

**2015 ANNUAL REPORT** 

# OUR PASSIONS First Baptist Church is a Family of Faith passionately committed to following Jesus.



### **Intimate Worship**

Believers worship God in private and with other believers.



#### **Spiritual Conversations**

Believers engage people in conversations about God and a personal relationship with Him.



#### **Intentional Spiritual Growth**

Believers endeavor to learn about the Christian faith, live out the principles of Jesus' teaching, and place their faith at the center of their lives.



#### **Spiritual Friendships**

Believers become friends with each other, providing encouragement and loving accountability.



#### **Prayer**

Believers communicate with their Father who loves them and desires to hear their praises and requests.



#### **Christ-Centered Homes**

Believers teach and model the ways of God in their homes.



#### Servanthood

Believers serve others in obedience to Jesus' example.



#### Resource Investment

Believers utilize all their God-given gifts, including time, talent and money, in ministry and missions locally and around the world.



Steve & Monieca Hogg

#### The chorus of the 1897 hymn enjoins:

"Count your blessings, name them one by one; Count your blessings, see what God hath done; Count your blessings, name them one by one, And it will surprise you what the Lord hath done"

Many of us recently gathered around a dinner table with family to celebrate the Thanksgiving holiday. We bowed our heads and offered thanks to God for His blessings. We expressed appreciation to our loved ones. We took a day to count our blessings. We need a day like that every year because it gives us an opportunity to slow down and actually reflect on our many blessings.

This annual report has been prepared because we also need a day to reflect on how blessed we are to be part of First Baptist Church. It is easy to take our church for granted. So it is our hope that you take time to read through this report and give "thanks" to our Lord for all the ministry done in His name at this church.

As we put this report together, I was reminded of just how expansive our ministries really are. Yet this report only shows some of the highlights from each of the past twelve months. To tell the full story of all that God's people at FBC have done this past year would require many more pages.

I would be remiss if I did not say "thank you" to each and every person in our church who serves Jesus in any of our ministries. Everything mentioned in this report is possible because God's people serve Him.

I would also be remiss if I did not say "thank you" to each and every person in our church who gives financially to FBC. Ministry takes money. Every ministry and event mentioned in this report is possible because God's people give tithes and offerings.

As you read this report and give thanks to the Lord, please allow me to ask you to do two things. One, pray that God empowers us in 2016 to do even more in His name to make a difference in this community and in the lives of people who are lost and hurting. Two, commit to being a faithful giver in 2016 and finish 2015 by making the most generous donation you can in December. Your giving and prayers do make a difference and they are needed.

It has been an honor for me to serve this great church as Pastor for the past 28 years and I look forward to all God is going to do in the year ahead. Thank you for giving me this honor.

In His Service.

Pastor Steve Hogg

Steve Hogg



NOTABLE EVENTS:

Salvation Army Bell Ringers

Jingle Jam (Children's Event)

JOY Choir & Children's Choirs Christmas Program

Christmas Eve Service

World Missions Offering

Senior Adult Luncheon (Dutchman Creek Middle School Chorus)

**Business Luncheon** ("Affair Proof Your Marriage")

Youth New Year's Eve Event

"It's Christmas" in Rock Hill (Christmas musical)

Christmas in Bethlehem (Sunbeams Christmas Celebration)

"God replaced my selfishness with love and kindness toward others" ~ James

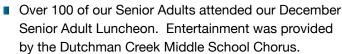


We had 105 people ring for the Salvation Army's annual kettle drive at both entrances to the Dave Lyle Walmart and the Christmasville Festival in downtown Rock Hill. One person who rang said, "We asked the children who came to the door if they would like to ring the bell and many did. One girl was in a wheelchair and as she started ringing the bell, her smile and her eyes got bigger and bigger. Her dad was so thankful and also had a huge smile on his face. I cried as they went into the store and felt so thankful to have been able to be ringing at that time."









■ 87 people were remembered during our annual Memorial Service.

 80 poinsettias were delivered to our homebound and nursing home members by our Senior Adults.

- Members generously gave \$107,000 to our World Missions Offering in 2014. FBC again ranked in the top 125 of more than 50,000 Southern Baptist churches and missions in giving to the annual offering for International Missions.
- Around 215 people attended our December Business Luncheon where Steve Hogg gave a message titled "Affair Proof Your Marriage" which offered some practical suggestions gleaned from his 37 years being a Pastor and Counselor.
- The Worship Choir and Orchestra helped everyone get in the Christmas spirit with two performances of their Christmas musical titled "It's Christmas" in Rock Hill.
- The Worship Center was filled to capacity for our annual Christmas Eve Candlelight Service.









Practical suggestions gleaned from 37 years being a Pastor and Counselor.







# **JANUARY 2015**



**NOTABLE EVENTS:** 

**40-Day Prayer Challenge** ("Draw The Circle" Book")

MLK Prayer Breakfast (Community Event)

Youth Passion Conference

Senior Adult Luncheon (Terri & Tyler White)

Prayer Event (Tell God Your Requests)

Women's Followship (Laundromat Outreach)

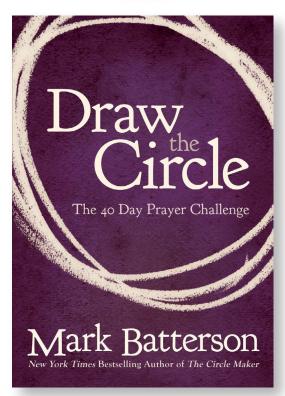
First Connect

"I've moved beyond the hurt of that negative experience in my teens and am now growing" ~Lindsay

- B45, our new PreTeen ministry, kicked off with a "Survivor Night" for PreTeens and their parents. B45 meets in the newly remodeled third-floor classrooms.
- FBC Members, Terri and Tyler White, spoke at the January Senior Adult Luncheon. They shared about God's powerful provision, faithfulness, and comfort in their journey towards adopting their daughter.
- 19 high school students, college students, and adults traveled to Atlanta for Passion 2015. They joined over 15,000 other students from all over the country for a weekend of great music and preaching from some of the biggest Christian speakers and musicians in the world today.
- More than 650 people attended the annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Prayer Breakfast held in the Worship Center.
- Members prayed, cried, confessed sins, and spent 90 minutes in God's presence moving at their own pace among 12 prayer stations during our January 4 "Tell God Your Requests for 2015" prayer event. God healed one member of anger built up over years toward a sibling.
- More than 950 "Draw the Circle" devotion books were given out in January for members to use during our "40-Day Prayer Challenge." Stories of how God used this amazing prayer focus continue to be told. We've even heard from other churches in our state that have been impacted because they heard about what God was doing at FBC and decided to have their own prayer focus using this devotional book.
- The Women's Ministry launched a new monthly missions focus called Followship. For the month of January they provided quarters, detergent, cupcakes, and encouragement at three different laundromats around Rock Hill.















# **FEBRUARY 2015**



**NOTABLE EVENTS:** 

Week of Fasting

**Business Luncheon** ("Are You Smarter than a Fool?")

Financial Workshop

Women's Followship (Coffee & Biscuit Outreach)

**GA's Grocery Bags Collection** 

Senior Adult Luncheon (Charity & Tim Helms)

**Prayer Event** (Giving Ourselves to God)

"Let's Do This" (Sermon Series)

Capital Campaign Launch

"Jesus was the one person I could always depend on" ~Rhonda

We kicked off our "Six In 6" Capital Campaign to retire our remaining debt of just over \$6 million in six years. Because this goal is bigger than us and will require a miracle from God to achieve, we have drawn a circle around it and are asking God to answer our prayer. We believe God wants us to pay this debt and be ready to respond to whatever ministry opportunities He presents to us in the future. As a reminder to pray, we gave out 300 key chains and 300 coins to members who came to the altar and made a commitment to pray for a miracle. We also had a week of fasting and a church-wide prayer event on a Sunday evening. During a four-week series of sermons titled "Let's Do This", our Pastor shared with the congregation the vision for paying off the remaining balance on our loan and challenged us to do what God was leading us to do.



- About 60 people attended a financial workshop presented by Jay Rinehart and Michael Baker.
- 14 guests attended our February Dinner with the Pastor and many of those guests joined First Baptist.
- The congregation participated in a week of fasting and prayer for the Capital Campaign.
- About 250 people from the community attended the February Business Luncheon and heard our Pastor speak about Jesus' description of people who are wise and those who are fools in a message titled "Are You Smarter Than a Fool?".
- Charity and Tim Helms, worship leaders at Renaissance Bible Church in Concord, NC, provided the entertainment for the February Senior Adult Luncheon.
- The GA's collected over 2,600 plastic grocery bags for a ministry in Augusta, GA where they make mats for homeless people.
- The Women's Ministry February Followship event took sausage biscuits and coffee to the Rock Hill Library and to Renew Our Community to share with the homeless and other people in need.















**MARCH 2015** 

**NOTABLE EVENTS:** 

Six In 6 Commitment Sunday

First Connect

Senior Adult Luncheon (Michael Shull)

Student Life Conference

"24: Journey To The Cross" (Sermon Series)

Paintball Outing (Men's Ministry)

**Homebound Visitation** (Senior Adults)

Women's Followship (Playground/Park Outreach)

Film, Fun, & Family Night ("Rio 2" Movie)

"I can't wait to see what Jesus is going to do in my life" ~Peyton



Members kneel and pray at the









- Members made financial commitments to our Six In 6 Capital Campaign on March 1 and began giving on March 8. Six months later commitments exceed \$1.5 million for the three years with giving on pace to be \$2 million.
- Over 50 homebound members were visited by our Senior Adults and each was given a small gift.
- Steve Hogg preached a sermon series titled "24: Journey to the Cross" in preparation for Easter. We looked at scenes from the last 24 hours of Jesus' life.
- Our Youth Ministry attended a two-day Student Life Conference where they were challenged to stand out and be different from the culture around them.
- Over 100 children, parents, and grandparents attended our "Film, Fun, & Family Night" where we watched the movie "Rio 2". We also enjoyed 20 pizzas, 40 gallons of popcorn, and 12 gallons of lemonade.
- We made an extra payment of \$125,000 on the mortgage prinicpal.
- The Women's Ministry March Followship event took snacks and water to a local park/playground and ministered to the families they met.
- The Men's Ministry hosted a Paintball outing at Palmetto Hills Paintball.

**APRIL 2015** 



NOTABLE EVENTS:

The Bridge (Easter Service)

Middle School Mission Trip

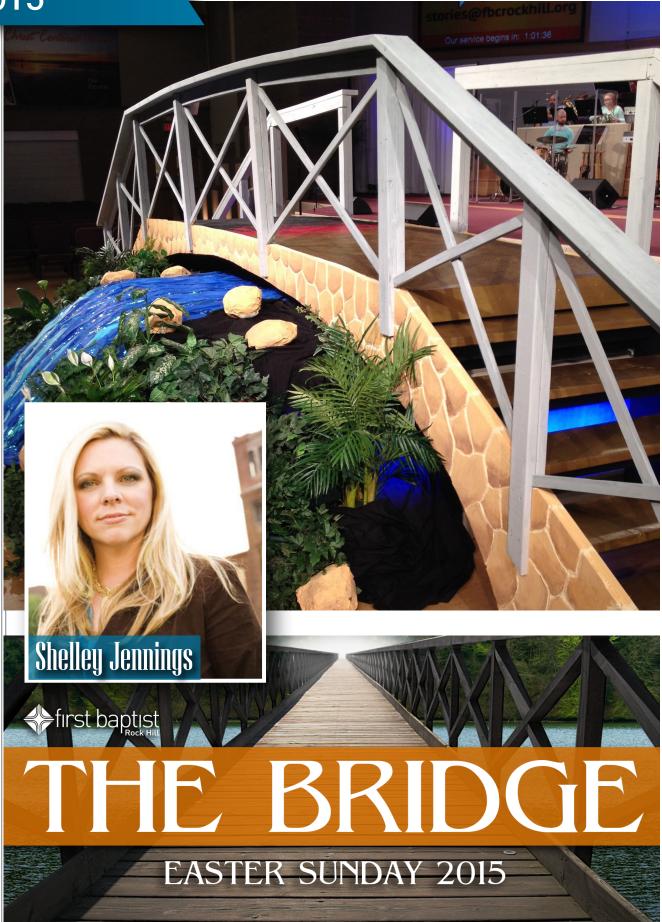
Easter Egg Hunt

**Everything Trucks** (Come-See-Me Event)

Women's Followship (Grocery Store Outreach)

YBA Senior Adult Rally

"I was rebellious, angry, and heading in a bad direction. I started attending FBC & God began the process of changing me"



~Jim









- The theme for this year's Easter services was "The Bridge". We had close to 2,000 people on campus for our two services, saw people walk across "The Bridge" to make a commitment Christ, and heard some great music from special guest, Shelley Jennings, and the FBC Worship Choir and Band.
- Members donated more than 14,000 eggs for the Easter Egg Hunt. More than 900 people registered and 75% of them were guests. In addition to collecting eggs, children were able to enjoy inflatables, balloon creations, face painting, and giveaways.
- 32 youth and adults went to Greenville, SC for the Middle School Mission Trip. The projects included: tearing down and rebuilding a wheel-chair ramp, baking 65 dozen cookies and delivering them in a neighborhood a pastor is trying to reach for Christ, and tearing out carpet and sanding the floor of a disabled person's home.
- We hosted the "Everything Trucks" event as part of Come-See-Me festivities.
- 10 members of our Praise Team and Band, along with their families, provided dinner to more than 100 college students at the Winthrop Baptist Collegiate Ministry.
- The Women's Ministry's April Followship event served the employees of two local grocery stores, EarthFare and Aldi, with some sweet treats and encouraging notes.
- 290 people attended the YBA Senior Adult Rally. Alex Zsolt was the guest musician.









# **MAY 2015**



**NOTABLE EVENTS:** 

Servolution

Zambia Mission Trip

Senior Adult Luncheon (The Heritage Quartet)

**Graduate Recognition** (High School Graduates)

Police Memorial Luncheon

JOY Choir Tour (Memphis, TN)

Sunbeams Graduation and Celebration

First Connect

"I finally came to a point where I hated how I was living and I surrendered my life to Jesus" ~Kim



Zambia Mission Trip:

The Pastor and four other people spent more than a week sharing Bible stories with villagers in a remote part of Zambia where Baptist missionaries David and Heather Petro are working with local believers to plant a new church. Several people accepted Jesus as Savior, including 14 in one village.

- 181 people served at 18 different locations as part of our Servolution outreach. We packed 10,000 meals with Stop Hunger Now, painted a house, delivered goody baskets to the Fire Department and the Mall, served at the Dream Center, went to the Library, and volunteered at four Elementary Schools and one assisted living center.
- 25 High School graduates and their families participated in our 2015 Graduate Recognition.
- 300 people attended the Police Memorial Luncheon.











The JOY Choir traveled to Memphis, TN as part of their spring tour. They gave concerts in area Assisted Living Centers, took in some of the local sights, dined at some of the city's famous restaurants, and toured St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

# **JUNE 2015**



**NOTABLE EVENTS:** 

Celebration of Freedom

Camp KidJam

(Lander University)

SummerSalt

(White Oak Conference Center)

Parent/Child Dedication

**Business Luncheon** 

("Lessons from Around the World")

**England Mission Trip** 

(Birmingham, England)

"I was sick & tired of living this way. Since I rededicated my life to Jesus, I awake each morning with a melody in my heart" ~ Alvin



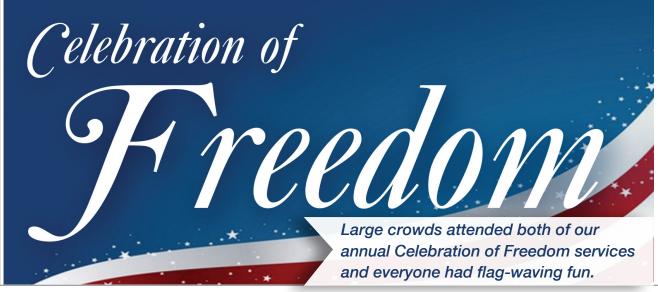
















- Parent/Child Dedication
- Business Luncheon

  LESSUIS

  By Rev. Steve Hogg

- 27 children and 5 adults went to Camp KidJam at Lander University for a week of fun and learning.
- 27 youth and 3 adults attended SummerSalt at White Oak Conference Center in Winnsboro, SC.
- Four couples participated in Parent/Child Dedication on June 7.
- Steve Hogg led a team of 7 from FBC on a mission trip to Birmingham, England where they knocked on more than 3,000 doors and handed out cards inviting people to a block party sponsored by OIKOS Church, a new church plant in England's second largest city. Connections were made and new people are now attending OIKOS Church.
- Steve Hogg shared some things he learned on his trips to Zambia and England at the June Business Luncheon in a message titled "Lessons from Around the World".



# **JULY 2015**



NOTABLE EVENTS:

Zapped 2015 (Move)

Music Camp ("In The Big Inning")

Alaska Mission Trip

**Pool Party** 

(High School Graduates)

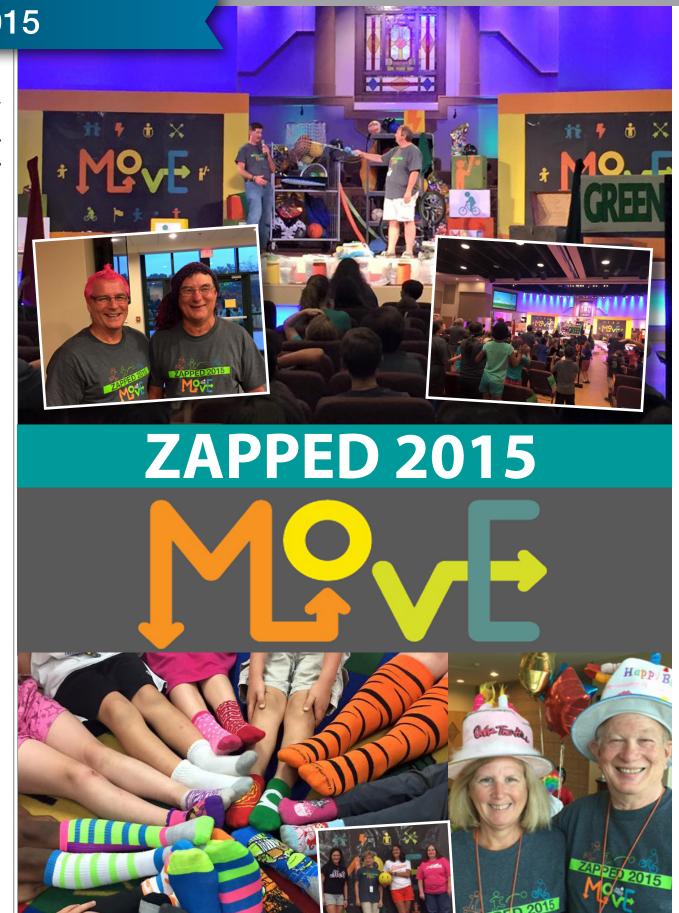
High School Mission Trip (Kentucky)

**Roar Sports** (Summer Sports Camp)



"I didn't grow up in church and was first introduced to Christ at a local VBS, where I received my first Bible"

~ Melloney







- Children of all ages had fun at Zapped (our version of VBS) and learned about people in the Bible who MOVED and changed directions in life after they met Jesus.
- 112 children attended our annual Music Camp. On Friday evening they presented the musical "In The Big Inning" to a packed house.
- Eight people from First Baptist joined almost 200 others from around the US for a week of ministry at the Salmon Frenzy in Alaska. The team served at a boat launch along the Kenai River where they helped park vehicles, direct traffic, serve hot dogs, hot chocolate, coffee, and had spiritual conversations with the locals.
- Pastor Steve and Monieca Hogg had a pool party at their home on July 30 for this year's high school graduates.
- Across the 6 weeks of ROAR Summer Camps, 55 campers gave their lives to Christ and 559 kids participated in volleyball, soccer, baseball, art, science, basketball, tumbling, and other activities. ROAR is a partnership between Westminster Presbyterian Church and FBC.
- 13 High School students and 5 adults went to Kentucky on a mission trip.





# **AUGUST 2015**



NOTABLE EVENTS:

Rock The House (Youth Event)

**Prayer Covering** 

First Connect

Youth Water Slide

Sunbeams Open House

**Deacon Ordination** 

"Homosexuality" (Sermon Series)

Call 'Em All Bash



"Life is still life, but it so much better with Jesus" ~William







# SEPTEMBER 2015



NOTABLE EVENTS:

IMPACT Missions Conference

Sebo Kick Off

(Youth Sunday Night Worship)

**Business Luncheon** (Overwhelmed)

Orlando Mission Trip (Give Kids The World)

"A Story To Tell" (Sermon Series)

"I was lonely, bitter, angry, & hateful. One Sunday I told God, 'I give up & I'll follow Your will.' I had a feeling of peace from my head to my toes" ~ Scarlett

# **VPACT** Wed 9/23 - Sun 9/27

# - STORY - MISSION

**Acts 1:8 Missions Conference** | 2015













- During the IMPACT Missions Conference we signed three-year agreements with the Petro's in Zambia, the Dubnick's in Birmingham, England, and Elliott Sneed in Rochester, NY.
- We had a total of 14 missionaries at IMPACT.
- On Saturday of IMPACT, we packed 165 prisoner bags, put together 500 Operation Christmas Child boxes, packed 12,096 meals with Stop Hunger Now, and helped at the Dream Center by sorting clothes.
- Over 260 people attended the business luncheon and heard Pastor Hogg give a message titled "Overwhelmed: Tips on Surviving the Pressures of Life".
- 24 people went on the Orlando, FL Mission Trip to Give Kids The World where they served 504 hours ministering to children with life-threatening illnesses and their families.

- Our focus for the 2015-2016 church year is "A Story To Tell". Members were challenged to submit their written testimonies to the church and the staff worked with them to make sure the story flowed well. We had over 140 stories submitted and to date have finalized close to 70 of them which we have posted in the main hallway near the Worship Center.
- We gave out over 300 t-shirts with the "A Story To Tell" logo on them.
- We launched our new church website and online giving platform.
- We had our largest Dinner With The Pastor attendance in history with 30 guests.





# OCTOBER 2015



**NOTABLE EVENTS:** 

Trunk or Treat

Haunting at Hood Hill

B45 Lock-in

(PreTeens)

Staff Appreciation Month

Sr. Adult Conference (Pigeon Forge, TN)

Youth Fall Retreat (Look Up Lodge)

First Connect

Senior Adult Rally

Financial Workshop

Chest of Joash Offering

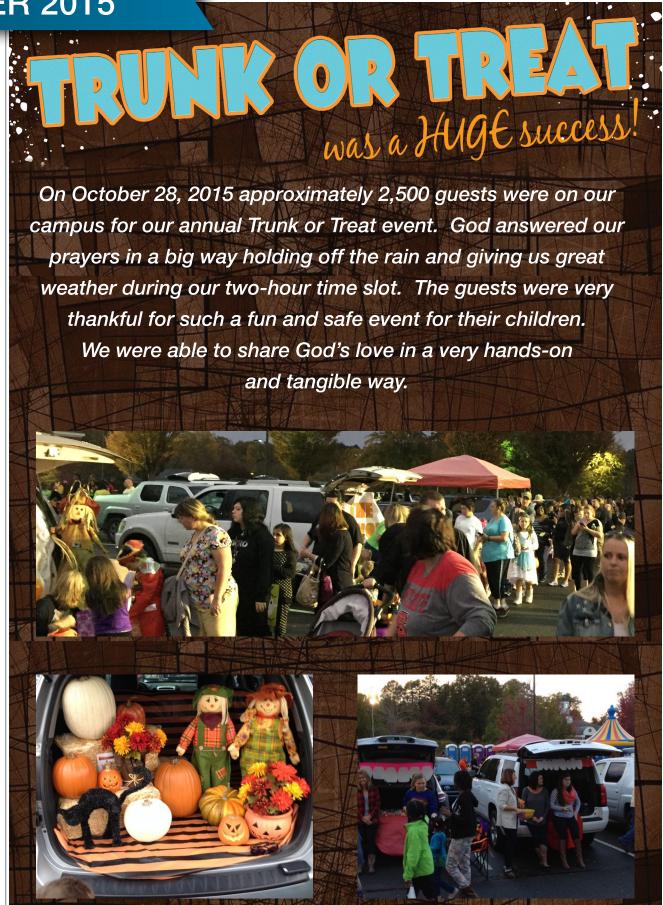
Flood Relief Offering

Women's Followship (Ice Cream Social)

















- 90 people participated in the Youth's Haunting at Hood Hill.
- 25 PreTeens attended the B45 Lock-In.
- The Senior Adults were busy in October with 3 events: The Celebrators Conference in Pigeon Forge, TN, the YBA Senior Adult Rally at Catawba Baptist, and the annual Apple Orchard Trip.
- 45 youth and 7 adults went to Look Up Lodge for the annual Fall Retreat. Music was provided by D-Hub.
- The Women's Ministry hosted an Ice Cream Social for the residents of Agapé Senior Assisted Living as part of their October Followship outreach.
- \$28,087.50 was given in our "Chest of Joash" offering, allowing us to make an extra payment in that amount against our mortgage principal.
- Since the first of the year, we have reduced the balance on our loan from nearly \$6,200,000 to \$5,628,622.
- The church gave \$14,234.13 to the South Carolina Disaster Relief Program in lieu of the recent floods in South Carolina.



NOTABLE EVENTS:

Parent/Child Dedication

RA Camp Out

Prayer Breakfast

Women's Followship (Laundromat Outreach)

**Dinner With The Pastor** 

Senor Adult Luncheon (Leslie Beaver)

Christian Women's Job Corps Concert (Lynda Randle)

**Prisoner Bags** (Senior Adults)

"A Life That Follows" (Sermon Series)

Lord's Supper



"Jesus has been my best friend since saving me" ~ Janet



- Six families participated in the November Parent/Child Dedication.
- 12 boys attended the RA Camp Out.
- 23 people attended Dinner with the Pastor.
- Lynda Randle performed at the Christian Women's Job Corps Concert.
- Senior Adults packed 154 prisoner bags.













The Women's Ministry November Followship event went to a Rock Hill laundromat, where they passed out quarters, detergent, dryer sheets, donuts and some encouragement. Here is what they said about one lady they met: "Sally (named changed) was suspicious of us at first, but soon opened up about her situation. She let one of our ladies play with her 3-yr old son and 8-yr old daughter. She was in a desperate situation and feeling hopeless. She was behind on her rent and had no power in her apartment. We took up a love offering in Sunday School and took it to her landlord. We also prayed with her in her apartment and noticed that her two children were sleeping on mattresses on the floor which were infested with bed bugs. We were able to get her a bed frame with clean bedding, paid for a week's childcare, and gave her a week's worth of groceries and some other household items. We have started discussions with the apartment manager about ways we can minister to others in the complex."

