

Connecticut Youth in Action

ASP Youth Mission Project

BY JANICE ALLEN *from Monroe UMC*



The UMC Monroe ASP Team kicked off their mission project during our worship service on Sunday, March 24th. Participants from our church include three youth: Cooper Rupp, Colin English, and Juliana Epstein. Our three adult volunteers are Wayne Epstein, Janice Allen, and Pastor Mark. The UMC ASP Team is part of a larger group called Seeds of ASP that has 20 teenagers and 10 adults committed to going this year.

The team will spend July 13th through July 20th on various construction projects. Although they do not know the exact jobs they will be asked to do, past activities included new roofs, plumbing, electric work, porches, retaining walls, kitchen cabinets, sheetrock, insulation, spackling, painting, and anything else you can imagine! Repairs are made at no cost to the families in need and are aimed at making homes warmer, safer, and drier.

During their time there, the UMC ASP Team will be sleeping in a local school, and using the cafeteria for meals. They will be with groups from other parts of the United States, and from a wide variety of religious backgrounds sharing meals, songs, chores, and time together. They have been promised lives will be changed.

To get ready for their trip, each participant will spend time learning basic and power tool safety, learning about the people in Appalachia, and about sensitivity to cultural differences. They also have to spend time fundraising to cover the cost of travel transportation, food, building materials, and supplies.

The UMC ASP team has two main fundraising efforts planned; they will be selling flowers in the Spring, but the majority of their income will be made up by sales of stock certificates,

The primary benefit of stock ownership is the satisfaction of helping others and knowing you are making a difference in people's lives, especially to the families in need. The experience also brings about spiritual growth for our youth and adults.

A \$25 donation makes you a *Silver Stockholder* and you will receive an invitation to their end of year dinner when they share pictures and stories from their trip. A \$100 donation makes you a *Gold Stockholder* and will get your name on the back of their team t-shirt. A \$250 donation makes you a *Platinum Stockholder* and will get your name on the back of their team t-shirt (in bigger letters!), a magnet for your car, and a video of their trip.

Please consider investing in their project. Check should be made payable to **PUMC Seeds of ASP** and sent/given to Janice Allen at 515 Cutlers Farm Road, Monroe, CT 06468. A copy of your Stock Certificate will be sent to you.



Thank you for your help and support. They could not do this without you!

Janice Allen