



**acts of Love**  
EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION CENTER



## **UPCOMING CHRISTMAS MISSIONS UNITED METHODIST WOMEN (UMW)**

The United Methodist Women and CPFUMC will sponsor Advent awareness and support for two ministries that serve Cedar Park/Leander and surrounding area. These ministries serve women, children, and youth which is the primary focus of the UMW. We hope the entire church community will help support these ministries during this Advent season.

**acts of LOVE Early Childhood Education Center** is a ministry of ACTS Church in Leander and serves young families and their children in that area. In our community there is no affordable childcare available specifically for young parents who are pregnant or who have had children during high school or middle school. They provide childcare specifically for these parent(s) who would have dropped out of school due to lack of childcare. **acts of LOVE** wants to see the children grow and learn in a warm and nurturing environment and help young parents continue their education and graduate from high school. By giving these young mothers the opportunity to complete their education, **acts of LOVE** is laying the foundation for their future as mothers, providers, employees, and citizens of their community.

**The Refuge** for DMST™ (Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking) was launched in November 2013 and is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. **The Refuge** is a 21-building labor of love nestled among the Bastrop County pine trees. **The Refuge** is a long-term, residential, therapeutic community for girls, minors through age 19, who have been rescued out of sex trafficking. Built from the ground up on 50 acres in a beautiful and restorative setting, **The Refuge** provides trauma-informed, holistic care for the girls on site, including: a University of Texas Charter School program, a medical clinic staffed by community partners and various therapeutic programs uniquely designed for the development of a child survivor. **The Refuge**, with 48 beds, is the largest long-term, live-in rehabilitation facility for child survivors of sex trafficking in the United States. Statistics show that child sex trafficking is the fastest growing crime in the world and that there was an 846% increase in reported child sex trafficking cases from 2010 to 2015 in the United States alone. Learn more about **The Refuge** at: <https://therefugeaustin.org>.

### During Advent the following donations will be collected:

**Acts of Love** could really use **Lysol wipes** and **Kleenex/Puff type tissues** along with **diapers** (newborn #1 or #2) and **baby wipes**. AOL has an Amazon Wish List if you'd prefer to help in that way.

**The Refuge** needs *NEW* Girls Pajamas (*pants and long-sleeved shirts - all sizes XS-XXXL*), *NEW* socks (*long and short*), **NEW** hats, **NEW** gloves, **NEW** sweatshirts (*S- XXXL with a need for more large sizes*). **Please know that all donated items must be NEW.**

Monetary donations can be put to good use by **BOTH** ministries. Check their websites for more information and needs.

UMW appreciates your continued support in our missions. Please bring your donations to the church during the month of December. Donations boxes will be found in the Narthex.