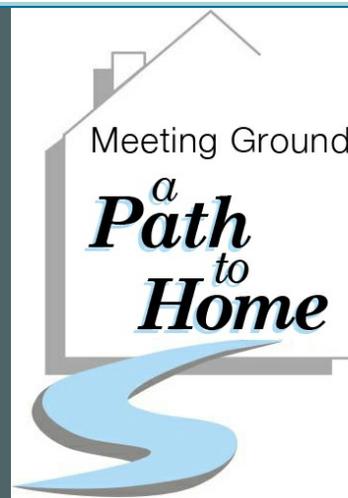


Meeting Ground

E-Newsletter

December, 2016



[About us](#) [Contact Us](#)

Marsha's Christmas Barn

The annual Marsha's Christmas Barn was held on December 15th. Toys for Tots and private donors provided gifts for 20 local families. They enjoyed pictures with Santa, live Christmas music, face painting, gift giving, games, special drawings, and refreshments. We appreciate all the volunteers who helped make this a memorable evening. As one volunteer stated, "I know that everyone who volunteered had their own spirits lifted. The event is truly about children who all seemed to have a wonderful time." A special thanks goes out to Elkton United Methodist Church for the use of their hall, and of course, Gladys Lacey, Program Director of Wayfarer's House for organizing the wonderful event.



Santa with Kathy, one of our wonderful volunteers!

Successes at Cecil County Men's Shelter

The new CCMS Director, Marc Hldren reports there has been a lot of activity taking place at the Cecil County Men's Shelter. First, the residents served a delicious chicken dinner to over 100 people at the National Homeless Memorial Day meal before the service on December 21st, which was held at Five Rivers Church. They have also have been busy at Settlement House making renovations to the building in order to be ADA compliant, which included widening doorways and building an entrance ramp. Lastly, one of the resident veterans was place into permanent housing this past month. What a blessing to be able to start the new year off in his own home!

The Word

Jeremiah 29:11 "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord. "Plans to prosper you and not harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

As we end 2016 and look toward 2017, we carry hope in our hearts for a brighter future for so many in need. This year, Meeting Ground has been the rock to many individuals and families as they rebuild lives and dreams. Help us continue the hope that we bring to those who use our services, including warm meals, transitional and emergency winter housing, case management, guidance and love as we guide people on their way on the path to home.

Please consider making an end of year donation to support the services of Meeting Ground by clicking on the Donate button below and donating online.

Happy New Year!!

The Staff and Board of Directors of Meeting Ground would like to wish you and your family a Happy New Year full of wonderful blessings!

Upcoming Events

January 21: [North Elk Coffee House](#) with Craig Bickhardt.



Dinner served by the men from the Cecil County Men's Shelter

Love Continues

The Emergency Winter Rotating Shelter is in full swing in its fifth week. The final two weeks of the year has been challenging as Shenise Daughtry, Program Director of ERS has worked with volunteers from many, many churches to fill the schedule over the holiday. The guests had an awesome surprise on Christmas Eve, as they were treated to prime rib, mashed potatoes and green beans by a professional chef! We have had a maximum of 23 guests at one time, and the numbers will climb as the weather turns colder.

'Tis the season of many coughs and sniffles. Volunteers and guests alike seem to have this shared fight for good health. Isn't it hard to be thankful for things until suddenly we do not have it? Good health is one. It goes unnoticed until something demands our attention. Well, the guests made it through the Thanksgiving Alphabet. This first run-through was not easy. It *IS* hard to be thankful in the midst of hard circumstances, *BUT* it is possible with intentionality...and necessary for our peace of mind and change of heart. Join us as we learn the mystery of (honesty and) gratitude to God in the midst of trying times...on our way to ultimate *FREEDOM* from our darkest pits. Let us start over with the letter "A" and press in! Some of our guests are in recovery, some are seeking support through counseling, and others are pondering some housing opportunities. It most certainly is not just a homelessness thing, it is about dealing with *LIFE*. May we learn to do life together and know that we were made to be overcomers in Christ.

If you are interested in serving and loving our guests, there are plenty of opportunities. Contact Shenise at shenise@meetingground.org.

Doors open at 6:45 at St. Mary Anne's Episcopal Church in North East. Proceeds benefit Meeting Ground.

Quick Links

 Like us on Facebook

DONATE