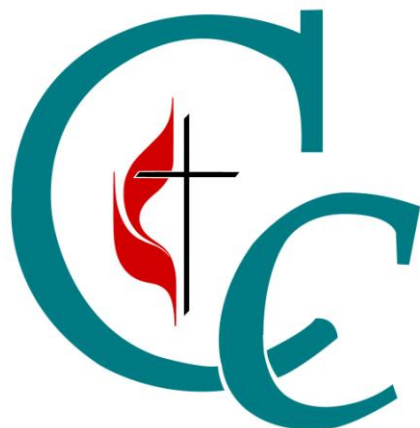
With MissionPossible:

- **You choose** to recognize a loved one with a gift that lasts a lifetime with someone in need.
- **You choose** the amount of your gift.
- **You choose** when to share your gift. There is no holiday season deadline for our missions.
- **You choose** how your gift will be invested – to our United Methodist Missionary's outreach, Branches; with the Broadwater initiative in Chester; or with Angelo Maker, James Garang, and Mac Madol, the three "Lost Boys of Sudan" sponsored by our church.

How does it work?

- 1) Simply take the **Honor Cards** from the registration pads (red/teal folders in the pews) or from the Welcome Center in the Atrium.
- 2) Write a check payable to **Chester UMC** and describe your donation in the memo line:
-BRANCHES
-BROADWATER
-LOST BOYS OF SUDAN SCHOLARSHIP
Donations without a memo line will be shared among the three ministries of MissionPossible.
- 3) Send your Honor Card to the person you've chosen to celebrate in such a thoughtful way.

You may be surprised at how touched others will be by your charitable gift! As always, your donations are handled with discretion by our Finance Secretary and recorded with your regular statements of tax-deductible donations.



A Community in Christ
Chester United Methodist Church

Please join us every Sunday.

Fresh Start Contemporary service 8:30 a.m.
Sunday School for all ages 9:45 a.m.
Traditional Worship service 11 a.m.
JumpStart Contemporary service 5 p.m.
Professional-staffed nursery is provided.

For more information, please contact our

Mission Chairperson at:
12132 Percival St.
Chester, VA 23831
(804) 748-6006
Fax: (804) 748-0859

Visit our Web site at www.chesterumc.org

MissionPossible

Chester United Methodist Church continues the tradition of MissionPossible, a unique giving program that converts your monetary gift into the much-needed support of Christian outreach missions in our community, in Florida, and in Africa.



"Lost Boys" Joseph Akol and Angelo Maker with Rev. Dr. Margaret T. Kutz of Chester United Methodist Church. The "boys" shared their stories with the children at Vacation Bible School.

MissionPossible is the ideal gift:

- ✓ For people on your list who seem to have everything,
- ✓ Loved ones who appreciate the value of charity, and
- ✓ Business associates of any religious denomination.

Our Branches Outreach Ministry in Florida City

BRANCHES is a United Methodist outreach ministry in Florida City led by our covenant missionary and Richmond native, Kim King Torres. This program gives hope to hundreds of impoverished youth in the Florida City urban neighborhood.

Since the arson fire on May 24, 2010 that destroyed the century-old church building, the people of Branches and the surrounding community have responded in a marvelous, positive way. The church is now housed in a temporary facility that has more floor space than previously in the old building. The vital children's after school and youth program ministries continue to grow and flourish.

Branches serves about 275 people from the community each month, of which about 150 are children. Many children of farm workers and the working poor receive mentoring and tutoring services in the center of a community where the average household makes only \$18,000 annually.

Over the past few years, Chester United Methodist Church has sent teams of youth and adults to work with this exciting outreach. As the holidays bring families together, may we join together with Branches to continue the exciting work God is doing in Florida City.



Our Broadwater Ministry serves the families of the BROADWATER townhome community on Harrowgate Road in Chester. What started as a one-time family night has evolved into a monthly ministry in which God's hand is clearly at work. Through this ministry, we seek to share the gospel by building loving relationships between the people of Broadwater and Chester UMC.

In 2011, the fruits of our involvement in this outreach are evident in the number of children and parents enjoying fellowship and attending Sunday school and church. The monthly activities included Winterfest, Kid's Olympiad, visiting a local nursing home, National Night Out, a "Back to School" event, Blocktoberfest, and the second annual Community Thanksgiving Feast.

Please consider helping us continue the momentum of this exciting ministry. After all, isn't sharing a holiday meal and continuing to share Christ's love with our neighbors what the holiday season represents?

Our Church-Sponsored Lost Boys of Sudan

Imagine losing your parents, siblings and family members in a horrific war; running for your life barefoot across the desert; living for years in a refugee camp; and then having to start with nothing in a new continent. Truly these so-called LOST BOYS OF SUDAN have experienced the grace of God who has spared their lives, and now they want to act upon His call to return to their homeland and help to bring about peace in one of the poorest corners on Earth.

Angelo Maker: 30-year-old student at Old Dominion University. Angelo will be graduating in December.

James Garang: 29-year-old Christopher Newport University student who balances his studies, part-time work, and supporting 2 children. He would like to take 12 credit hours next semester and will need almost \$4,000 to do that.

Mac Madol: 29-year-old young man. He had to postpone his studies at this stage in pursuit of more working hours per week. Wal-Mart cut his hours earlier this year and Mac had a hard time paying his bills. He secured a seasonal 40-hour job in Texas and is currently working there.

As we celebrate Christ's birth let us join hands and hearts across the world.

How will you decide to use your donation?

A \$25 donation would buy:

*A new backpack and supplies for a Branches child
Enough food for a Broadwater family meal
Financial support for a Lost Boy and his family*

A \$50 donation would buy:

*Much-needed after-school snacks in South Florida
A grocery store gift-card to a Broadwater family in need
One college book for Angelo, James or Mac*

A \$100 donation would buy:

*Lumber to continue rebuilding Branches
Playground equipment for Broadwater children
Partial college tuition for our Lost Boys*

Thank you for your generous support of MissionPossible and the programs supported by your financial gifts of love