

ASP's Guiding Principles

- We believe that each person is a child of God imbued with dignity and worth.
- We accept people right where they are and just the way they are.
- We believe that affordable, safe, sanitary housing is a basic human right.
- We are committed to witness through the good quality of our work and careful stewardship of our resources.
- We believe God calls volunteers to serve others as partners in ministry and we will encourage their growth in faith as they are involved in this service.
- We believe where ASP is involved in local communities, we will encourage, affirm, and support social and economic justice.

How We Prepare

The enthusiasm of an intergenerational group preparing to participate in a week long work experience is contagious to the rest of the congregation! As "missionaries in the field" the group prepares with study sessions on Appalachian culture, theology, discipleship and servant hood, teamwork and construction skills.

The ASP group raises money for transportation, room and board, and a donation to help buy the needed building materials. By the time the actual work week arrives the whole church has become involved in a tremendous mission experience! ASP fundraisers begin in the Fall and include, but are not limited, to:

- Clothing Drive
- Silent Auction/Luncheon
- Rummage Sale
- Grocery Store Gift Card Program
- Restaurant Nights
- Variety Show
- Contributions from individuals and groups



How You Can Help

The ASP Team is grateful for all the support received from our Church and extended family. It is your participation in their efforts to raise money that supports the team and makes their ministry possible. You can continue your support by:

- Direct gifts to the ASP General Fund.
- Identify foundations and corporations that ASP might contact for support.
- Participate in M.U.M.C's ASP fundraising efforts.
- Monetary donations are always welcome at any time to support our local team's trip. Checks can be made payable to MUMC-ASP and mailed to Morristown U.M.C., 50 Park Place, Morristown NJ 07960

For further information on how you can help,

Or to participate with us

Please contact:

Vince Cattano – A.S.P. Coordinator

973-727-5524

VCattano@gmail.com

ASP
Appalachia
SERVICE PROJECTSM
WWW.ASPHOME.ORG

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“Making homes warmer, safer and drier.”

Morristown United Methodist Church

50 Park Place Morristown, NJ 07960

973-538-2132

www.morristown umc.com

Facebook: Morristown UME ASP Team

Facebook: Morristown United Methodist Church

APPALACHIA SERVICE PROJECT is a Christian ministry, open to all people, that inspires hope and service through volunteer home repair in Central Appalachia. —ASP Mission Statement

What we do:

Appalachia Service Project (ASP) provides one of the most rewarding structured service opportunities in the nation—bringing thousands of volunteers from around the country to rural Central Appalachia to repair homes for low-income families. But ASP is more than just a building program. Yes, Appalachia's poorest families urgently need our help, but they can help change your life, too. Because when you change the lives of others, they have a way of changing you.

After a few days of hard work repairing homes with ASP, your hands will grow a little tougher, your arms a little stronger, and your relationship with God a whole lot deeper. You'll return home to your community with a passion for service, a renewed compassion for other people, and a fresh appreciation for your place and purpose in this world. Best of all, you'll discover first-hand that regardless of geography, education, or economic class, we are all equal members of the family of God.

Making homes “warmer, safer and drier” for needy families is what ASP does. And for 44 years, they’ve done exactly that for thousands of families. Yet for all that, ASP is only able to serve one in ten families who applies for help. Many, many more volunteers are needed to make a lasting dent in Appalachian poverty.

Morristown U.M.C has been working with ASP since the early 1980’s. Hundreds of adults and youth from our own church family and surrounding community have served and been richly blessed in service to others. The Gospel of acceptance, love and sacrificial giving is needed by all... “As you do it unto one of the least of these my brethren, you do it unto me.” Come join us and learn firsthand the meaning of “service to others.”

Where we serve:

ASP works in Central Appalachia — where Tennessee, Kentucky, Virginia, North Carolina and West Virginia come together. There are three permanent Year-Round Centers where Adult Programs are held during the fall, winter, and spring. During the Summer Program, space is rented in schools and community centers in about 27 communities throughout the region.

At each center a staff of four works with local community leaders in receiving requests for specific home repairs. The center staff then works with each volunteer work crew to decide the best way to accomplish the necessary repairs. The staff also coordinates supplies; manages housing and food arrangements; and facilitates times of sharing, reflection and worship.

Through whatever work is accomplished, the volunteers have the opportunity to show their concern and touch lives. Each week is filled, not only with hard work, but with opportunities to learn and grow, to share, to worship, and to laugh and have fun.



History of ASP:

In 1969, Rev. Glenn “Tex” Evans—a United Methodist minister—became one of the first people to connect the energy of youth with the deep needs of the poor.

During Tex’s 13 years as director at Henderson Settlement in Frakes, Kentucky, he witnessed the great need for home repair assistance. So, as part of his already thriving outreach to the people of Appalachia, he recruited 50 teens and adult volunteers to repair homes in Barbourville, Kentucky. They worked on-site during the day and worshipped in the evenings. By summer’s end, four families had safe, warm homes for the winter, fifty young lives had been changed forever—and a more than forty-year-long legacy was born.

ASP’s philosophy of service has remained the same since their founding: ASP encourages people to act responsibly in the face of human need and injustice.

By transforming faith into ASP service, volunteers respond to a specific need: housing. By putting aside their own needs and desires,

ASP volunteers free themselves to share talent, love, and concern with the people of Appalachia and with one another. More important than construction know how is a willingness to enter the communities and homes of Central Appalachia with sensitivity, concern, and love, accepting people right where they are and just the way they are!

