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By Carolyn Lee

The Imperial Republican

Wednesday was set aside this week to distribute Christmas cheer to families in need through The Gift. The program, in its second year, involved nine Imperial churches.

The churches either delivered the presents they were responsible for, or presents were picked up by the recipients at Imperial United Methodist Church Wednesday.

Coordinator Amy Prior said over 70 individuals or families were helped this year. She said \$1,000 in cash was donated, in addition to gift cards.

That was over and above the shopping that donors and businesses did to make Christmas special for those persons whose names were submitted for help.

The churches involved, besides the Methodist Church, were St. Patrick's Catholic, Christian Faith Outreach, Westside Church of Christ, Berean Fundamental, Lighthouse Fellowship, Crossroads Wesleyan and Imperial Bible Churches.

In addition to the Christmas present project, The Gift has an account at Adams Bank & Trust. Those in need during the year may contact The Gift board members such as Mary Wilson, Angie Paisley or Merrilyn Leibbrandt for information.