



LOVING, SERVING, GROWING

## Outreach 50 Challenge

Several of Epworth's Sunday School Classes and Small Groups accepted the Outreach 50 Challenge in mid-October and began reaching out to our neighbors in a variety of ways. The challenge came from the Outreach and Assimilation Team (OAT), which offered \$50 to Epworth groups with the challenge to do something for someone in the community with the provision that they knew it came from Epworth, was not part of an already existing Epworth program, and could be given in such a way as to possibly make it grow.

Accepting the challenge were:

The Boy's Study Group, Children in the Sunday Children's Ministry program, Corinthians, Dust Collectors, Gleaners, Maranatha, The Office Staff, The Praise Team, Seekers, Tippy's Friends/Sam's Club, Women's Bible Study, The Youth Group



Here are few ways that some of the groups are rising to the Outreach Challenge!

- The Boys Group decided to purchase a Thanksgiving dinner for four. They worked through Chiyona to find a worthy family. They also donated food to a local food bank and made a cash donation to The Little Red Door Cancer Agency.
- The Women's Bible Study used their \$50 to buy bus tickets. Excitement over the project resulted in many members of the group adding their money to the project. The result was that they were able to purchase 60 trip tickets. Other members knitted hats and scarves. They divided up into two groups and went to bus stops. The women reported that they met some very appreciative individuals who accepted the gift. Others were reluctant at first because they weren't in need but after an explanation accepted the gift with a promise to pass it on to someone who could use it.
- The Seekers gave their money to the principal at Allisonville Elementary School to help several families in need. Class members also contributed \$110, which was given out randomly in \$10 increments with no comments other than "Happy Thanksgiving" to

[epworthindy.org](http://epworthindy.org) | [facebook.com/epworthindy.org](https://facebook.com/epworthindy.org)

Epworth United Methodist Church  
6450 Allisonville Road, Indianapolis, IN 46220  
317-251-1481 | [office@epworthindy.org](mailto:office@epworthindy.org)

eleven soldiers in uniform having lunch at one of the restaurants in the Fort Ben area. The following note was paper-clipped to each \$10 bill: "Thanks so very much for your service. This meal's on us. Epworth Methodist Church [www.epworthindy.org](http://www.epworthindy.org)."

- Tippy's friends added more money to their \$50 and partnered with Rick Purvis, owner of The Coffee Brake at 62nd and Allisonville, to create vouchers for a free small coffee or it's equivalent. Rick also discounted the small coffee to stretch the money a little further. They left some vouchers with Rick to distribute as he saw fit and class members distributed the rest to patrons entering the Coffee Brake or exiting Big Lots or other businesses in that strip mall. The idea was to randomly distribute the vouchers, supporting a neighborhood business and presumably reaching people who either live in the area or pass through on a regular basis. They report feedback was good and that they received questions about Epworth and the Live Nativity. Tippy's Friends also passed the hat and bought movie tickets for Rick and his family for helping out.
- The Gleaners supplemented the \$50 with some of their own and went to the Dollar General store at 62nd and Allisonville. There they approached shoppers, told them they were from Epworth and offered to give a \$10 donation a favorite charity in their name. They gave \$120 away in about an hour.
- The Office Staff gave Starbucks cards to the FEDEX ,UPS, and USPS delivery people to thank them for their very positive attitudes and the energy they show when they come into the office. The staff said they wanted them to know that their attitude affected the staff and the work we do here at Epworth in a good way.

These are just a few of the ways that Epworth members have reached out to their community. Stay tuned for more!

[epworthindy.org](http://epworthindy.org) | [facebook.com/epworthindy.org](https://facebook.com/epworthindy.org)

Epworth United Methodist Church  
6450 Allisonville Road, Indianapolis, IN 46220  
317-251-1481 | [office@epworthindy.org](mailto:office@epworthindy.org)