

## Holiday Giving Tree

**What:** This mission gives Christmas gifts to local families in need.

**When:** Annually in November and December

**Who:** Coordinators for this ministry vary from year to year and in recent years have included:

- Beth Dreibelbis
- The Sturm family
- Leah and Molly Burke

**How:** Every November the congregation gathers around a Christmas tree to pick paper ornaments from the tree. Each ornament lists a gift needed for a child.

The children's names are received from the Howard Center in early November. The coordinator organizes the names, writes the item for each child, makes an ornament for each child with Christmas item listed, and puts the ornaments on the tree. Members choose ornaments and deliver the specified items (gifts) to the church.

About ten days before Christmas, the coordinator delivers the gifts to social workers who will deliver them to the children and their families.

Some years young people at Ascension hold a cookie sale as an additional fundraising activity. Money from the sale goes to food cards to help the recipient families with holiday meals.