

Good News to the Poor

Members of the congregation will know that at the beginning of December I intimated that there would be a collection of toys for a toy bank. I hoped to raise a few toys to give out to families struggling to buy gifts for their children. Thank you to all who gave so generously.

I mentioned what we were doing to my youngest daughter and she put a note round her work colleagues and before I knew it many more toys arrived.

All was calm and we were able to begin to give toys to those who asked us.

Then my middle daughter came out with me on a delivery of food to a family in real difficulties. She was distressed at the level of need and went home and asked a few friends through face book for some additional toys.

Well, it went completely crazy. The Boys Brigade Company in Dunblane got wind and many people began to contact my daughter saying they wanted to help. And so they did.....7 van loads of toys, clothes, bedding, food arrived at the former North Church over 21st and 23rd December. All was not calm!!! I was overwhelmed.....the newspapers wanted to hear, and Central FM put an announcement out on the radio.

Local churches came and helped to sort out food and toys and I can say that over 70 families were directly helped with toys. Food bags were made up with seasonal fare and delivered to guests who'd come for the Christmas Day meal.

The food bank is fully stocked which is wonderful because we make up around 4-5 bags every week, mostly delivered through the CAB and Social Services. However over the Christmas period we have sent out directly assistance to six families.

I have packed up 20 boxes of new toys so we are ready for next year!!! Still sorting and sifting through the textiles.....

A wonderful response and a joy to be able to help.

Thank you for your continued commitment to bring good news to the poor.

If you are able to commit a few hours a month to help with this work please contact the ministers or Rita McNeil.