



SHEPHERD'S CORNER

“Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.”

John 14:12-14



FEED THE HUNGRY

During the month of April, you donated 192 food items for the CUOC. Our congregation continues to give to this cause generously. The staff at CUOC expresses their gratitude with each delivery as every item truly does make a difference in someone else's life. Let's challenge ourselves to exceed the 200 mark when we gather this offering again on May 17th!

From the Executive Director, CUOC Christians United Outreach Center is in immediate need:

- Plastic grocery bags
- Canned vegetables
- Dry beans
- Cereal
- Tuna
- Soup

Volunteers are needed to:

- Drive truck to unload from Rural Letter Carriers and bring the food to CUOC
- Drive truck from the Post Office location to CUOC with food collected by City Carriers.
- Unload and sort food brought to CUOC.

An additional opportunity to help CUOC will be on May 9th with the annual National Association of Letter Carriers "Stamp-Out-Hunger" Mother's Day Food Drive.

Please call 774-8485 as soon as possible to volunteer. All food collected on May 9th will benefit CUOC's outreach ministry to needy Lee County residents.

Treasurer's Report March 2009

	<u>Jan-Mar 2009</u>	<u>Jan-Mar 2008</u>
Income		
Operating Income	105,174	103,398
Total Income	105,174	103,398
Expense		
Witness	7,084	7,731
Administration	56,743	55,885
Property	44,784	45,155
Worship	482	1,263
Christian Education	1,779	(3,220)
Congregational Care	567	849
New Membership	0	0
Stewardship	452	645
Building Loan Payment	<u>3,501</u>	<u>9,487</u>
Total Expenses	115,393	117,795
Net Income	(10,219)	(14,398)

NOTE

In the first quarter our congregation's special offering were:

	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>
One Great Hour	639	1,141

Thanks for responding to Jesus' teaching to share with those in need. The One Great Hour of Sharing offering received was \$639.00 to be used for the Self-Development of People, Presbyterian Hunger Program, and the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.

"Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also. Matthew 6:21

Witness & Benevolence Committee

Pentecost Offering 2008

In the April issue of PRESBYTERIANS TODAY, page 39, under the heading "bright ideas" there is an item referring to First Presbyterian Sanford's support of Get Smart - 40% of our 2008 Pentecost Offering was given to that organization that helps prepare children, primarily African Americans and Hispanics, for kindergarten. An accompanying photo shows a little boy intently looking at a book. Look for the magazine in the colonnade or for the article displayed in the office area.

Witness & Benevolence Committee

HAVEN

(Helping Abuse and Violence End Now)

DID YOU KNOW.....

- HAVEN of Lee County was established in 1984
- Abuse cases have increased due to the economy.
- More victims are leaving abusive situations due to loss of income in their environment.
- More and more victims of abuse move to other cities or states after leaving shelters to live with relatives or friends who can help provide financial support.
- First Presbyterian Church contributes \$2,000 annually to HAVEN through the Witness & Benevolence budget.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

- Make a monetary donation directly to HAVEN, 160 Charlotte Ave., Sanford, NC (you may designate the funds to a particular need: transportation, shelter needs, capital campaign for new permanent shelter)
- Volunteer at HAVEN's Treasures (all proceeds from this thrift store benefit HAVEN)
- Watch for a new and larger HAVEN collection box in the lobby of the church office!

ITEMS NEEDED:

Full size toiletries (shampoo, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, etc.)

Household items (paper towels, laundry detergent, dish liquid, toilet tissue, etc.)



MOTHER'S DAY - MAY 10

Have you ever been left homeless because of a hurricane? tornado? flood? fire? or other natural disaster? Have you lived in a country where you had to relocate because of political unrest and had to flee with only the clothes you were wearing or could carry? Fortunately, most of us have not had that devastating experience. However, millions of people throughout the world live under such circumstances or have their lives changed by a tsunami, unexpected spring storm with a wide funnel cloud which reaches the ground and destroys much of a community, a lightning strike that starts an out-of-control wildfire, etc.

Church World Service responds immediately when disaster strikes with blankets, food, safe water, and later, tools, training and other resources. Have you thought of or used a blanket for other than keeping warm at night? Displaced persons use a blanket to carry the few possessions they have, to make a backpack to carry a child, laying on branches of trees or sticks to make shelter, or wrapping around themselves for warmth.

On Mother's Day, May 10, we will have an opportunity to purchase, for \$5 each, a blanket(s) to help those in need. All of the money collected will be used to purchase blankets. Perhaps you could purchase blankets in honor of your mother, daughter, daughter-in-law, favorite aunt, grandmother or friend as a Mother's Day gift.

Jesus challenged us to "love your neighbor" - let us show that love by purchasing blankets for our "neighbors in need."

Witness & Benevolence Committee

JONI AND FRIENDS - "WHEELS FOR THE WORLD"

Do you or someone you know have a manual wheelchair, collapsible walker or aluminum crutches or canes that are no longer needed? Wheels for the World, is a disability outreach program of JONI EARECKSON TADA'S - JONI AND FRIENDS MINISTRIES. Collected items are sent to correctional facilities across the U.S. where they are restored to "like new" condition. From there they are distributed by trained physical therapists to needy people in other countries. Each individual is also given a Bible in his/her own language showing God's love in action. A tax deductible receipt will be provided to donors upon request! Please call Mickey Eaton 919-498-0842 to arrange for donations or to answer questions you might have.

Witness & Benevolence Committee