

Scott United Ministries AMEN House

Supported by Georgetown First Presbyterian Church



In 1989, recognizing a need in the community for food, clothing, and financial assistance to families in need, Georgetown First Presbyterian Church helped establish the AMEN (Associated Ministries Easing Need) House. Now under the control of Scott United Ministries but still operating from a facility provided by First Presbyterian Church, the AMEN House provides emergency assistance to Scott County families and individuals in need.

The AMEN House is located adjacent to First Presbyterian Church. The Church conducted an extensive construction project in 2013 to renovate the Amen House and provide the Amen House with a much more usable space from which to address the needs of local families.

Georgetown First Presbyterian Church is, by far, the largest single contributor to the AMEN House. In addition to providing a facility from which to operate, the church conducts recurring food and clothing drives and collects dedicated offerings to support the AMEN House. Several members from the church serve as volunteers and as members of the Scott United Ministries Board of Directors. In recent years, a small Transylvania Presbytery Hunger Grant has also helped the AMEN House carry out its mission.

The AMEN House has developed a reputation as a very efficient and effective program to deal with emergency needs within our community. A number of other churches in Scott County now provide regular monetary and volunteer support. Local businesses and civic organizations also provide support in the form of donations of money, food, clothing, and other resources.

As recognition and support for the AMEN House has grown, so have the needs within the community. In the most recent fiscal year (2015-2016) the AMEN House serviced 3528 family requests for food assistance, and 2117 family requests for clothing assistance. Additionally, the AMEN house provided immediate funds to families facing utility cutoff during the winter, and lodging vouchers to individuals and families who found themselves without a place to sleep.



Because of the extremely low overhead associated with the AMEN House, primarily due to the extensive use of volunteer workers to make emergency distributions along with the extensive level of community support, the Amen House represents an extremely cost effective approach to community service. Working within an annual budget of only about \$145,000, the AMEN House distributes approximately \$85,000 in small emergency grants to individuals and families. The remaining funds

(\$60,000) are used to support food and clothing distribution. Since over 5600 family requests for food or clothing are addressed each year, this means the AMEN House is able to meet these food and clothing needs at an average cost of only about \$10 dollars per family request.

Georgetown First Presbyterian Church is blessed to be able to support the AMEN House, and is very proud of the AMEN House management and staff who carry out this important local ministry on a daily basis. We are also very grateful for the gracious support coming from Transylvania Presbytery.