



Changed Forever



Christmas 2016

Greetings, friends!

As I reflect on the approaching Christmas season and the outreach work of AOI, I can't help but to think of all those who fall between the cracks and do not have the means to celebrate the presence of the Lord in our midst. So often I have seen and heard the hopelessness when I am in one or another of our delivery areas. This is especially true since West Virginia has suffered the worst flood in our history!

I am reminded of the line that I read years ago from the Second Vatican Council: "You are the only Gospel some people will ever read." This certainly changed me forever!

What kind of Gospel am I?

I hope and pray that it is the good news that Jesus is present in our midst, even in our poverty and challenges, even if all is destroyed, lost and changed forever!

It is so hard to have hope when you live alone in a rural area of West Virginia with no family or friends living nearby. It is hard to have hope when you have been affected by a historic disaster, are displaced permanently, or are not able to do the needed repairs and must wait for a volunteer group to arrive.

*But AOI is able to be an extension of God's hands and heart with your generous support. Your donations will help us operate our warehouse, maintain our trucks, pay our insurance, and meet other obligations. With your assistance, we have delivered **over 200 tons of material necessities** to victims of poverty and disaster in **48 West Virginia counties and one in Kentucky**. Well over **40,000 individuals** will have been reached thanks to your generosity. Love can be shared! Hope can be restored! Joy can be experienced!*

I invite you to join me as part of the Gospel that so many want to hear and experience. Together we can make a difference for those who need us the most!

Donations may be mailed to

**Appalachian Outreach, Inc.
P.O. Box 233
Glen Dale, WV 26038**

Or you can use PayPal on our website at www.appalachianoutreaching.org. West Virginia tax credits are available for donations of \$500 or more on a first-come, first-served basis.

Peace and blessings from all of us at Appalachian Outreach!

*Rose Hart
Executive Director
Appalachian Outreach, Inc.*