

Holiday *Resource Guide*

Helping Families Find Hope, Warmth,
and a Full Plate This Season



Brought to you by
United Way of Anderson County
UWAYAC.ORG

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Community Thanksgiving Meals



OAK RIDGE COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING

When: Thanksgiving Day, 11 AM – 1 PM

Where: High Places Community Church

123 Randolph Road, Oak Ridge

Volunteer/Donate:

oakridgecommunitythanksgiving@gmail.com

Because everyone deserves someone to give thanks with! Volunteers are needed between 9 AM – 3 PM to help serve meals and share kindness.

RUBY & FAMILY DINER – FREE LUNCH

Thanksgiving Day | Opens at 11:30 AM and serves until 2 PM or while supplies last.

Enjoy a full Thanksgiving meal with turkey, ham, and all the fixings. - This meal is for everyone

Please don't sit home by yourself! Come share a meal and community fellowship with Clyde & JoAnn Young and family.



Food Pantries & Meal Programs

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH – OAK RIDGE

1350 Oak Ridge Turnpike

Free Community Meal: Wednesdays at 5:30 PM

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH – OAK RIDGE

Food Pantry: Thursdays 1–4 PM

Clothing Closet: Thursdays 1:30–3:30 PM
(one visit per month)

1101 Oak Ridge Turnpike

OAK RIDGE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH

Free Community Meal – October 31, 5:30–6:30 PM

809 Oak Ridge Turnpike

KERN CHURCH FOOD BANK

451 East Tennessee Ave, Oak Ridge, TN

November 8 | 10 AM – 12 PM

Reserve food with the QR Code



LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR PROJECT - MOMS OF OR

301 Broadway Ave, Suite 101 Oak Ridge TN

Free Community Meal: Wednesdays at 6:30 PM

Food Pantries & Meal Programs



BRYSON'S CLOSET – FOOD & CLOTHING MINISTRY

225 N Main St, Clinton, TN

Food Pantry & Clothing: Tuesday – Friday | 1 – 4 PM

LIFEHOUSE CHURCH

535 Oak Ridge Turnpike, Oak Ridge, TN

November 8 at 1 PM – First 100 cars receive a turkey!

Food provided by Second Harvest & church members.

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Every Friday | 10 AM – 12 PM

131 W Gettysburg Ave, Oak Ridge, TN 37830

HIGHLAND VIEW CHURCH OF CHRIST

Biweekly Thursdays | 10 AM – 12 PM

138 Providence Rd, Oak Ridge, TN 37830

CLINTON CHURCH OF GOD

635 Hillcrest St, Clinton

4th Saturday Monthly | Food: 8:30 AM until supplies last

Clothing: 8:30 – 11 AM

Food Pantries & Meal Programs



COMPASSION MINISTRY (JELICO HIGH SCHOOL)

141 High School Lane, Jellico, TN

Food Distribution: 9 AM – 1 PM November 1st

NORRIS AREA FOOD PANTRY

Fourth Thursday Monthly (or the Thursday before Thanksgiving and Christmas)

8:30 AM – 12 PM

62 Ridgeway Road, Norris TN

WEST VILLAGE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Blessing Box: Stocked Tuesdays, Thursdays, & Saturdays

Drive Thru Pantry 2nd Thursday Monthly at 10 AM - 12 PM

10 AM – 12 PM

Holiday Events: Thanksgiving & Christmas – 2nd

Thursdays in November & December

COMPASSION MINISTRY (JELICO HIGH SCHOOL)

141 High School Lane, Jellico, TN

Food Distribution: 9 AM – 1 PM

Free Community Resources



THE COMMUNITY BOX

162 Hamilton Circle, Oak Ridge



A 24/7 neighbor-run pantry – take what you need, leave what you can.

Accepting donations of: nonperishable food, hygiene products, baby items, and household essentials.

GOOD NEIGHBORS OF NORRIS

Founded in the 1930s, this coalition of Norris-area churches helps neighbors in need.

Christmas Support: Holiday food baskets and gifts through an Angel Tree program.

Utility Assistance: Helps families with winter bills via Anderson County Community Action.

How to Help Contact:

robertgregory7103@hotmail.com





Clothing Resources



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH – OAK RIDGE

Clothing Closet: Thursdays 1:30–3:30 PM

(one visit per month)

1101 Oak Ridge Turnpike

CLINTON CHURCH OF GOD

635 Hillcrest St, Clinton

4th Saturday Monthly | Clothing: 8:30 – 11 AM

BRYSON'S CLOSET (FIRST BAPTIST CLINTON)

225 N Main St, Clinton

Tuesday – Friday | 1 – 4 PM

BOB'S WASHBOARD LAUNDROMAT – OAK RIDGE

Free Coat Rack available all winter – no questions asked!



Free Family Events & Holiday Fun

CHARACTERS, CARTOONS & CHEER!

PBS KIDS HOLIDAY EVENT

Saturday, December 13, 2025 | 11 AM – 1 PM

Watch favorite PBS Kids Holiday Specials

Meet PBS characters for photos & fun

Sensory-friendly session: 10:30 – 11 AM

Venue: Tennessee Theatre

OAK RIDGE CHRISTMAS PARADE

Saturday, December 13, 2025 | Starts at 6 PM

2025 Theme: A Country Christmas

Hosted by the Oak Ridge Chamber of Commerce

Enjoy floats, lights, music, and community holiday cheer!

ELFIE SELFIES WITH SANTA

BY UNITED WAY OF ANDERSON COUNTY

Saturday, December 6th, 2025 | 1 PM – 4 PM

United Way Community Room, 301. Broadway Ave, Oak Ridge

Free photos with Santa

Kids' crafts, cocoa & family activities

Holiday fun for all – no registration needed!

Bring the whole family out to celebrate the season! These free community events offer photos, fun, and festive memories for all ages.



Most local toy adoption and Angel Tree programs have closed for 2025,
but there are still ways to give and receive holiday help this season.

TOY & GIFT ASSISTANCE

A nationwide program connecting letters to Santa with
generous adopters who help make holiday wishes come true!

How It Works:

Families and children can write letters to Santa and send
them through USPS. Verified adopters can then “adopt” a
letter and anonymously fulfill those Christmas wishes.

Key Dates for 2025:

September 15 – Holiday Season Begins for Letter Writers

November 3 – Registration Opens for Adopters

November 17 – Letter Adoption Starts

December 6 – Last Call for Letter Writers!

December 13 – Last Day to Ship Gifts

How to Participate:

Visit uspsoperationsanta.com to:

Send a Letter: Write your holiday wish and mail it following
the USPS “How-To” guide before December 6.

Adopt a Letter: Register as an adopter, read real letters to
Santa, and fulfill one anonymously.





Volunteer Opportunities

Together, We Make the Holidays Brighter

From food and clothing to family fun and volunteer spirit
– there's something for everyone this holiday season.

Let's come together as neighbors to share kindness,
hope, and cheer across Anderson County!

ELFIE SELFIES WITH SANTA - UNITED WAY

Help with crafts, cocoa, or greeting families.

December 6th, 2025

Email jordan@uwayac.org or scan the QR code!



SALVATION ARMY BELL RINGER

Be the reason someone smiles this season!

Scan QR Code to volunteer!



OAK RIDGE COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING

Serve meals, donate food, or help clean up.

Email: oakridgecommunitythanksgiving@gmail.com



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