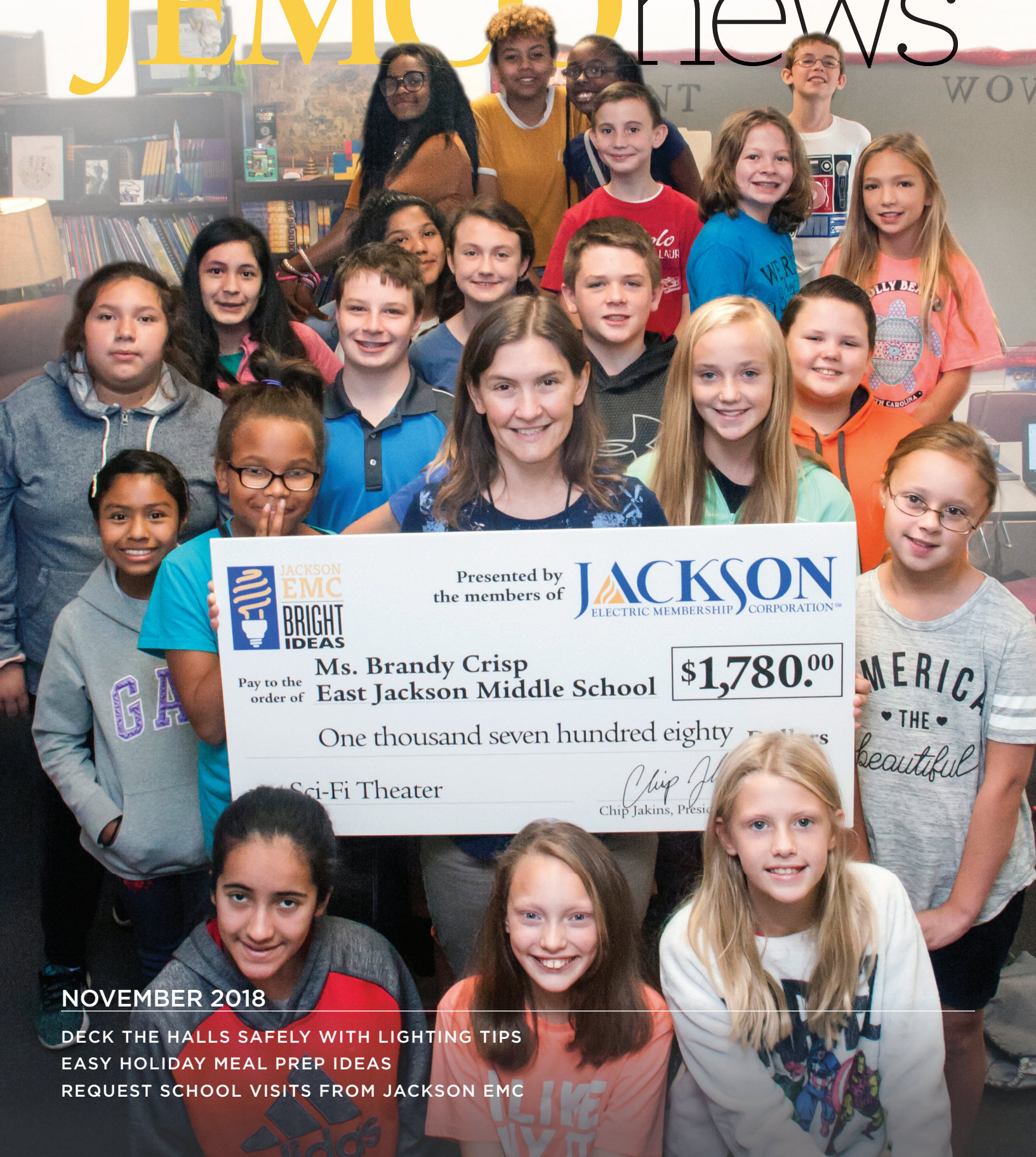


# JEMCOnews



Presented by  
the members of



Pay to the order of **Ms. Brandy Crisp**  
**East Jackson Middle School**

**\$1,780.00**

One thousand seven hundred eighty dollars

Sci-Fi Theater

*Chip Jakins*  
Chip Jakins, President

**NOVEMBER 2018**

DECK THE HALLS SAFELY WITH LIGHTING TIPS  
EASY HOLIDAY MEAL PREP IDEAS  
REQUEST SCHOOL VISITS FROM JACKSON EMC



# STORIES OF APPRECIATION

Not too long ago, we received a thank you card from a member who appreciated the exceptional care she received from Lisa Miller, one of our customer service representatives.

The member wrote how grateful she was for Lisa's kindness and helpfulness when she called our contact center. What makes these words of appreciation more extraordinary is that the member sent the card as a handwritten note. She took that extra time to give thanks. When it's so easy nowadays to quickly send a text or email, spending that extra time to write a note by hand feels a little more special.

Every day I'm privileged to work around some fine folks here at Jackson EMC and I let them know they're appreciated. But, I'm especially honored when members let us know their appreciation for our employees, too.

In one story, a longtime member was preparing to move out of our service area. Before he moved, the member made a point to let us know how much he appreciated the care he received over the years from Larry Carswell, a customer service representative in our Gwinnett office. The member said Larry was always very kind and helpful when he visited the office each month to pay his bill. That's great a kudos!

In another case, we received a very nice compliment from Hall County Parks and Leisure about some of our linemen. A tree had fallen on two poles, resulting in a power outage to a park. Jason Wade and Brandon Nunn, two linemen from our Gainesville office, responded to the outage and as the parks department noted, "saved the day." Indeed, linemen often do heroic work to serve our community!

When some of our crews went to south Georgia to help restore power after Hurricane Michael, we heard from a number of residents in Grady

County who appreciated the assistance and supported our crews. One family sent me a card expressing their appreciation for our crews helping in tough conditions. The family even welcomed us back to Cairo when conditions improve. What an uplifting gesture!

At our office in Neese, we heard from a member who initially came to us to discuss an abnormally high bill. During her visit, the member talked with customer service representative Luisa Battle, who guided the member through her bill and discussed energy saving tips. One of our residential marketing representatives, Brian Patton, also visited the member at her home to evaluate additional energy-saving recommendations. The member let us know how much she appreciated the knowledge, care and willingness to help she received from Luisa and Brian.

I, too, appreciate it when members let us know when they've received exceptional service from our employees. For that matter, I encourage you to give appreciation to those around you – the people working in a grocery store, emergency responders, teachers, sales clerks in stores, etc. Give them a positive word of appreciation for the work they do. Just taking a moment to say "thanks" means a lot. It really does.

**Have a story of exceptional service from a Jackson EMC employee you want to share with me? Send me an email at [chip@jacksonemc.com](mailto:chip@jacksonemc.com).**

Chip Jakins, President/CEO

## Request SCHOOL VISITS FROM JACKSON EMC

Educators looking to bring learning to life can request Jackson EMC employees to visit their schools and classrooms for demonstrations or speaking opportunities.

Jackson EMC employees can present an electrical safety demonstration, showcase the electrical safety trailer or Powertown™, or participate in a career fair or job fair. The content can be customized for elementary, middle or high schools, and can support Georgia curriculum standards.



LEARN MORE AT [JACKSONEMC.COM/SCHOOLVISITS](http://JACKSONEMC.COM/SCHOOLVISITS)



# Deck the Halls SAFELY with These Lighting Tips

The holidays are coming - and for many families, that means it's time to deck the halls with festive lighting. Statistics show home fires and electrical accidents typically increase during winter months, so keep these holiday lighting tips in mind for a safe holiday season.



**CAREFULLY INSPECT**  
all electrical decorations before you use them. Cracked or damaged sockets and/or loose or exposed wires can cause serious shock or start a fire. Discard any defective strands.



**CONSIDER PURCHASING**  
LED lights, which use less energy and run cooler than traditional incandescent lights.

SHOP FOR LED HOLIDAY LIGHTS AT  
[JACKSONEMCMARKETPLACE.COM](http://JACKSONEMCMARKETPLACE.COM).



**ALWAYS UNPLUG**  
electrical decorations before replacing bulbs or fuses.



**TURN OFF**  
all indoor and outdoor electrical decorations before leaving home or going to sleep.

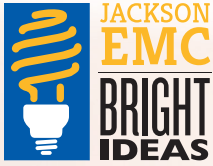


**AVOID**  
resting bulbs on tree needles and branches. Try using a clip to keep bulbs upright.



**MAKE SURE**  
that electrical cords are not pinched in doors, windows or under heavy furniture. It could damage the cord's insulation and cause a fire.

-Source: Electrical Safety Foundation International



# Surprise!

## Educators Awarded Bright Ideas Grants from Jackson EMC

Jackson EMC awarded \$51,461 to 43 middle school classrooms in 19 schools with grant money from the Bright Ideas program. Winning entries represented a variety of 21st century disciplines that interest students, including astronomy, Earth science, engineering, horticulture, language arts, math, music, physics and social studies.

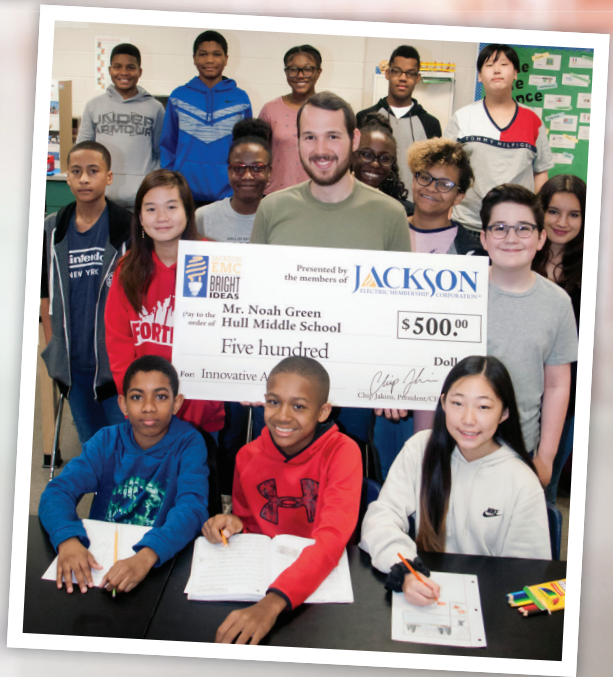
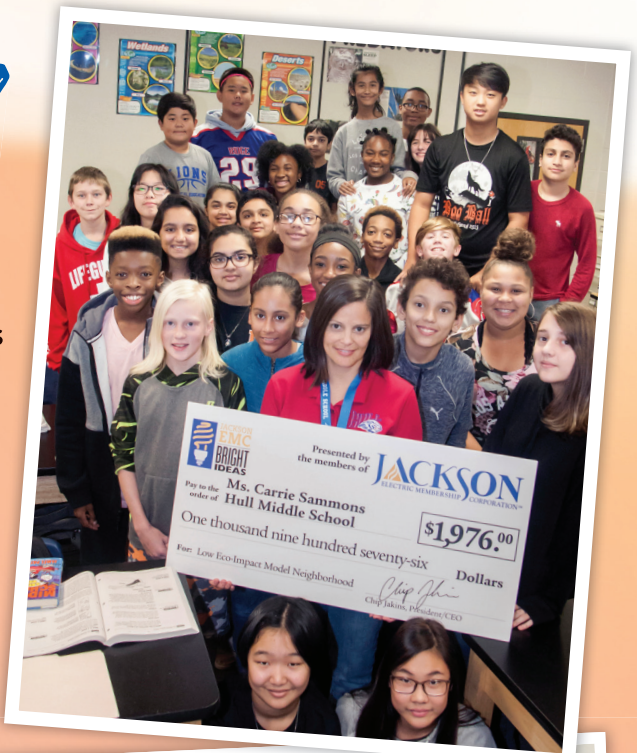
“Many teachers incorporated project-based learning into the classroom,” said Karen Ewing, community relations representative for Jackson EMC. “Our judges were very impressed with the range of projects educators created to engage their students.”

The Bright Ideas grant program, in its fourth year at Jackson EMC, funds innovative classroom projects developed by state-certified public middle school educators within the counties served by Jackson EMC. Educators for grades six through eight can apply for up to \$2,000 in grant funds for classroom projects that are not funded through general education dollars.

Science teachers will use their Bright Ideas grant funds from Jackson EMC for students to design bridge trusses, weather balloons and 3D atom models. Social studies teachers will create lessons to incorporate the broader community into the classroom to explore Georgia’s role in the Civil Rights Movement and to learn genealogical research methods. Language arts educators will use their grant funds to design projects to enhance the reading experience and to teach financial literacy.

Funded projects must involve the students directly, provide a creative learning experience with ongoing benefits through innovative teaching methods, create opportunities for teamwork and support the continuous improvement of education in Georgia. A panel of independent judges from higher education institutions and nonprofit foundations in north Georgia review the applications.

*Applications for 2019 Bright Ideas grants will open next spring.*



 FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT BRIGHT IDEAS, VISIT [JACKSONEMC.COM/BRIGHTIDEAS](http://JACKSONEMC.COM/BRIGHTIDEAS).

A TOTAL OF  
**\$51,461**  
 DONATED THROUGH  
 THE BRIGHT  
 IDEAS GRANT  
 PROGRAM

| MIDDLE SCHOOL NAME | AWARD      | EDUCATOR             | PROJECT                                      |
|--------------------|------------|----------------------|--|
| Bear Creek MS      | \$306.00   | Donna Morris         | Hydroponic Grow                              |
| Bear Creek MS      | \$1,450.00 | Anne Ridgway         | Podcasting in ELA                            |
| Bear Creek MS      | \$1,777.00 | Ashley Bailey        | Innovation Station                           |
| Haymon Morris MS   | \$1,075.00 | Teresa Johnson       | Out of the Dark                              |
| Russell MS         | \$1,851.00 | Nicole Baker         | 3D Science                                   |
| Westside MS        | \$1,892.00 | Jennifer Deckard     | Physical Science to Life                     |
| Westside MS        | \$600.00   | Cheryl D'Aloisio     | Engaging 8th grade ELA                       |
| Westside MS        | \$1,337.00 | Valerie Lancaster    | Enriching Math for Engaged Students          |
| Westside MS        | \$750.00   | Hannah Croy          | Mobile Broadcasting                          |
| Commerce MS        | \$970.00   | April Davis          | Electrifying Learning                        |
| Commerce MS        | \$949.00   | Adam Shirley         | Seeing Heat: Infrared Engineering            |
| Coleman MS         | \$1,000.00 | Kelli Sinclair       | Data Collection PBL                          |
| Coleman MS         | \$1,845.00 | Katlyn Crews         | Van Gogh's Flowers                           |
| Dacula MS          | \$398.00   | Jennifer Gillis      | Egg out the Competition                      |
| Dacula MS          | \$547.00   | Rhonda Horton        | Learning Made Fun Math Initiative            |
| Hull MS            | \$845.00   | David Schoenrock     | Innovation in Soil & Water Conservation      |
| Hull MS            | \$500.00   | Noah Green           | Innovative Agriculture                       |
| Hull MS            | \$1,976.00 | Carrie Sammons       | Low Eco-Impact Model Neighborhood            |
| Jordan MS          | \$1,399.00 | Stacey Edison Bryson | STEMulate Learning Robotics                  |
| McConnell MS       | \$1,000.00 | Kristin Fuqua        | Sowing Seeds of Learning                     |
| Northbrook MS      | \$395.00   | Angelika Shelley     | Bringing Personal Finance to Life            |
| Radloff MS         | \$314.00   | Alex Sheffield       | Projekt 1065                                 |
| Twin Rivers MS     | \$1,000.00 | Lori Youngblood      | "Lettuce" Eat To Be Healthy                  |
| Twin Rivers MS     | \$1,000.00 | Angela Tarantino     | Focus on Food & Fitbits                      |
| Twin Rivers MS     | \$1,955.00 | Jason Hurd           | Monitoring the World Thru Internet of Things |
| Twin Rivers MS     | \$1,000.00 | Katie Wilcoxson      | Harnessing the Wind                          |
| Twin Rivers MS     | \$1,778.00 | Anna Herdliska       | Visualizing DNA                              |
| Twin Rivers MS     | \$1,050.00 | Andrew Cox           | STEM to the Stratosphere                     |
| Twin Rivers MS     | \$1,000.00 | Holli Greene         | Designing Bridge Trusses                     |
| Chestatee MS       | \$500.00   | Katie Rountree       | Calling All Readers                          |
| Chestatee MS       | \$1,616.00 | Dawn Hudgins         | Digging Up Our Roots                         |
| Chestatee MS       | \$1,000.00 | Terri Gruenenfelder  | Earth Science Exploration Box                |
| Chestatee MS       | \$634.00   | Carrie Jane Sparks   | Happy About Elements                         |
| East Hall MS       | \$1,255.00 | Lona Hall            | Martian Settlement                           |
| East Jackson MS    | \$1,780.00 | Brandy Crisp         | Sci-Fi Theater                               |
| East Jackson MS    | \$500.00   | Frances Kwiatkowski  | A Meaningful Library                         |
| West Jackson MS    | \$1,000.00 | Lara Komanecy        | Photojournalism                              |
| West Jackson MS    | \$1,647.00 | Raechel Hunt         | Civil Rights Movement                        |
| West Jackson MS    | \$1,988.00 | Dana Harrell         | Beatles School of Rock                       |
| West Jackson MS    | \$1,996.00 | Sally Anne Short     | The Last Straw                               |
| West Jackson MS    | \$1,865.00 | William Kilgore      | 21st Century Band                            |
| Jefferson MS       | \$1,797.00 | Melissa Radaker      | Solving Problems with Electronics            |
| Lumpkin MS         | \$1,924.00 | Bryan Fagan          | Interference & Diffraction of Light          |

## COMMUNITY IMPACT: *Judy House Ministry*



Following the passing of his wife, Judy, in 2013, Dan Capobianco came up with an idea to once again fill his Lawrenceville house with laughter – this time from people in need.

Teaming up with two other men, Capobianco launched Judy House Ministry, a faith-based program named for his wife, where once-homeless men are provided housing, Biblical counseling, and a community of peers who encourage each other as they transition to independent living.

As director, Capobianco operates the ministry with Paul Epperson, program manager, and Russell Gray, president of Greater Gwinnett Reentry Alliance, which helps people released from prison re-enter society. A volunteer at the Gwinnett County Detention Center, Gray also volunteers with the Gwinnett Reentry

Intervention Program (GRIP), which connects homeless inmates with local assistance before they are released from jail.

With Gray seeing the need firsthand at the detention center, Judy House's first clients were identified quickly and, by the summer of 2013, there were nine residents in the house. Since then, Judy House has served 175 men, according to Epperson. At any given time, four-to-six clients reside at the large house where meals and community are provided.

"Most of our clients get here just after being released from jail," Epperson said. He identifies the reasons that lead to homelessness as "poor decisions, drugs, and alcohol," short and simple. The way out is not always as simply stated.

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"People can't go it alone," Epperson said. "Judy House believes that effective transition requires relationships, and that's why our program meets people where they are with resourceful information and residential transition to help navigate their crisis."

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The ministry offers a family-setting and support to help clients successfully re-integrate back into the community. Some seek short-term emergency housing while those who need long-term housing may stay a year until they get a reliable job that enables them to maintain a home.

The Jackson EMC Foundation awarded Judy House a \$10,000 grant last year to provide food, household supplies and rent while residents seek jobs and reconnect with their families and community. For more information about Judy House, visit [judyhouse.org](http://judyhouse.org).



FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE JACKSON EMC FOUNDATION, VISIT [JACKSONEMC.COM/FOUNDATION](http://JACKSONEMC.COM/FOUNDATION).

## OPERATION ROUND UP®: YOUR DONATIONS AT WORK

The Jackson EMC Foundation board of directors awarded a total

**\$64,725 IN GRANTS**

during its September meeting, including \$59,725 to organizations and \$5,000 to an individual.

### ORGANIZATIONAL GRANT RECIPIENTS:

**\$15,000 | Center Point Georgia**, in Gainesville, for its Smart Girls program, which focuses on goal planning, social skills education, and decision-making as well as developing personal responsibility and safety for middle and high school students in Gainesville and Hall County schools.

**\$15,000 | Norcross Cooperative Ministry**, in Gwinnett County, for its Emergency Rental Assistance Program, which provides matching funds to assist clients with one month's housing costs.

**\$10,000 | iServe Ministries**, a Jackson County grassroots organization seeking to end generational poverty in northeast Georgia, for its "Bags of Love" program, which delivers a backpack full of food to more than 225 families in Jackson County schools each week.

**\$10,000 | Our Neighbor**, a Gainesville grassroots nonprofit organization dedicated to assisting young adults with special challenges to reach their maximum level of independence, to assist with its independent living program for residents with disabilities.

**\$5,000 | Greater Atlanta Pathways**, a community-based volunteer organization in Suwanee that offers support programs to adults with disabilities in Barrow, Gwinnett and Hall counties, for its Gwinnett Masters Special Teams program, which gives people with disabilities the opportunity to learn team sports, social skills and interaction, and benefit from physical exercise.

**\$4,725 | Franklin Life Pregnancy Resource Center**, in Carnesville, for its Earn While You Learn Baby program, which provides educational materials on parenting and life skills to new and existing parents in Banks, Franklin, Jackson and Madison counties.

### INDIVIDUAL GRANT RECIPIENTS:

**\$5,000** to help provide a new HVAC unit for a family of senior citizens.



FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO APPLY FOR A GRANT, VISIT [JACKSONEMC.COM/FOUNDATION](http://JACKSONEMC.COM/FOUNDATION)

## KITCHEN CHEAT SHEET FREEZER STORAGE TIMES

| MEAT                 | MONTHS |
|----------------------|--------|
| Steaks               | 6-12   |
| Chops                | 4-6    |
| Bacon                | 1      |
| Sausages             | 1-2    |
| Soups                | 2-3    |
| Ground Beef          | 3-4    |
| Luncheon Meat        | 1-2    |
| POULTRY              | MONTHS |
| Whole                | 12     |
| Part                 | 6-9    |
| Quiche               | 2-3    |
| FISH                 | MONTHS |
| Lean                 | 0      |
| Oily                 | 2-3    |
| Breaded              | 18     |
| Cooked               | 1-2    |
| Smoked               | 9-12   |
| Shrimp               | 6-18   |
| DAIRY                | MONTHS |
| Butter               | 9      |
| Margarine            | 12     |
| Ice Cream            | 2      |
| Cheese               | 6      |
| Yogurt               | 1-2    |
| BASICS               | MONTHS |
| Pizza                | 1-2    |
| Herbs                | 1-2    |
| Leftovers w/out Meat | 1-2    |
| Leftovers w/Meat     | 2-3    |
| Bread                | 3-5    |
| Fruit                | 4-6    |
| Tofu                 | 5      |
| Cooked Rice          | 6      |
| Cakes                | 6      |
| Vegetables           | 8      |
| Fruit Pies           | 8      |
| Nuts                 | 6-9    |
| Juice                | 12-24  |

## 4 EASY *Holiday Meal* PREP TIPS

The holiday season is a busy time of year - but a few smart moves in the kitchen can help you save energy and money. Make meal preparation easier by following some of these tips.



### REPLACE WARPED PANS

Flat-bottom cookware allows for more contact with heating elements, which in turn heats your pan more effectively. A warped-bottom pot could use 50 percent more energy to boil water than a flat-bottomed pot.



### USE THE RIGHT SIZE COOKWARE

When cooking on the stove top, using the right size pan matters. Placing a six-inch pan on an eight-inch electric burner wastes more than 40 percent of the heat produced by the burner. In addition, covering pans as you cook also saves some energy.



### DOUBLE UP

If possible, prepare double portions of your meal and cook them together. Freeze the extra portions for later. It takes a lot less energy to reheat food than to cook it twice. Using a microwave can use as much as 80 percent less energy when reheating food than a standard oven.



### GIVE YOUR HEAT PUMP A BREAK

If you're hosting people at home for a holiday party, turn down your thermostat to compensate for the extra heat. The heat from the oven and guests will make your home warmer. So, turn down your heat pump's temperature to keep your home comfortable for everyone.

## MEMBERS MAKE IT DELICIOUS: *Sweet Potato Surprise*



### INGREDIENTS:

|                                    |                                   |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 4 pounds sweet potatoes            | 1/2 tsp. of cinnamon and allspice |
| 2 large sliced Granny Smith apples | 1 tsp. salt                       |
| 4 bananas, peeled and chopped      | 1 1/2 cups apple juice            |
| 1 tbsp. vegetable oil              | 1/2 cup fresh lemon juice         |
| 1 tbsp. butter                     | 1/2 cup dried, chopped apricots   |
| 2 tbsp. minced fresh ginger        | 1/2 cup chopped pecans            |

### DIRECTIONS

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Peel potatoes and boil until soft, drain. In a large nonstick skillet, sauté apples and bananas in oil and butter with ginger, cinnamon, allspice and salt. Cook slowly, covered, stirring occasionally for 10 to 15 minutes.

Coat a 9-by 13-inch baking dish. Puree potatoes with fruit juices in a food processor. Stir sautéed fruit into puree. Add apricots. Heap into prepared baking pan. Top with pecans. Bake, uncovered for 45 minutes.

“With so many vegetarians in the crowd these days, I have started to prepare this vegetarian recipe, along with all of the traditional turkey and stuffing options.”

—LINDA BACHMANN, GAINESVILLE

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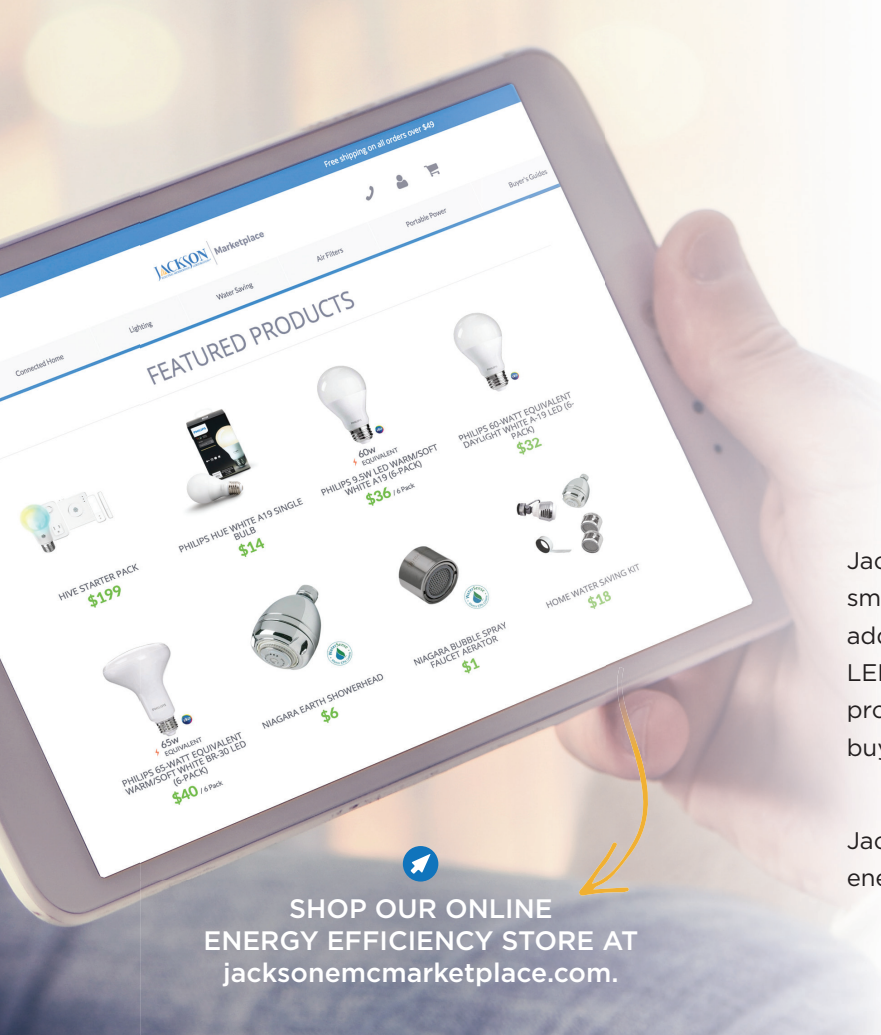
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