

SURE FIRE

MISSION

ACTION

PROJECTS

For Smaller Membership Churches

Gary Farley  
Director, Office of Town and Country Missions  
Home Mission Board, SBC

## INTRODUCTION

Those of you who know me might doubt it, but I once was small. I carry some painful memories of being told by the bigger people that I was too small, too weak, or otherwise unable to do the things that they were engaged in doing. Later, I attended a small high school on the metro fringe of Kansas City which had to compete with the schools that were two to three times larger than us. And in time, I pastored several congregations that were smallish in membership and I taught in little, denominational colleges. This combination of experiences has made me something of a champion of the small. "Smallism" ranks right up there with racism, genderism, and ageism in my list of most despised sins.

When the word got out on the denominational "grapevine" back in 1986 that a committee was to be formed to work on how the denominational programs and agencies might address the real needs of smaller-membership churches more effectively, I volunteered. The end results of this effort included *We're Family: Helps for the Smaller Membership Church*, targeting of the Uniform Sunday School Series to the smaller church, more project and event resources from the publishing and missions agencies, agreement that a church does not have to be a six-star church in the sense of doing all of the SBC programs by having on-going programs, but rather can use events and projects, and a focus on smaller churches as being "event" churches. I truly believe that the committee was successful in getting the small church on the minds of SBC agencies, supported with a realistic understanding of their unique character and needs. (Occasional, I run across a Rev. Rip Van Winkle, but I quickly challenge their erroneous charges that the denomination is not sensitive to the needs of the small churches. Ole Rip has slept through a real revolution. But it must continue.) The current book, *Surefire Mission Action Projects*, is a continuation of this effort. And the Sunday School Board will begin soon on SBCNet making available the first quarter of an undated, unified curriculum for the new smaller-membership churches. I hope that the Bivocational Fellowship will put out a similar diskette book next year called *Tool Kit for Bivocational Pastors*. (If you have some resources you would like to share related to this, contact Dale Holloway, 1758 Florence-Byrom Road, Florence MS 39073, 601/845-2107.)

*Surefire Mission Action Projects* is the product of some thinking that occurred at WMU Week, Glorieta, 1992. I asked the wives of Associational Missionaries to collect examples of effective mission projects being done by churches with fewer than 25 active adult participants. Those who submitted projects are named with the project(s) they submitted. Originally, we had contacted New Hope about publishing this book. But we failed to get it pulled together in a timely fashion so I opted for this alternative approach.

I hope that you will find some project ideas in this volume that can be a pattern for churches in your association seeking help for some project that they might do. I also hope that as you look at these projects you will say, "Aha, my wife should have shared the project that Little Hope Church is doing. . . ." O.K. ask her to do so now. There is a copy of the standard form we used at the end of the volume which you can print off and give to her. My hope is that we will receive a hundred or more additional project ideas which can be included in a second edition in a year or two. Likewise, I believe that some of your churches will be inspired by the volume to design projects which go beyond any of these. Again, print them up and send them to me for inclusion in the next edition.

I see this electronic book as supporting two SBC projects. One was the 1994 Hope for Hurting Humanity project. Some of the churches had good experiences doing these and will want to do another this year. Others will be looking to participate in the forthcoming "Start Something New" program. Many, if not all, of the projects offered here could be used by a smaller-membership church for starting a new thing in their church and/or community. I hope that you will use this book as a resource as you work with the churches.

I see a third and a fourth use for this material. Far too many small churches have "turned in" on themselves. They have lost their reason for being. They gather and grumble. They do the programs,

some of the SBC ones, but they do not see their significance. They are in a rut. They really need to get busy doing something that gets them looking beyond themselves. Finding a project(s) will often breathe new life into a church. Further, a common mistake of the leadership of a small church is to try to compete with the big full-service church nearby, program-for-program. This seldom works. An alternate, and probably more productive, approach is for the small church to find a ministry that God has gifted it to do well. This becomes its "signature" ministry. People all around stop seeing this church as just another little church (Smallism at work.). Instead, it becomes the church that does a great job with . . . (you fill in the target ministry). The folks start feeling better about their church. They talk it up. Some even get to growing again.

Another feature of this book is that I have included a few pages I wrote for We're Family for two purposes. One is to help the smaller-membership church take an inventory of what projects and events they currently do, making sure that the basic functions of doing church are getting done. Secondly, I have outlined the steps a church might take in designing a project and/or event. Of course, I am hope that this brief exposure to We're Family will encourage some of the churches to get a copy and study it, using it to recapture their sense of mission.

The material in this book has been imputed in a way that you can copy and reproduce any of the projects which a church might be interested in doing. For example, you might have a church that is plateaued. They need something to get them excited and working together. You talk to them about finding a project which they might use for their "signature" ministry. So, you print off some examples. You share them in a leadership group or in an open meeting. The folk get to talking. One of three things might happen. They may reject an idea. They might "buy into" one of the projects you shared. Or they might desire their own, coming from the inspiration you have offered to them.

I see this approach to doing electronic publishing as one with great potential. This year I will be sharing a large part of what I have produced over the past decade. I think that they will be helpful to our rural and small churches, but they are probably not "commercial" in the sense of being potentially big sellers. However, by making the material available to Associational Missionaries, this material can be networked out across the nation. I hope that you use it and let me know if it proves to be helpful.

The next step will be for you to get into the act. Share what you have produced that has been helpful to the churches. Put it on a disk and send to me. I will collect the material by category and offer it to your peers next year. It is my hope that this will become an continuing ministry of the department.

EXTRACT FROM WE'RE FAMILY: HELPS FOR THE SMALLER MEMBERSHIP  
CHURCH  
Gary Farley

INTRODUCTION TO PEP

Activities of the church can be categorized with the acrostic PEP programs, events, and projects. Some come prepackaged; others we make up for ourselves.

Programs, Sunday School, Missions Education, worship, and Discipleship Training, are examples of programs for many churches. They are supported with study guides and other resources by denominational agencies.

Events are those special times in the life of the church family. They may be a part of a program, such as the annual Spring revival is part of the evangelistic program, or they may stand alone such as an annual homecoming. Many events are annual occasions. Some began as a one-time project, were successful, and became an annual event or even a special program. A project, as used here, has more of the character of a one-time event. It often addresses a special need. It may resolve that need and not be used again. Often a project may include several events, as in the case of constructing a new building or a response to world hunger. And often it lasts longer than an event. Finally, a church may use a project to do some work that would not fit into the regular programs of the church, such as a booth at the county fair. Or several churches might combine their resources to meet a need, such as a literacy training project sponsored by multiple congregations.

Many smaller-membership churches use projects and events to accomplish some of the basic tasks of the church. The basic tasks are typically identified as the following: (1) Worship: directed toward God; (2) Proclamation and witness: the various evangelistic efforts to share the gospel with unbelievers and to enlist the unchurched and those who are inactive; (3) Nurture and education: teaching the Bible and the faith; (4) Ministry: helping those in need. Identify the events your church is now doing. A list of common events is provided, and space is available for you to add to it. As you use the list, indicate by each event, which of the four basic functions of the church your church is addressing. For example, you may have a traditional children's Christmas pageant that carries elements of worship (W), proclamation and witness (P/W), and nurture and education (N/E). Then on the last Sunday in April you may cooperate with the local Conservation District to observe Soil and Water Stewardship Sunday. If so, you would note that this event has worship (W), ministry (M), and nurture and education (N/E) functions. (NOTE: Recently, fellowship has been added as a fifth function by our denominational agencies. Here, I will simply assume that "fellowship" is automatically a function in a smaller-membership church and does not call for any special attention.)

Events have been subdivided into four types. The first type, "Cycles of the Year," refers to events that occur according to the calendar. The second type, "Congregational Identity," indicated events that give expression to the life of a church family. The third, "Life Passages in the Church Family," may not occur regularly. But they are important in bonding the church family. The fourth type, "Participation in the Wider Community," refers to the involvement of the church with its neighborhood. These events are on non-church calendars.

Use the blank lines to add events your church has that are not included on this list. Place a check mark under the functions served by each event. An event can serve multiple functions.

Cycles of the Year    W    P/W    N/E    M

Christmas

Children's pageant

Food for the needy

Easter

Sunrise Service

Holy Week Services

Soil and Water Stewardship Week

Mother's Day

Memorial Day

Independence Day

Labor Day

Cooperative Program Day

Thanksgiving Day

Sunday School Promotion Day

Congregational Identity

Revival

Homecoming

Workdays

Vacation Bible School

Picnic

Watermelon Social

Fifth Sunday Hymn Sing

Stewardship Commitment Sunday

Children's Home Offering

State Missions Offering

Home Missions Offering

Foreign Missions Offering

Annual Associational Meeting

Missions Day Camp

Life Passages in the Church Family

Baptisms

Graduations

Weddings

Dedications of baby and parents  
Funeral/Memorial service

Participation in the Wider Community

Old Settler's Day  
Ethnic Festival  
Community Cleanup  
Hunger Walk  
County Fair  
World Day of Prayer

In preparing this list you were probably surprised at how many events in which your church is already participating. do you see any functions of a church that are not now being addressed by these events? Could some of the events be modified so more functions could be addressed? Could they address the functions more effectively? How? Are there events that do not address any functions? Have some events lost their function? Do you know of additional events the church family should and could add? Are church leaders being used wisely in these events? Are potential leaders being trained through the events?

Next, list the projects your church has done recently, is doing, or will be doing in the next year. To help you get started, several have been listed under each of the four functions of the church. Space has been provided for you to list these and check off others.

Proclamation and Witness Have Done      Doing May Do

Training for Witnessing  
Visitation Related to Revival  
and Other Annual Events  
Booth at County Fair  
or Flea Market  
Advertising the Church  
Mission Project  
Sponsor New Congregation

Nurture and Education

Satellite Bible Study  
Survival Kit Study  
MasterLife  
Disciple's Prayer Life  
Parenting by Grace  
Winter Bible Study  
Baptist Doctrine Study  
Family Summer Reading Program

Christmas Crafts Class  
Sporting event

Ministry

Migrant Workers  
Jail and Prison  
Military  
Nursing Home/Hospital  
Sponsor Recreation League Teams  
Raise Money to Repair  
and Remodel Church Facilities  
Begin a Library  
Sponsor Series of Events  
for Senior Adults  
Mission Action Projects

Worship

Evening Worship  
in a Park or Campground  
Exchange Worship with a  
Neighboring Congregation  
(Ethnic or African-American)  
Series on Doctrine, Family  
Life, or Social Issues  
Preparation and Presentation  
of a Musical

Again you may have been surprised by the number of projects in which your church has been involved and is planning to do. Do you see any functions of a church that are not now being addressed by these projects? Could some of the projects be modified so more functions could be addressed? Could they address the functions more effectively? How? Are there events that do not address any functions? Have some events lost their function? Do you know of additional events the church family should and could add? Are church leaders being used wisely in these events? Are potential leaders being trained through the events?

Perhaps you are now considering additional projects that your church might take on in the future. Also consider how you might wrap a project around an event to address a neglected function of your church's mission. An example might be wrapping outreach visitation around the annual

homecoming or revival.

The E/P described in this column were collected from congregations much like yours. Typically, they are small and have limited resources. As you review them you will say repeatedly, "We could do this!"

#### Planning for Events and Projects

Leaders, pastoral and lay, in smaller-membership churches often lament that needed work goes undone because "the laborers are so few." This is true, of course, in most congregations, regardless of size. So, rather than waiting until you have the required workers to do the standard program, consider using an event or project to do some needed functions or task. You can do it with far less commitment of resources. And it may be as effective. It will certainly be more effective than not doing anything.

For example, if you do not have the workers for a missions education program for the youth, why not attempt to accomplish the same purpose with a series of missions day camps, each focusing on a specific country or region of the U.S.? The BSU at your area college can often get you in touch with international and/or ethnic students who can speak at the day camp about their country, culture or ethnic groups. Again, if you can't maintain a Discipleship Training program at 6 p.m. each Sunday, consider doing a study of some discipleship resources or other material for a set number of weeks, as part of the Wednesday evening service. Or, you might consider using a study of Parenting by Grace material on another week night evening as an outreach tool in the community. The important thing is that your church does the will of God where it is. We believe that the four functions of church adopted by our denomination are the will of God for any church family. Leaders need to see that the functions are performed. Using the traditional programs is a good way. However, using projects and events is another.

Find events and projects that will address the functional needs of your church. First, many of the materials prepared for the traditional program approach can be used for projects and events. Discipleship Training studies, missions education materials, witnessing training, and Stewardship emphases are easily adapted to an events and projects approach.

About 30 Sundays each year have been designated by the denomination's Executive Committee for special emphases. Each fall you receive a wall calendar from the Executive Committee with these Sundays identified on it. Most state conventions provide pocket calendars with these and state emphases identified. Some of these will fit your church and its neighborhood. Others will not. But this is a place to begin considering events and projects. Many of these emphases are supported by materials from denominational offices that you could use for a project or event. You will also want to check with your Associational director of missions. The director of missions is knowledgeable concerning the resources provided by the denomination and can guide your selection process.

Second, the boards and agencies of the denomination are now designing material specifically for projects and events in smaller-membership churches. Several of these will appear each quarter in The Sunday School Leader: Smaller Church Edition. Consider these. If you still need some help, you may contact program leaders with your state convention and the Sunday School Board. Again your director of missions can help you contact the right person. You are part of the extended family. They want to hear from you. They want to help you.

Third, learn from your neighbors. Often another church in the association has felt the same need. They have found or created an event or a project to deal with the need. Ask. Observe. Learn. Use.

Fourth, some excellent books about smaller-membership churches are being published. Ideas about projects and events are contained in them. A list of recommended resources may be found at the end of this volume.

Fifth, make your own. This is how most of the good programs of Southern Baptists were started. Some energetic people saw a need and prayed about it. A moment of inspiration came. They designed a project, did it, and learned. Others found out. The word spread; it was refined. Then it became a denominational program. This was true of Vacation Bible School. It was begun in a small church many years ago as a project. We will use it as an example of how to design an event or project.

Steps in putting a Project/Event together. Following is a simple 10-step outline for you to follow:

Step 1: Identify a need or set of related needs. Talk about it with other people. See if they share your belief that it is a need. (Our children need to know more about the Bible and our Christian faith.)

Step 2: Give it a name. Relate it to one or more of the basic functions of the church. Visualize what the result of the project will be. (Vacation Bible School.)

Step 3: Identify the target audience and estimate the number of participants. (We have 15 children enrolled in our Sunday School. Our community survey last spring discovered another 35 to 40 who are not in church.)

Step 4: Identify resource needs in these areas:

- leadership
- materials needed (ordered or prepared)
- workers numbers and tasks
- promotion/publicity
- calendar

Step 5: Recruit, secure resources, and train workers. (In the case of our VBS example, all of the printed material should be in place and accessible.)

Step 6: Design the flow of the work and calendar it. (Normally, begin with the date of the event or project and work back from it to decide when workers need to be trained, material secured, and so on.)

Step 7: Make a plan B. (With some events if its necessary to foresee possible problems and be prepared. In our example you may need to know what to do if more children show up than you had anticipated, if a worker becomes ill, or someone fails to make the cookies.)

Step 8: Do it. (Conduct the event and do the best you can.)

Step 9: Evaluate and refine the event. (As you go along, make notes of problems. After the event ask workers about problems and things that might make it a better event the next time. You might also ask the children about their opinion of the event, activities, and workers.)

Step 10: Celebrate, pack it up, share with others. (Some good things happened. Thank the workers and the parents. Tell the VBS workers that they have 10 months off, at least from that job. Share with your peers the innovations that worked.)

What follows are examples of projects churches like yours have done.

First, note the topic sections which one or ones are needed in your community.

Second, read the models. Do they seem to pretty well fit?

Third, share your findings with others. Do they have your visions? If so, what modifications do they suggest?

Fourth, apply the steps suggested above to the model with appropriate modifications.

Fifth, let your director of mission know about the results.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

## CHRISTMAS SHOPPING SERVICE PROJECT

(Northwest Iowa Southern Baptist Association)

Name of Event/Project: Christmas Shopping Service Project (offered free gift wrapping and child care)

Church Information:

Name Ida Grove Baptist Church (Mission church less than 2 years old)

City, State Ida Grove, IA

Size 11 members and about 20 attendees

Purpose of Event/Project:

Introduce new church and its new downtown storefront location to the community build bridges.

Persons targeted by the ministry (Identify): Families with younger children

Resources Needed:

1. Leadership - One person to oversee details
2. Workers - Several couples and two ladies from sponsoring church Quimby Baptist.

Members and Tasks - Gift wrapping/child care/refreshments

3. Materials - Wrapping paper, tape, scissors, boxes, and bows for wrapping. Refreshments, Bible games and video (TV-VCR included) for children.
4. Cost Estimate: \$50.00

Recruitment of workers and participants:

Communicated project purpose and needs.

Other Steps to take in doing the event (Indicate a tentative calendar) - Identified evening when businesses in downtown area stayed open late for Christmas shopping in Ida group it was Thursday evening.

Describe the Event/Project:

Evaluate the Event/Project: It provided a fun time for fellowship for church membership, enhanced community identity and acceptance, and produced some donations which were given to a local food pantry.

## COMMUNITY-WIDE CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

This church is in Triangle Association.

### Church Information:

Name: First Baptist Church  
Stanford, Montana (pop. around 500)  
Size: Averages 15

Purpose of Event: Glorify God and establish a reputation in the community as a caring church

Persons targeted: Anybody (adult or youth) in community that enjoys singing

### Resources Needed:

1. Leadership they had only a director Rev. Farmer
2. There were no other workers
3. They used books, accompaniment tape, individual parts tapes and stereo equipment. Everything but stereo equipment was borrowed from church in Florida. Music was SAB not too difficult.
4. Cost estimate free except for backdrops used in the small amount of drama that was added to the cantata

Recruitment of participants: In September of 1993, Rev. Farmer put an article in the local paper stating that the program was open to all singers and that practice would start at First Baptist Church in two weeks. Posters were hung around the community. He called all the pastors of the local churches to enlist their help in inviting their members to join.

Other Steps to take in doing the event: They practiced once a week for two hours from September to December. They supplemented the program with some drama (nothing fancy). They made sure that folks felt sure of the music they were performing. For those needing babysitters, each choir member pitched in \$.50 a practice to pay a sitter there at the church. On the night of the performance, each church that had a person in the cantata was asked to help provide cookies for refreshments for choir and congregation. Choir members practiced their parts either by Rev. Farmer pecking them out on the piano (he is not an accomplished pianist) or by passing around the individual parts tapes.

### Evaluate the Event:

20 people from all different churches in the community (i.e., First Baptist, Catholic, Lutheran, Presbyterian, Community and some non-churched folks) joined the choir, with 19 present at any one time. The afternoon of the performance, over 100 people came to hear the program and immediately afterwards choir members were wanting to know when they could get their music for the next one an Easter cantata. Mission accomplished, I would say.

### Additional info:

Stanford is a ranching/farming community located in the foothills about 60 miles from Great Falls in central Montana. The church is pastored by Jim Farmer. He is retired and serves the church full-time. He has served at Stanford for about two years. His wife Martha joined him there a year ago. He does not have a music degree, but was willing to use the taped accompaniment. Florida has a partnership with Montana at this time. Rev. Farmer is from Florida.

Triangle Association sponsors a ministry near one of the area ski areas and parts of the program were done there also. Since Southern Baptists in Montana are looked upon with some skepticism,

this program went a long way towards building credibility for the church and the farmers.

## NEIGHBORHOOD AWARENESS

East Pine Baptist Mission is in Ponchatoula, Louisiana, a town of approximately 6,000 people. The mission is located in a low-income, racially integrated area of town. Church membership is 46.

This project was planned as a gesture of good will to the neighborhood. Nine years ago we bought our building from a church of another denomination. There was a lot of resentment from the neighborhood toward that church. It was known as Mrs. Doe's church. (The name has been changed to protect the guilty.) We are still trying to replace that image.

We decided that for a Christmas project we would bake one pound of fruit cakes and deliver them to every home in the neighborhood, which consists of about 125 homes and apartments in a two-block radius around the church. The cakes cost about \$.80 each to make. We wrapped the cakes and tied them with Christmas ribbon and included a tract with the plan of salvation and our church name, location, and service times.

At our last visitation day before Christmas, five visitors met at the church and went out to deliver the cakes and tracts. We saw a lot of grateful smiles as we visited. One lady said that she had sat there that morning crying because it was two days before Christmas and she had not received even one gift. She was so happy about our bringing that little cake.

We had cakes for only about half the homes that we wanted to visit. We plan to finish our project by visiting the rest of the homes with cookies for Valentine's Day.

## TENT MINISTRY AT STATE FAIR

### Church Information:

Name Burlington Baptist Church, Southeast Baptist Church & North Hill  
City, State Minor, North Dakota  
Size Burlington: 80; Southeast: 27; North Hill: 112

### Purpose of Event/Project:

Provide a cup of cold water, place of rest and witnessing ministry to people who attend the fair.

### Persons targeted by the ministry (Identify):

Christians, non-Christians, church and unchurched from all over the associations state and out-of-state.

### Resources Needed:

1. Leadership Rev. Joe McClung, pastor of Southeast Baptist Church, headed the team.  
Brotherhood members from Burlington & North Hill set up and too down the tent with the help of Tom Sherrill, director of mission, and summer missionaries.

2. Workers

Joe and Jane McClung, summer missionaries and Norman & Betty Bush (volunteers from Lake Park, GA, manned the tent

### Members and Tasks

The tent was set up the night before the State Fair, manned from 10 am - 9 pm during the Fair and taken down Saturday night after Fair closed.

3. Materials

Chairs & tables from Southeast and North Hill churches.  
Water, cups, New Testaments, witnessing tracts and fliers showing location of Southern Baptist Churches in the Dakotas.

4. Cost Estimate

All items were donated.  
\$250 for Fair space and \$160 for passes for those manning the tent came from the State Convention office.

### Recruitment of workers and participants:

Since none of the churches were large enough to plan and complete this project, it became an associational project with the three churches in the city where the fair was held having the main responsibilities.

### Other Steps to take in doing the event (Indicate a tentative calendar)

1 year in advance - tent reserved through the State Convention office. Request for a volunteer couple was also made. Closer to the date, enlist men to set up and take down tent.

Work out schedule for manning the tent.

Describe the Event/Project:

This project was to provide a service to the people, give visibility to Southern Baptists and acquaint people with locations of Southern Baptist churches in our area.

Evaluate the Event/Project:

Many people were grateful for a place to rest and appreciated having something free given to them. There was an openness to hearing the Gospel.

## OAK FOREST COMMUNITY SERVICES FAIR

### Church Information:

Name TYLER STREET BAPTIST CHURCH  
City, State LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS  
Size MEMBERSHIP - 295 SUNDAY SCHOOL AVERAGE ATTENDANCE - 41

### Purpose of Event/Project:

The purpose of the Fair was to provide the surrounding community with information of the services that are available to them from various municipal and health agencies.

### Persons targeted by the ministry (Identify):

134 city blocks surrounding the church. All ages.

### Resources Needed:

#### 1. Leadership

A committee of eight from the church membership.

#### 2. Workers

##### Members and Tasks:

- 13 members distributed fliers over the 134 blocks one week before the Fair.
- 2 members worked the parking lot.
- 4 members worked with the Department of Health (registration).
- 8 members (men) helped in various places throughout the building.
- 6 hostesses - furnishing drinks and lunch for workers and participants from various agencies.
- 2 members registering all persons.
- 2 members working church booth handing out ice cream and cupcakes.
- 24 TOTAL WORKERS FROM CHURCH MEMBERS

#### 3. Materials

- 2'x10' banner displayed in front of the church one month before Fair.
- 25 tables (different sizes) for booths and display and 150 chairs.
- Food (ice cream, cupcakes, drinks furnished by church and WMU ladies furnished sweet rolls and sandwiches)

#### 4. Cost Estimate - \$210.00

Food was partially furnished by members.

### Recruitment of workers and participants:

Workers from the church were recruited through bulletin and mail-out.  
Participants from various agencies were contacted first by phone.

### Other steps to take in doing the event (Indicate a tentative calendar)

- 4 months before the Fair agencies are contacted by phone.
- 3 months before the Fair a letter was sent to each participant requesting commitment
- 1 month before the Fair contacted TV and radio stations for free announcement spots.
- 1 week before the Fair distributed flyers.
- Contacted police and firemen to alert to traffic around the church.

### Describe the Event/Project:

On June 5, 1993, the Oak Forest Community Services Fair was held at Tyler Street Baptist Church, 2100 South Tyler Street, Little Rock, Arkansas, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

The Fair consisted of 14 different service agencies from state, city, and county level. See enclosed flier.

Each agency set up their booth and displays.

The Department of Health gave 100+ immunizations.

HUD made contact with three families for houses.

Entertainment was provided by a clown and puppets from a local church.

All services provided were free!

Including workers from the church, association and different agencies, approximately 100 people were involved.

Tyler Street Baptist Church had a Vacation Bible School display and other information concerning the church and Oak Forest United Methodist Church had a Vacation Bible School poster.

Evaluate the Event/Project:

Very successful not only from the standpoint of the church, but the agencies were very pleased and most planned to participate again in the 1994 Fair to be held on April 30, 1994.

We reached approximately 75 families from our community.

TYLER STREET BAPTIST CHURCH  
2100 SOUTH TYLER STREET  
LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72204

On Saturday, June 5, 1993, Tyler Street Baptist Church sponsored the OAK FOREST COMMUNITY SERVICES FAIR.

The Fair's purpose was to provide the surrounding community with information of the services available to the community.

Participants were:

- ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
200 South University, Suite 310  
Little Rock, AR 72205  
Zerobia Harris           663-6080
  - blood pressure checks
  - anemia tests
  - immunizations
  - nutrition consultation
  - WIC program
  
- ARKANSAS CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL  
8th & Marshall  
Little Rock, AR 72202  
Scott Allen               320-4300
  
- HOUSING & URBAN DEVELOPMENT  
523 So. Louisiana  
Little Rock, AR 72201  
John Suskie               324-5401
  
- LITTLE ROCK NEIGHBORHOODS & PLANNING  
723 W. Markham  
Little Rock, AR 72201  
Jim Lawson               371-4790
  
- ARKANSAS POWER & LIGHT CO.  
#9 Entergy Ct.  
Little Rock, AR 72211  
Dwayne Stuart           372-3900
  
- LITTLE ROCK POLICE DEPARTMENT  
700 W. Markham  
Little Rock, AR 72201  
Officer Leonard           371-4796

OAK FOREST  
Community Services  
FAIR

!!! FREE !!! FREE !!!  
\*\*services\*\*info\*\*  
\*\*entertainment\*\*

\* ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

- Blood pressure checks
- Anemia tests
- Nutrition consultation
- Immunizations
- WIC PROGRAM (will sign up eligible persons that day)

\* AREA AGENCY ON AGING

- Personal care
- Hospice
- Case management
- Senior Center Network
  - Resource Directory

CLOWN: BILL KILMER

- \* ARKANSAS CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL
- \* DEPARTMENT OF PARKS & RECREATION
- \* HUMANE SOCIETY OF PULASKI COUNTY
- \* LITTLE ROCK POLICE DEPARTMENT
- \* LITTLE ROCK FIRE DEPARTMENT
- \* HOUSING & URBAN DEVELOPMENT DEPT.
- \* ARKANSAS POWER & LIGHT CO.
- \* DEPARTMENT OF NEIGHBORHOODS & PLANNING
- \* COPE

CHURCH \* EAST END BAPTIST  
PUPPETS

\* UNIVERSITY PARK ADULT  
LEISURE CENTER

FREE ICE CREAM & CUPCAKES

=== Saturday, June 5 ===  
>>> 10 am -- 3 PM <<<  
Tyler Street Baptist Church  
2100 S. Tyler Street

- LITTLE ROCK PARKS & RECREATION WAR MEMORIAL  
FITNESS  
500 W. Markham CENTER AEROBICS  
CLASS  
Little Rock, AR 72201 300 South Monroe  
Eddie Cole 371-6856 Little Rock, AR 72204664-6976
- UNIVERSITY PARK ADULT LEISURE CENTER  
6401 W. 12th  
Little Rock, AR 72204  
Mark O'Kelley 666-3585
- OAK FOREST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
Fair Park at 25th  
Little Rock, AR 72204  
Rev. Mark Lasater 663-9407
- FIGHTING BACK  
3924 W. 12th  
Little Rock, AR 72204  
Zarda Lisa Ward 664-8649
- EAST END BAPTIST CHURCH PUPPETS AND  
CLOWN BILL KILMER  
4701 East End Rd.  
Hensley, AR 72065  
888-2210
- CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
P.O. Box 1  
Little Rock, AR 72203  
Sharon Priest 374-4871

Including workers from the church, association and department workers, approximately 100 people were involved.

We are looking forward to next year and the date has been set for Saturday, April 30, 1994.

## SHARING SERVICES WITH THE COMMUNITY

### Church Information:

Name Hillside Baptist Church  
City, State Mariposa, California  
Submitted by: Marjorie Jackson, Secretary  
Central Valley Association  
2831 N. Berkeley Ave.  
Turlock, CA 95382  
Don Jackson, Director of Missions

John Harrell wanted to involve his congregation in mission projects. A bivocational pastor, he had 20 years experience in construction.

"I believe God prepares everybody for something," he says.

He polled the men in his congregation and found that half also had experience in building or mechanics. They found a local plumber who offered to donate his pick-up truck if the men would install 1,100 feet of horse fence.

"Our men are very willing to help," Harrell says.

They put up the fence and then gave the truck to Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary in Mill Valley.

Volunteers include Jack Van Noy, Frank Moody, Ed Shaw, and Chuck Barnes.

"These guys are overwhelmed at what it's like to share with people," Harrell adds.

The church averages 45 with 19 of those being men. Every Saturday they host a "grits" breakfast. One third that attend are not church members.

The outreach grew. Last year they had 26 mission projects. One was an Alaska trip where all men paid their own expenses. The group reroofed a parsonage at Calvary Baptist Church, Anchorage.

"We worked 12-14 hours a day and just loved it," Harrell says.

## LANGUAGE MINISTRIES

## ENGLISH CLASSES

Primera Iglesia Bautista (First Baptist Church) Wendover, Utah, is located in a gambling town located on I-80 on the Utah-Nevada border. A large percentage of the population are people from Mexico. Almost the only form of employment is with the casinos. Many of the workers in the casinos don't speak English.

There are 14 adult members in the church. During the summer the church provides English classes for adults and for children in grades 1 through 6. The classes are free for anyone who wants to attend. Advertisement is made by word of mouth and through the local cable channel.

Recipe:

1. The church discusses the church location and apparent needs in the church and community.
2. The church asks for a volunteer to teach English as a second language. (In this case it is the pastor.)
3. Date and time are set.
4. Announcements are made.  
Flyers are given to church members to distribute.  
Local cable channel is contacted.
5. The church provides a small refreshment.

PROJECTS FOR THE NEEDY

## CLOTHING CLOSET

Church Information: Lincoln Baptist Church

R#1

Branchland, WV 25523

Pastor - John Fry

Size - About 25 attendance

No WMU

Rural area with a very high unemployment rate

Source of My Information: Gerry Fry, pastor's wife

Purpose: In keeping with Matthew 25:40 an outreach ministry to meet material needs leading to meeting spiritual needs.

Persons Targeted: Financially indigent

Non-Christians

Aiming at about a 30-mile radius

Resources Needed:

### 1. Leadership

Two ladies work together. Some guidance is given by the pastor and wife. Ideal would be one who is physically strong, has organizational skills, is lovingly firm, and has the ability and desire to witness.

### 2. Workers

No others in this case.

Tasks others could do would be to keep up outreach cards, sort and evaluate clothing, and follow-up witnessing.

Each must be willing to enforce the guidelines with a Christian spirit.

### 3. Materials

(a) Clothing - This will often be donated by others in the community, larger churches, and mission groups coming to the area.

(b) Space - A storage room at the church was cleaned out to use.

(c) Shelves - Donated and built by a summer mission group. Discarded ones from a business might be available.

(d) Outreach cards

### 4. Cost estimate:

Very minimal, due to donations.

5 x 7 cards

Slight increase in utilities

Recruitment:

Workers - These two ladies volunteered as they learned of the need.

Participants - Probably many come due to word-of-mouth publicity. Communication with schools (teachers and counselors) and other churches would help.

Describe this project and other steps in doing it:

A regular schedule must be set up.

This one is only open two days a month.

At Christmas they also had toys and were opened 1 to 2 days a week.

One of these ladies gives out her home phone number, but this is probably not wise.

A tract is to be placed in each bag.

Personal witnessing is encouraged.

Future plans include a good sign out front.

Mini-Bible teaching for children would be good.

Evaluate:

This was started in the summer of 1992, operated for 3 months and then closed down temporarily. It has been operating again now for seven months.

Although they cannot report any public professions of faith in Christ or church additions from this project yet, they are showing hurting people that Christians really care. It also has given these two ladies working with it a much needed feeling of personal fulfillment.

## MINISTRY TO THE NEEDY

White Bluff Baptist Church  
Pastor, Rev. James Helms  
803-286-0742  
3125 Duckwood Road  
Kershaw, SC 29067

White Bluff Baptist Church is located about 12 or 13 miles southeast of Lancaster. It is a rural church located off Highway #903 going toward the Midway Community of Lancaster County.

Begun in April of 1894, it has been an active smaller-membership church in the community. Their longest pastorate was that of the Reverend Grover Robinson, who passed away a couple of years ago. He was Pastor for 38 years (1940-78).

The church has very nice facilities. In recent years, a family life fellowship center was built. This has encouraged more people in going, in being together, and in doing things on an associational level ministers' conference host, for example.

### An Intentional Ministry

The church discovered a needy family in the community. The husband had a disease that was keeping him out of work and the wife only worked on a part-time basis. There were three children (ages 9-15). A Sunday School class received \$200.00 and that was not enough to meet the needs at this time, so the church entered in to assist. An amount of \$756.00 was received to help the family. The husband and wife were both so appreciative, but the matter of pride really did enter in the situation, for the dad did not want to receive any outside help. But with the Pastor and a deacon visiting in the home, that made the ministry action better. Two things stand out:

1. There was deep compassion on the part of a Sunday School class and the church for a needy family situation.
2. There are always good things that will come when people pull together to meet visible and tangible needs of persons who are hurting.

Other ministries of the church: Children's home one girl was not going to receiving anything much at Christmas, so the WMU came together to help this young lady with some Christmas gifts. Prison bags Christmas-in-August church-wide efforts to help Hope of Lancaster County, Inc. are just a few other mission actions of the church.

Hope of Lancaster County, Inc. is an ecumenical organization that exists to help people with food, emergency bills (water, lights, rent, et cetera) supported by about 80 to 90 churches in Lancaster County. (Has been in existence since February of 1982.)

## COOKING FOR CHRIST

Cooking for Christ is a mission action project written and implemented by GA director Cindy Lange from Emmanuel Baptist Church, Columbia, Missouri. Emmanuel Baptist Church is located in a suburban neighborhood and has approximately 60 to 100 in attendance. G/A enrollment is 5 to 10 girls. The RA group of the church was also involved in this ministry action project. The group met in their church kitchen and prepared enough food for two meals at a local homeless shelter for me.

"Cooking for Christ" is a mission opportunity that allows you the privilege of: a) organizing your own fellowship or mission group; b) picking the shelter you wish to serve; c) planning and preparing your menu; d) delivering the meal as a way to witness to the love our Lord has for His people, no matter who they are or their circumstances.

### Recipe for Ministry:

1. Identify local shelters and their need for meals.
2. Make church aware of the need and secure church support.
3. Contact the local shelter you have chosen to minister to and set up a time and date to deliver the meals.
4. Pray for the Lord's leadership in your project. Pray for the homeless and those who work in this area.
5. Enlist volunteers to help cook and to help deliver the meals.
6. Shop for needed grocery items or ask volunteers or other church members to donate the supplies you need. Having GAs and RAs prepare a dessert at home the night before will encourage family participation.
7. Set the time and date to meet at your church kitchen to prepare the meals to be delivered. (Note: The large roaster aluminum pans are great for preparing and delivery.)
8. Evaluate your project. Maybe the GAs or RAs would like to have a sharing time after delivering the meals.

Written by: Cindy Lange, Associational GA Director  
Little Bonne Femme Baptist Association  
Columbia, MO

## WELCOME HOME MEAL FOR PERSONS COMING HOME FROM HOSPITAL

### Church Information:

Name Trinity Baptist Church City,  
State Cambridge, OH  
Size 125 in Sunday School

### Persons targeted by the ministry (Identify):

Needy, unwed and Indian mothers.

### Resources Needed:

1. Leadership Coordinator
2. Workers Team(s) of four

### Members and Tasks

Rotate jobs. One provides main dish, one a vegetable, one a dessert and the fourth person delivers the meal.

3. Materials Provided by team members.
4. Cost Estimate No cost to the church.

Recruitment of workers and participants: Promoted through Baptist Women but open to all church women. I believe this is a suitable project for small churches because the number of people ministered to is related to how many are in the church. It provides a means to minister to each other and is also an outreach ministry.

### Other Steps to take in doing the event (Indicate a tentative calendar)

Names of people in hospital are given to coordinator and she checks with the family to see if they would take a meal and, if so, when to deliver it, and any dietary restrictions. Enough is provided for all in the household.

### Evaluate the Event/Project:

We have had good response from those participating and those receiving meals. It provides the church with an opportunity to show we are concerned with both spiritual and physical needs.

### Submitted by:

Mrs. Les (Betty) Hoffman Terrell L. Moore  
Muskingum Valley Baptist Assn. Director of Missions  
P.O. Box 746 Muskingum Valley Baptist Association  
Cambridge, Ohio 43725 614/439-1878 office  
439-1732 home

## CLOTHING FOR THE NEEDY

### Church Information:

Name Oldtown Baptist Fellowship  
City, State Oldtown, Maryland  
Size 75

Purpose of Event/Project:

The purpose is to share the Lord we love so much, He told us to clothe the naked.

Persons targeted by the ministry (Identify):

Unchurched people in the community. This is a poverty area. We also have given clothes out at other times.

Resources Needed:

1. Leadership

Pastor, Deacons, and WMU Ladies

2. Workers

All members of our fellowship

Members and Tasks

3. Materials

Used clothing, mostly supplied by the larger churches in the Western Association.

4. Cost Estimate

Nothing

Recruitment of workers and participants:

The ladies in our WMU separate the clothing during the week before we have the giveaway. The participants are the people in our community.

Other Steps to take in doing the event (Indicate a tentative calendar)

We have two giveaways each year one in the spring and the fall.

Describe the Event/Project:

We gather clothes from season to season and separate the clothing into groups.

The community is invited to come and receive the clothing free. We usually serve about 175 to 200 individuals. Pastor DiNicola is always there to share the gospel and pass out tracts.

Evaluate the Event/Project:

The event is a lot of hard work, but the blessing are too many for us to even think about not having it.

## CHRISTMAS FOR A NEEDY FAMILY

### Church Information:

Name Capitol Heights Baptist Church  
City, State Bismarck, North Dakota  
Size 60

### Purpose of Event/Project:

Provide food and gifts for a needy family at Christmas

### Persons targeted by the ministry (Identify):

A single mother with four sons (ages 3, 4, 6 & 8) did not want her name known so gifts were given through the Abused Adult Resources Center.

### Resources Needed:

1. Leadership - Jan Dixon, Baptist Young Women's President
2. Workers - Marlya Hoechst and Leta Enos, BYW members

Members and Tasks Jan - contacted Abused Adult Resource Center and prepared flyer for church bulletin  
Marlya & Leta - boxed up items and delivered them to the Resource Center

3. Materials Canned goods, non-perishable foodstuff, clothes & Christmas gifts for children; \$100 gift certificate from grocery store (requested from Hunger Funds through the State Convention office).
4. Cost Estimate

All items donated.

### Recruitment of workers and participants:

At the October BYW meeting, the members decided that this would be their Mission Action Project. By common consent, each volunteered her services.

### Other Steps to take in doing the event (Indicate a tentative calendar)

October Meeting - decided on project. November: Adult Resource Center contacted and report was made in November BYW meeting. December 19 - deadline for donations. December 22 - delivery to Adult Center so that items could be taken to family by Christmas.

### Describe the Event/Project:

Church members were asked to bring their donations to the church and deposit in designated place.

### Evaluate the Event/Project:

Caseworkers at the Adult Center assured the BYW members that they were giving

encouragement to a mother who is really trying to keep her family together and better herself. The BYW members received a blessing from helping someone else at this special time.

## JAIL MINISTRY

### How to Plan a Project

Well, if I sent you a recipe for Apricot Nectar, perhaps you would like the rest if you didn't get it serves you right for asking the impossible.

Well, after the effects, here is the rest of it.

First, Mrs. Maxwell is not able to take the time to do something she knows nothing about; furthermore, there is no one around here who can spell mission actun porgequie.

- I. Enlist some women leaders in a church.
- II. Plan to have a meeting with these.
  - a. Make Mulled Apricot Nectar to use as a punch to be served with fresh vegetables, and dip as a munch a talk.

#### MULLED APRICOT NECTAR

1 can (46 ounces) apricot nectar  
« cup orange juice  
« lemon, sliced  
2 tablespoons honey  
8 whole cloves  
4 whole allspice  
1 cinnamon stick

Combine all ingredients in large saucepan, bring to boil and simmer 10 minutes. Remove from heat and let stand, covered, 30 minutes. Reheat; strain and serve. Makes about 1« quarts.

- b. Share the purpose of the meeting.
- III. Lead the group to decide on a project.
    - a. Have the project in mind.
    - b. Present the facts of the project.
    - c. Suggest plans for securing the material.
    - d. List cost and time involved for each person.
    - e. Agree to who will direct the project.
    - f. Set date for completion.

#### Here is the project

Alpha Black directs the jail ministry for his association. He is constantly writing families of inmates for the county jail and the Boley Prison. There are two needs.

- a. He needs postage stamps and material for correspondence.
- b. He needs Spanish-speaking Bibles (New Testaments that are paperback so they can be placed in the jail).

The group should pray specifically for those to whom Alpha ministers. There should be a time for each person in the group to agree to pray for him, and the person who prays for him on a certain day should drop him a card and say, "I prayed for you on this day" (list for what you prayed for him). Those in the group should select a different day, including the Wednesday he goes to Boley and Sunday afternoons that he directs the jail

ministry in Pottawatomie-Lincoln Baptist Association.

If you agree to assist with postage and writing material, take an offering and have someone purchase a book of stamps and a set of greeting cards where Alpha can write in the card, and get the material to him . . . rather than just sending the money.

If you finish your work, have some more punch.

## HOMELESS MINISTRY

Locust Grove Baptist Church provided the ministry need at the time.

We did not openly promote this ministry because of structural concerns for the building in which this ministry was housed (old church building).

Those ministered to were from varied backgrounds: one, alcohol and drug abuse, a felon on probation, one former child abuse/neglect victim.

Listed below are a few suggestions that may be helpful in planning a homeless ministry.

### Helpful Programs

1. Trained, concerned, committed counselors
2. Alcoholics Anonymous
3. Al-Anon
4. Trained literacy volunteers

House rules are suggested. Some of the rules we used are:

1. No alcoholic beverages
2. No drug use except under a physician's direction
3. Curfew
4. Daily chores assigned to each person
5. Assignments given for jobs that need to be done around the church building and grounds
6. Conflict resolution by residents and designated church members

Our goals for this program were:

1. To minister to the total needs of the person, physical and spiritual.
2. To provide a temporary place for the person to stay while looking for a permanent place of their own.
3. To help the person in their search for a job.
4. To encourage the person to participate in the life and ministry of the church wherever they go.

Locust Grove Baptist Church

P.S. In conclusion, LGBC was amazed at the level of involvement the residents projected in all aspects of church functioning once received and accepted by the church. In our experience, they were found to be trustworthy.

From Judith Caudle

Allegheny Association of Southern Baptists

## SUGGESTED FORMAT FOR EVENT OR PROJECT

Name of Event/Project: Homeless Ministry

Church Information:

Name Locust Grove Baptist Church  
City, State Beckwith, West Virginia  
Pastor John Parrish - Bivocational

Purpose of Event/Project: Homeless Ministry

Persons targeted by the ministry (identify): Three men ages 21-45. Varied backgrounds. Two men were personal contacts. One man referred by John Parrish (a probation officer).

Resources Needed:

1. Leadership - Pastor, church council, WMU mission director
2. Workers - Trained literacy worker, counselors, volunteers to wash clothes, doctor's appointment, etc.

Members and Tasks - Get shelter or rooms ready for tenants. Cleaning, supplies, furniture, kitchen area, adequate bathroom or bathrooms.

3. Materials - Beds, bunks, mattresses, blankets, dishes, pots, pans, dressers, cabinets, table, chairs, sheets, towels, washcloths, toilet articles, food, Bibles, cleaning supplies.
4. Cost estimate - Some tenants may be able to pay on electric bills and water if they stay awhile. Our tenants were there 3-6 months. Of course, overnight people would not be expected to do that. Some had part-time jobs but no home.

Recruitment of workers and participants: Inform workers that they will be dealing with people from all walks of life. Alcohol, drugs, health problems, abuse, etc. Committee should be only ones responsible for homeless ministry. This takes burden off pastor.

Other Steps to take in doing the event (Indicate a tentative calendar)

Describe the Project:

Ministries provided: (1) literacy - weekly lesson, (2) counseling, (3) Alcohol Anonymous meetings (local, weekly), (4) worship services, and (5) problem-solving, good listeners.

Evaluate the Event/Project:

Goals of the program: (1) minister, (2) find homes, (3) jobs, (4) health care, (5) encourage attendance in church that souls will be won to Christ!!

Like any standard format, this one will have flaws--adjust as needed.

Tenants ministered to us by working on building and grounds.

Assistance is available. For food through Southern Baptists, food pantries, contributions, public assistance (food stamps). Fund raisers to buy food.

Evaluation:

Listed are a few suggestions that may be helpful in planning a homeless ministry:

1. Prayer
2. Election of a committee to plan, organize, and oversee the shelter.
3. Committed volunteer workers to do errands and clean the facilities.
4. Major appliances in place, as well as the furniture needed for the number of residents you plan to accommodate.
5. Bed linens, bath linens and kitchen linens
6. Toiletry items
7. Clothing on hand or easy access to clothing of various sizes
8. Bibles, writing supplies, stamps provided by Sunday School classes
9. Cleaning supplies
10. Food (be open to all avenues of assistance in this area)
11. Personal file on each resident (medical, family, job skills, criminal record, a history of the resident since coming to the attention of the church)
12. Establish a working relationship with health department, welfare, police and private organizations providing human services.
13. Teach interpersonal relationships and conflict resolution. (These men had no privacy. Interaction with other people was difficult for them.) Many homeless individuals need assistance with decision making.
14. Check with local building codes and with insurance carrier regarding the issues of liability and zoning.

## CHRISTMAS BAGS FOR PRISONERS

Church: Crab Orchard Baptist Church  
Oakdale, Tennessee  
Average Sunday School Attendance - 25

The purpose of the project is to provide Christmas gifts to prison inmates.

The target group is some 1,350 inmates at the Morgan County Regional Prison and the Brushy Mountain Penitentiary. Both are state prison facilities located in Morgan County, Tennessee. Our church is also in Morgan County.

The project is coordinated through the cooperation of the Big Emory Baptist Association Women's Missionary Union and the chaplains of the two prisons.

The chaplains inform the association WMU director as to the number of gift bags needed and the approved items to be included.

We have 50 churches in our association. The association WMU director informs each church in the association concerning the items needed and asks each church to commit to a specific number of gift packets. The individual items are gathered by the church and placed into small bags. Items last year included a tooth brush, toothpaste, a candy bar, a small calendar, a pencil, a writing pad, a gospel tract, and six homemade cookies.

Our church decided to provide 20 gift bags. The church voted to pay for the needed items. One of our ladies was elected to purchase the required items. Several of our ladies agreed to bake a given number of homemade cookies. When all the items were collected we put them into the individual bags and delivered the 20 bags to the association office.

Just before Christmas the chaplains brought some of the inmates with them to the association office to load and transport the bags to each of the prisons.

The chaplains say that these Christmas bags are the only contact that some of the inmates have with the "free world" throughout the year.

We have done this project for several years. We have had many positive responses from the inmates and other prison personnel.

We believe that giving the Christmas gift bags is a good way for our small church to have a part in a positive witness inside the walls of two large prisons.

Patsy Bargiol  
Oakdale, TN 37748

PROVIDE A GARDEN PLOT FOR FAMILIES. BEGIN A BIBLE STUDY.

Church Information:

Name Calvary Baptist Church  
City, State Clay Center, Kansas  
Size 25

Target: Unchurched, those not involved in Bible study, lost.

Resources Needed:

1. Leadership  
(1) Persons to supervise the project and the divide up the land into garden plots, (2) person to lead the Bible study, (3) hospitality person to coordinate refreshment time.
2. Workers - Persons to come and help till the ground, weed the garden and prepare and serve refreshments.  
Members and Tasks
3. Materials - Everyone brought their own garden tools. Church provided Bibles and study materials.
4. Cost estimate - Minimal--just for Bible study materials and water for gardens.

Recruitment of workers and participants: Pastor presented the idea to the church and the members agreed to participate by coming to help once a week, bring their garden tools and help provide refreshments.

Other Steps to take in doing the event (Indicate a tentative calendar)

Till the ground in late fall or early spring, rope off into plots, put ad in paper and on local radio station. Set tie for people to come and sign up for plots. Be there to help when they plant(?) and come to work in garden. Prepare to lead Bible study.

Describe the Project:

The church had a large plot of land on their church property not being used and the pastor decided to ask the church if they could notify the community and offer garden plots for persons who didn't have anywhere to plant a garden.

Evaluate the Event/Project:

The project was very successful. They reached several families and had a great time of Bible study. Some of those they ministered to are now members of the church.

## ANNUAL CLOTHING DRIVE

First Baptist Church, West Valley City, Utah, is located on the west side of Salt Lake City. It is one block away from a busy shopping mall and near a connector route to the interstate. The church has a lot of drop-ins asking for help or ministry. This church has a Sunday morning attendance of between 100 to 150, but active adults are about 35.

WMU ladies looking around for a ministry project and realizing the great need in their area for used clothing came up with the idea of a once-a-year giveaway. The church doesn't have the room or personnel to have an ongoing clothing closet. They decided to have this drive and give away clothes every Saturday during the month of October. In August they began to announce the activity and gather clothes. Six ladies passed out 200 flyers one week before the first give away day and an announcement was made on the radio. Then ladies set up tables with assorted clothes. Six to eight ladies were on hand to assist on give away day. Salvation tracts were given with the clothes and Bibles were also distributed.

Some statements made in the evaluation. It was a great success. Lots of needs were met. It was a wonderful chance to witness. We will do this every October.

Recipe:

1. Church members decide to do a clothing drive as a mission project
2. Clothing is gathered, cleaned, and mended
3. Church members pass out flyers in underprivileged area, make a radio announcement and any other advertisement applicable to your area
4. Assignments are chosen for the event: Set up tables, arrange clothes, put out tracts and Bibles
5. Pray for the workers and for those who will come
6. Evaluate

## FOOD PANTRY

First Baptist Church, West Valley City, Utah, is located on the west side of Salt Lake City. It is one block away from a busy shopping mall and near a connector route to the interstate. The church has a lot of drop-ins asking for help or ministry. This church has a Sunday morning attendance of between 100 to 150, but active adults are about 35.

The church decided to have a food pantry to meet the need of those in need of food inside the church as well as those outside. Members bring food when they come to church. There is a drive for fresh food in January.

The WMU director says, "Our members love being a part of this outreach."

Recipe:

1. Church members bring food
2. Assign persons responsible to inventory and distribute food
3. Advertise with poster and word of mouth
4. Members bring sacks for distribution and plastic boxes for perishable items

## FOOD PANTRY

First Baptist Church, Kearns, Utah, is located in a residential neighborhood of a suburb of Salt Lake City. The church has a Sunday morning worship attendance of 55 to 60 and has 30-35 active adult members.

This church began a food pantry 16 years ago to help hungry families and individuals. The very first meeting there were eight volunteers and four clients. In January of 1994, 150 families used the Food Pantry with a total of 662 family members. Each family that comes to the Food Pantry is provided with enough food for three meals per day for each family member for three days.

The Food Pantry has 65 volunteers from several denominations: Baptist, Methodist, Mormon, Lutheran, Assembly of God, Catholic. It is open four days each week. Many of the volunteers are senior adults, but not all. **THERE IS NO PAID STAFF.**

Cost estimate for the Food Pantry is \$4,000 per quarter. The funds come from various individuals, churches, the Bonner Foundation, Home Mission Board, and schools.

Tasks are performed by volunteers: Interview clients, stock shelves, keep area clean, break down bulk food, both dry and frozen, into family-size portions and fill orders, share Christian fellowship, and share the Gospel with all who will listen.

### Recipe:

1. Decide to have a food pantry
2. Ask Home Mission Board, SBC for Hunger Funds
3. Find out if there are other funds available in your area (such as the Bonner Foundation)
4. Advertise to let people know of the service
5. Arrange for volunteers to:
  - Interview clients
  - Stock shelves
  - Keep area clean
  - Break down bulk food into family-size portions
  - Fill orders
  - Share Christian fellowship
  - Share the gospel

## FOOD CLOSET

Heber Valley Baptist Church in Heber City, Utah, is about five miles from Park City, Utah, a large ski resort. The church has a total membership of 50 people with 25 to 35 active adults. The Pastor is bivocational and lives 45 miles away.

The church is located on a busy highway. The members decided to begin a Food Closet because from time to time people would call asking for help. They collected food to have handy to give to the needy when they came through town. When the provisions are low, an announcement is made in church and the members replenish it. They made the police department aware of this ministry and from time to time they get a referral from the police.

### Recipe:

1. The church becomes aware of the need through repeated petitions for help.
2. Agreement is made to prepare a place for storage of food items.
3. Members agree to donate food to have on hand when there is a request.
4. The member who donates the food also stores it.
5. The church has an answering machine to receive calls. Whoever takes the call disburses the food.

RESORT, TRAVEL, AND LEISURE MINISTRIES

RESORT AND LEISURE MINISTRY (ALPINE RESORT MINISTRIES ARM)

Church: Oh-Be-Joyful Baptist Church  
POB 175, Crested Butte, CO 81224  
303-349-6237 or 303-349-0726  
15 families (35 resident members)

Purpose: Offer worship experience to those who visit the vacation area during skiing and camping seasons.

Targeted population: Skiers and campers

Resources Needed:

1. Leadership - Willing pastor, deacons, and other individuals with a heartbeat for ministering. State convention leaders with expertise in training workers.
2. Workers - Al Van Dyke (a Missions Service Corp volunteer) conducts the skiers worship and Rev. Jim Kunes (pastor) uses summer college student volunteers for the summer campers worship.
3. Materials - Transportation of worship leaders, New Testaments, tracts, advertising brochures, program printing, housing for summer volunteers, ski lift permit.
4. Cost Estimate: \$3,000
5. Recruitment of workers/participants: Church members are invited to be involved. Worship leaders are regularly the MSC volunteer, the pastor, and the Summer College Volunteers.
6. Others: (Attached story written by pastor, Jim Kunes)

The following is a Missions Action Project that has been created and implemented by Oh-Be-Joyful Baptist in Crested Butte, Colorado. The church is a part of the Continental

Divide Association and has been in existence since 1979. The church has a full-time pastor and a fluctuating congregation of fifteen families.

Crested Butte is a resort community servicing thousands of visitors that come to ski in the winter time at Mt. Crested Butte Ski Resort and that come to enjoy the Rocky Mountain summers and Alpine activities. Both communities of Crested Butte and Mt. Crested Butte have a collective transient population of less than 2,000 people as year-around residents. There are many part-time winter or summer residents that either work for a season or two, or own second vacation homes here in the area and spend a few weeks or months of their vacation time here.

The two primary resort seasons are the winter and summer seasons. During this time, many visitors and second-home owners come to vacation and enjoy the area. As a missions project to reach out to these many visitors, Oh-Be-Joyful has taken the church to where the people are as play in the mountains. The spiritual needs of the visitors are brought with them and the church is at work to try and meet those needs.

Through a newly organized Resort and Leisure ministry called ARM (Alpine Resort Ministries), Oh-Be-Joyful has taken worship services to the ski slopes, hotels, and smaller resort communities. "ARM" has become an extension of the local church to cross denominational lines and to reach out to the lost and unchurched, in order to meet people where they are at as they come to vacation.

In the winter time, outside worship services are provided for the skiers. At 1:00 p.m. on Sundays at a designated and publicized spot, the pastor or other resort ministers ski to a given spot on the ski mountain and lead groups from 12 to 50 in size in an informal and short (around 30 minutes) worship service. This Skiers Chapel provides the opportunity for the gospel to be shared with many who normally do not attend church or would not take the time to attend a local church because of it interfering with their limited vacation time. Also, during the holidays, special services are provided for the guests in the hotels.

In the summer time, ARM provides for Day Camps, VBS, Campers Chapel and special event, outreach opportunities to the many visitors that pass through. For example, following the normal Sunday worship service, a worship team scrambles to a smaller nearby resort community called Almont some 18 miles away and leads a worship service for weekend and summer campers at a resort pavilion. Again, the gathering varies from 12 to 50 people who have been canvassed the day before in their campgrounds. This particular event was initiated for the first time this past year and God has blessed it.

## Recipe for Ministry

1. Recruit director of Resort and Leisure through state convention, Steve Hoekstra.  
Have Steve explain, train, and advise concerning the ARM concept to Pastor and key church leadership.
2. Contact existing ARM ministries to gain further information.
3. Identify local opportunities in ministering to visitors of your resort community.  
Identify opportunities in surrounding areas.
4. Present initial idea of missions project to congregation for approval and support.  
Show you have done your homework.
5. If approved - recruit volunteers for an initial steering committee.
6. Begin formation of ARM - PRAY - PRAY - PRAY.
  - a. Leadership - Pastor, deacons, or selected individual with a heart for the project.  
Define use of ARM for your context.
  - b. Provide supervisors training through HMB, your association, or Steve Hoekstra.
  - c. Establish funding through church budget, special donations, association's missions fund, et cetera.
  - d. Tap into HMB for use of volunteers Summer Missionaries, Innovators, Semester Missionaries, et cetera. Provide training, housing, transportation, tools for ministry, policy, et cetera.
  - e. Establish specific target groups skiers, campers, et cetera.
  - f. Contact and secure permission from resort owners, town government, campground owners, et cetera, for use of facilities or premises that will be needed to provide ministry.
  - g. Establish a calendar of events for ministries.
  - h. Provide for ongoing staff meetings to keep abreast of needs, progress, problems.
  - i. Implement specific ministry day camp, chapel, et cetera.
  - j. Follow-up to confessions of faith/discipleship/et cetera.
  - k. Evaluations (individuals/program)

## MINISTRY TO TOURISTS

Roan Park Baptist Church is a beautiful church nestled in the mountains of upper East Tennessee. It is located on State Highway 143 which winds its way from Roan Mountain, Tennessee, through Roan Mountain State Park to the Rhododendron Gardens atop the mountain. The church has 69 resident members with an average Sunday School attendance of 38. Rev. Ira Berry is the pastor.

During the summer months, thousands of tourists pass through this area. Many of them are campers who camp in one of the 180 campsites at the State Park. The church conducts a Sunday morning worship service at the campground each Sunday, beginning on Memorial Day and continuing through Labor Day. Attendance at these services averages 50 to 60 people. The people who attend seem grateful that someone takes the time to provide these services.

Recipe for ministry:

1. Form a study committee from the Brotherhood or WMU to gather information from the campground owner or the manager if it is a government facility. Secure permission to hold service, assuring them that it is an interdenominational service. Reserve a convenient place for the service.
2. Present the mission opportunity to the church. Answer any questions and ask the church to approve the project. There is minimum expense for doughnuts, coffee, and leaflets which may be absorbed by the church, contributions to Campground Ministry, or receive an offering at the campground.
3. Elect a person or a committee to direct the mission action project.
4. Secure a speaker. This may be the pastor or a retired minister.
5. Enlist volunteers to distribute invitation leaflets in the campground on Saturday, to serve as greeters, to bring and distribute hymnals, and to lead the music. Greeters may offer doughnuts and coffee for a fellowship time prior to the service.
6. After the close of the season (Labor Day), evaluate and make recommendations for next year.

## MOUNTAINEER PARK CHAPLAINCY VOLUNTEERS

### Church Information:

Name First Baptist of Dent  
City, State Chester, West Virginia  
Size 120 members, 35 in attendance

Purpose of Event/Project: Special Ministries. to provide a witness to a community of racetrack workers and their families.

Persons targeted by the ministry (Identify): Workers on the "Backside" (stable area) and their families: horse owners, trainers, jockeys, stable hands, hot walkers, pony girls, etc. 1,400 employees.

### Resources Needed:

1. Leadership - Chaplain who relates to the track management and supervises volunteers and programs.

2. Workers

Members and Tasks - Substitute for chaplain in his absence: Lead worship, counseling during office hours, hospital visitation, lead morning devotions, lead prayer with jockeys; children workers.

3. Materials - Bibles, Christian literature for distribution, hymnals, musical instrument, children's materials.

4. Cost Estimate

Recruitment of workers and participants: Mature Christians only, experienced in personal witnessing, open to working in a difficult setting; not sensitive to the dirt, smell, language, smoking, drinking, or gambling.

Other Steps to take in doing the event (Indicate a tentative calendar)

Make appointment to propose ministry to management. Obtain licenses if necessary. Learn track rules and policies. Write job descriptions for workers.

Describe the Event/Project: Ongoing project: Sunday evening worship services, Monday afternoon office hours, visitation. Morning devotions, prayer with jockeys before the races, 12-step program for substance abusers, children's program on Sunday evenings and summertime.

Evaluate the Event/Project: A blessing to all involved. A feeling of being salt and light in the world. Learning to look beyond faults to minister to needs and point people to Jesus

## TRAVEL KITS

### Church Information:

Name Open Door Baptist Church  
City, State Colliers, West Virginia  
Size Membership 132; Attendance 50

Purpose of Event/Project: To provide travel kits for distribution through an association-sponsored truckstop ministry.

Persons targeted by the ministry (Identify): Truck drivers attending worship services at the truckstop ministry.

### Resources Needed:

1. Leadership Baptist Women
  1. Provide information.
  2. Encourage and promote.
  3. Schedule collection and delivery.
2. Workers One or more individuals may contribute complete kit(s) or bring separate items and work together to package kits.

Members and Tasks Buy, sort, package, and deliver.

3. Materials Ziploc bag, toothbrush, toothpaste, mouthwash, razor, shaving cream, soap, shampoo, chewing gum or lifesavers, tract, and self-addressed, stamped postcard.
4. Cost Estimate \$3,00 per kit (use sample size items)

### Recruitment of workers and participants:

Other Steps to take in doing the event (Indicate a tentative calendar) This is a year-long ongoing project.

Describe the Event/Project: The ladies collect the needed items over a period of time. When they have several kits prepared, they personally deliver kits to the truckstop chaplain.

Evaluate the Event/Project: The travel kits are appreciated by the truckers. The church ladies keep a scrapbook of the thank you notes the truckers write on those self-addressed postcards. They have lately started sending \$25.00 each month to the chaplain, a Mission Service Corps volunteer.

## RV MINISTRY

For your Sure Fire Mission Action Projects book, I would like to tell you about one activity of the First Baptist Church of St. David, Arizona. St. David is about half way between Benson and Tombstone and is about 8 miles off I-10. It is a Mormon community and FBC is the only other church there. St. David has several RV parks and is the winter home/visit of many retirees or "Snow Birds." Their average Sunday School attendance for FBC las year was 43, the Baptist women have 17 members, the pastor has to supplement his income with some personal finances.

The project is a Sunday morning Bible study at one of the RV parks. They found the manager of the park to be cooperative, so they selected a music director and a teacher to go lead the Bible study. This was started in November 1992 when the winter visitors began to come, but it still is continuing because there are weekenders that come to the RV park throughout the year. Their beginning attendance at the Bible study was six with a peak attendance of 78, and now in the off-season it is 12-15.

I have asked the pastor's wife, Frances Bradshaw, to add some details about this outreach activity which will never be a mission or church. By the way, Frances attended the Feature Writing conference at Glorieta two weeks ago. Her article was entitled "You've Got to Get There First" and is on the front of Reflections.

### OUTREACH ACTIVITY OF FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH; ST. DAVID, ARIZONA AT "TWIN LAKES RANCH RESORT"

Folks come for a few days or weeks to vacation and relax at the Twin Lakes Ranch Resort; a "coast to coast" membership RV park, near St. David, Arizona. Many find renewal for their spirit, as well as the body.

Sunday morning at 8:00 AM, the activity building becomes the place of worship as volunteer members of First Baptist Church, St. David, arrive. Reg and Betty Gokey live adjacent to the resort and come set up the building. Because they participate in many of the resort activities, the guests recognize them, and immediately feel welcome and at ease. Keith Kersey arrives Bible in hand and a portable pulpit under his arm (the pulpit was made by another member, Burgess Stormer) to lead the group in Bible study/worship. Andy Lasley brings his guitar to lead music. The music is a variety of contemporary, chorus, and old-time gospel.

The people come! Today ten! It is a hot August day and the resort is nearly empty. The music transforms these hearts and they are filled with song. God's Word is spoken in sincerity and love. This time is "CHURCH," as each one spends it with God.

Next week most of the faces will be new, except Reg, Betty, Keith, and Andy. They will be there! But, one of the guests may sing or bring an instrument to play, or even preach. It is their service. Later in the fall, the "Snow Birds" will come and the group will be large. Maybe sixty people. An offering box is placed by the door. All collections are used for scholarships for Mexican Nationals to attend Spanish language seminary classes held in Douglas, Ariz.

Folks traveling all over the world pass through here; some of them visit other activities at FBC, where they find more friendly faces and open fellowship. Back on the road again they pass the word. "Be sure and stop at Twin Lakes Resort in St. David." That's

how this mission activity goes on and on.

By: Frances Bradshaw  
First Baptist Church  
P.O. Box 128  
St. David, Arizona  
Phone (602) 720-4755

## MINISTRY TO TRANSIENTS

Church Information: Mt. Whitney Baptist Church  
Lone Pine, CA  
Membership: 19

Purpose of Project: To provide shelter and food for those in need.

Persons targeted by the ministry: Transients and Travelers

Resources Needed:

1. Leadership - a person or persons who would be willing to coordinate or direct the care of transients or other travelers in need of assistance. The church would need to be in agreement that this is a vital ministry.
2. Others should and could be trained as stand-by or on-call when the need arises.
3. Materials needed would include a place to house the transients with an appropriate place to sleep and clean up. Food should also be available for meals. It might also be helpful to have some sort of clothes closet. The members of the church can be used to provide and assist with all these needs.
4. Cost estimate: This would depend on the facility available and what would need to be done to provide the above needs.

Lone Pine is located in the Sierra Nevada Mountain Range. It is a small town but has many visitors because of its proximity to Mt. Whitney (highest mountain peak in the continental U.S.). It is also very close to Bishop and Mammoth Lakes which are recreational areas that draw many people in the winter for skiing and the summer for camping, hiking and fishing. All three communities are located on US Highway 395, so transients will often follow the highway system.

Ben Sparks, pastor of the church, and his wife Zelda have ministered to countless people in need of a place to sleep, and in need of a decent meal. Zelda has also washed clothes for those who have not had access to a washing machine or the money to use one. Their home is a small mobile unit attached to the church facility. They usually give the transients a place to sleep right in the church building. Recently, through the assistance from the High Desert Baptist Association, a private foundation that assists small churches, and volunteer help from churches in the association, the church building was remodeled, rewired and repainted. In addition, a shower was put in the basement to help take care of the needs of the transients. (Prior to this time, Ben and Zelda allowed them to use their personal bathroom.) It should probably be added that the community is aware that this ministry is available and people are directed to the church on a regular basis.

Many lives have been touched as a result of this ministry and the gospel has been presented as a result of this caring couple and their church.

## HELP FOR PEOPLE STRANDED IN YOUR TOWN

Wendover, Utah, is a small gambling town located on I-80 on the Utah-Nevada border. Primera Iglesia Bautista (First Baptist Church) is on the Utah side. There are 14 adult members in the church.

The churches in town, as well as the police, were overcome with the number of people coming through town who experienced trouble. The needs were many: car trouble; abandoned children; need for gas, food, or a place to stay.

Primera Iglesia works in conjunction with the Salvation Army and the Wendover Christian Fellowship to provide help to anyone stranded in Wendover and needing help with gas, food, or a motel room. In 1993 Pastor Ernest Silvas of Primera Iglesia Bautista and Pastor Chris Lund of Wendover Christian Fellowship together answered 500 calls for help and spent more than \$6,000 in vouchers provided by the Salvation Army. All law enforcement agencies are aware of this ministry. Ninety percent of the calls come from the police.

Recipe:

1. The church talks about the problem and discusses different approaches to solutions.
2. Someone is appointed to find out what community agencies are doing to help people.  
Talk to the Salvation Army to see if the church can tie in to their program.
3. Elect someone to be the contact person.
4. The contact person will meet with the contact person from the other church/churches and with Salvation Army personnel to determine boundaries and guidelines.
5. The contact person apprises the law enforcement agencies of their involvement in the program.

## MINISTRIES AMONG SENIOR CITIZENS

## BIBS FOR FOLKS IN AREA REST HOMES

### Recipe for Ministry:

1. The Mission Action Leader of WMS, or any willing person, speaks to the group about the idea.
2. WMS votes to make this a project.
3. One person checks with an area nursing home about the project.
4. Set a work day or work night.
5. Publicize a needs list:
  1. Two portable sewing machines
  2. Scissors and straight pins
  3. Scrap fabric. The Narcissa women use double knit.
6. Decide on one pattern ahead of time.
7. At the actual work time set up an assembly line sewing circle. Some cut, some sew, et cetera.
8. Clean up the mess!
10. Designate people to deliver the bibs.
11. Praise God for an opportunity to give "a cup of water in His name."

## BANANA DAY

I observed one woman during this ministry on her own in one of our local nursing homes here in Columbia, Missouri. I think it would be easier done with groups of people, but can be done by any size church.

### Recipe:

1. Make the church family aware of needs in area nursing homes.
2. Secure church support.
3. Pray for nursing home workers and residents.
4. Contact your local nursing home social worker or recreation coordinator to set a date and time and get an idea of how many bananas will be needed.
5. Make your church family aware of the project and enlist volunteers.
6. Purchase bananas. (Many times a local grocery store will give an account if they know about your ministry.)
7. Visit nursing home on chosen day of ministry and walk throughout the facility offering a banana to each resident. Take time to speak to or pray with residents.
8. Evaluate the project. Consider making it a weekly, monthly or quarterly project.

Kathy Goode, DOM wife  
Little Bonne Femme Baptist Association  
Columbia, MO

## SENIOR ADULT REVIVAL

East Pine Baptist Mission is in Ponchatoula, Louisiana, a town of approximately 6,000 people. The mission is located in a low-income racially integrated area of town. Church membership is 46.

A low-income housing facility consisting of forty apartments is on one side of the church. A forty-four unit retirement development is two blocks in another direction from the church. Many of the residents of these apartments are widows living alone.

We decided to conduct a senior adult revival at a time that would allow these people to attend and get home well before dark. A week in late September was chosen while we were still on daylight savings time and services were scheduled at 5:30 p.m.

To advertise the revival we placed announcements in neighborhood businesses. WE did a door-to-door visitation to give a personal invitation to everyone.

Our pastor preached on Sunday at both services. Five retired ministers who live in the Ponchatoula area were asked to preach at the Monday through Friday services. Our church minister of music led in all of the music. A lot of this was done on a volunteer basis, no honorariums.

The response was excellent. The revival was well attended by the senior adults of the neighborhood. There was one addition to the church by letter and several rededications. Everyone expressed their appreciation for the revival planned especially for them.

## ONGOING MONTHLY SERVICES AT NURSING HOME

### CHURCH INFORMATION:

First Baptist Church (Scioto Valley Baptist Association)  
300 E. Third St., Waverly, Ohio  
150 Sunday School attendance

### PURPOSE OF EVENT/PROJECT:

Provide monthly, ongoing Bible study and fellowship to residents of local nursing home

PERSONS TARGETED BY THE MINISTRY: Residents of local nursing home

### RESOURCES NEEDED:

1. Leadership: Pastoral leader, Bible study leader, volunteers
2. Workers: Bible study leader and volunteers  
Members and Tasks: Bible study leader prepares a monthly Bible study to present (Sunday School lesson or other appropriate Bible Study material); volunteers to bring snacks and lead singing with the group
3. Materials: Sunday School lesson or other appropriate Bible study materials  
Monthly snacks for residents (doughnuts, milk, fruit)
4. Cost Estimates: Cost of monthly snacks

RECRUITMENT OF WORKERS AND PARTICIPANTS: Ask those interested in church, invite volunteers to go first couple months

### OTHER STEPS TO TAKE IN DOING THE EVENT:

1. Present need: Decide to do the project in a business meeting or as a Baptist Women's project
2. Contact Nursing Home to obtain approval from activity director/administrator; set up convenient time with facility
3. Schedule monthly time with facility and volunteers (i.e., 3rd Wednesday night at 5:30 p.m.)
4. Go at assigned time: Provide Bible lesson, sing choruses and songs, have prayer, have snacks. As dictated by volunteer interest and facility needs: Visit with patients who cannot come to common area for fellowship

DESCRIBE THE EVENT/PROJECT: To provide monthly, ongoing Bible study and fellowship with nursing home residents, have a song time, prayer time, and snack time

EVALUATE THE EVENT/PROJECT: After first service, evaluate the results, the residents attitudes and participation, see what changes need to be made.

Submitted: Muskingum Valley Baptist Association  
(Mrs. Bill) Norma Jean Johnson  
85 Jefferson Dr.  
Caldwell, OH 43724

## SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

This ministry to seniors is one of two that it could have written about. They also have a youth outreach in their small church.

God has done miraculous things in the midst of their small group. They have a wonderful, happy pastor who is a native of Maine, in this Hoosier place, and E-town has had a reputation as a hard place to work and serve because people are not friendly. But the pastor is known all over town as Pastor John, even to people who are active Methodists, are the people who have never intended to be involved with a church or identified with its people in any way. Pastor John Rutland and his wife Gloria are both natives of Maine, and love serving where they are.

I hope this will serve as a useful recipe for the book.

Thanks for your volunteer ministry in it.

Sincerely,  
Jan Cundiff  
South Central Association

**Church Information:**

Name	Cornerstone Baptist Church
City, State	Elizabethtown, Indiana
Size	25 members

**Purpose of Event/Project:** To reach an unreached segment of the community, and minister to their special needs.

**Persons targeted by the ministry (Identify):** Senior Adults in the E-town area, who are not presently attending worship services anywhere, and who have unmet needs, both physical and spiritual.

**Resources Needed:**

1. Leadership - Cooks, drivers, servers, community service representatives, people to locate and visit and invite, and pick up senior adults who express interest in the proposed activities.
2. Workers - People who are willing to prepare the work area and the place where the meal will be served, and clean up after the meal

**Members and Tasks** - Pastor to lead a devotional time; director of missions to secure World Hunger funds to provide for the cost of the food for the meal; someone to secure AZ leader to give information seniors need.

3. Materials - Foodstuffs for the meal; pamphlets or other written materials for the seniors to take home with them after the meal and the presentation;, perhaps someone who can carefully find out reading capability
4. Cost Estimate - Approximately \$275.00 to feed fifty people, both present for the meal and those meals that are carried out to seniors unable to be present (once a month).

**Recruitment of workers and participants:** ANNOUNCE THE ALREADY IDENTIFIED NEED, AND ASK FOR VOLUNTEERS TO ASSIST IN SUCH A MINISTRY; HAVING ALREADY EDUCATED THE CHURCH FAMILY IN THE BIBLICAL MODEL OF MINISTRY, ASK EACH MEMBER TO CONSIDER THE GIFTS AND TALENTS THEY ARE ABLE TO SHARE WITH PEOPLE IN THEIR OWN

## COMMUNITY.

Other Steps to take in doing the event (Indicate a tentative calendar)

SELECT A TIME WHAT WILL BE UNLIKELY TO BE PRE-EMPTED BY OTHER SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES, BOTH FOR THE CHURCH, AND THE SENIORS

Describe the Event/Project:

Once a month a very special hot and nourishing lunch will be prepared for the seniors in our community. We will provide transportation to and from the Church house, have a resource person, such as a Social Security representative to come to offer help for some actual need of seniors in general, and spiritual help at every meal.

Evaluate the Event/Project:

Since the project began last summer, the Church has been accepted in the community; the pastor has become the Pastor to many in the community who have not yet affiliated with the Body, but are expected to; some have been saved; some have become active in their church again; some are fed; good and helpful information has been shared

A committee of four ladies now oversees this monthly event, with the support of the church and the community. The rest of the funds is used to provide a food pantry for the needy in E-town; the whole church gives support to this ministry from time to time, having the food pantry open and available at regular times, and also in emergency.

## SOCK-IT TO ME MONTH

This is only an idea that came to me recently after working as a temporary social worker in a nursing home. I feel it can be used in any size church and is a good winter mission action project.

### Recipe:

1. Make the church family aware of needs in area nursing homes, group homes, et cetera.
2. Secure church support.
3. Pray for nursing home and group home workers and residents.
4. Contact social workers in area nursing homes and group homes to verify needs for socks. (Trust me, there is a great need for this simple item.) You may want to assist only 1 home if you are a small congregation.
5. Make announcements in church bulletins, newsletters, on bulletin boards, et cetera, about collecting socks.
6. Request each member bring 1 pair of new socks to a collection box during the designated month.
7. Set up a collection box in a high traffic area of the church.
8. Deliver the socks to the social workers at the home(s) your group has chosen.

A substitute for socks can be lap robes, made by the WMU or other groups.

Kathy Good, DOM wife  
Little Bonne Femme Baptist Association  
Columbia, MO

## VISITING THOSE IN NURSING HOMES

### Church Information:

First Baptist of Dent

Cincinnati, Ohio

Size: At that time perhaps 100

To minister to patients in a local nursing home who had no visitors.

Persons targeted by the ministry (Identify): Persons who had no family or visitors.

### Resources Needed:

1. Leadership WMU

2. Workers 6

### Members and Tasks

Visited every week some lonely people; small group devotionals, but mostly one-on-one visits; involved children when possible.

3. Materials

Tray favors, especially for holidays; small individual gifts, such as wreaths for door at Christmas, lap robes.

4. Cost Estimate Virtually none

Recruitment of workers and participants: These six counted to make this something the people could depend on. It lasted nine years.

Other Steps to take in doing the event (Indicate a tentative calendar)

Describe the Event/Project: These six all went at the same time when possible; if convenient, they visited in pairs when they could.

Evaluate the Event/Project: These patients were extremely grateful for these visits and planned their schedules around them. Many of these WMU ladies now work outside the home, so the ministry no longer functions.

## TELEPHONE SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

From: Southpark Baptist Church  
Oklahoma City OK  
(405) 691-6629

One of the unintentionally forgotten groups of people within our fellowship happens to be our shut-ins. Oh, yes, we have tried tapes, videos, and occasional visits into the homes to encourage our people. We have taken Sunday School lessons for them to read, home life magazines and have, at certain seasons, sent our youth choir or children's choir to sing, but somehow it just didn't seem to draw that marvelous group of folk into a feeling of really being part of the church family. My wife and I were on a Horseless Carriage Tour with a group from Tulsa, OK, and met a wonderful couple who were very active in their church. They began to share with us the experience they were having in a Telephone Sunday School class. Now, that got my thinker to working, and I began to realize that this means of communication may be the be available to really get these marvelous people personally involved in their church!

Our Telephone Sunday School class has been in effect for about a year. Here is the way it works at Southpark Baptist Church: every Sunday morning the telephone operator calls each person in their home, hospital, or nursing home, and informs them that the Sunday School class is about to begin. When she has everyone on the hook-up, she will call the church office and inform Bill Seeds that all the members are ready for the class to commence. At this time, Bill Seeds, the Telephone Sunday School Class director, will welcome the folks and begin to call the roll and ask about their conditions. There is interchange over the telephone among the people, sharing their concerns and blessings. Bill will lead a prayer for the particular needs of the day. At this time he shares the announcements from the bulletin so the people will be aware of what is going on in their church. This class takes place at the same time the other Sunday School classes are meeting. On most Sundays, the person who will provide the special music for worship will sing for the group over the telephone. After this, Mrs Seeds will teach the lesson for the day. At the conclusion, Bill Seeds will call on one of the folks to lead in prayer. This has been one of the most unique ministries of our church. We have two couples working at this ministry. Regular visits are made into the homes to deliver quarterlies and to learn of special needs. One of those who was in the class onver a period of time but is now able to attend Sunday School baked pies for the other members at Thanksgiving! Some of the "Thank you" notes tell us that "This is an important ministry." In visiting, we hear them say, "Please don't let anyone take our Sunday School class away from us!" This has helped these very important people to feel a vital part of their church. Our people are living longer, and I feel that this can become one of our greatest areas of ministry. Another unique factor in this type class is that it is not restricted to shut-ins. We have found many of our regular folk who, for one reason or another, can't be in Sunday School and are hooked up on a one-time basis. Some of our people in the hospital are hooked in on the Telephone Sunday School class. The potential for this type ministry is limited only by your church's imagination.

### HOW IS IT DONE AND WHAT DOES IT COST?

Simple: you get in touch with your local telephone operators and have them set up a conference call on a regular basis. You need to have a designated time for this use so it will not tie up the regular church line during the class period. We try to limit our class period to 29 minutes due to the cost break and our experience has been good to this point; our cost factor is approximately \$4.50 per person each Sunday. We do not charge the class members this amount. It is free to them as a ministry. Eventually it will pay for itself through the regular giving of those who for so long felt left out as far as their involvement in their church.

## THANKSGIVING LUNCHEON FOR SHUT-INS

First Baptist Church, West Valley City, Utah, is located on the west side of Salt Lake City. It is one block away from a busy shopping mall and near a connector route to the interstate, I-15. The church has a lot of drop-ins asking for help or ministry. This church has a Sunday morning attendance of between 100 to 150, but active adults are about 35.

WMU ladies decide to do a Thanksgiving luncheon for those church members and friends who can't get to church and who are often forgotten. The ladies had a menu and decorating committee. Two members searched and found 15 church members who were not able to come to church. They got cars and drivers. The WMU ladies made the invitations, provided the food, and served. The Missions Friends sang and the G.A.'s did beautiful name tags.

In their evaluation, they stated they had four ladies of another faith. "It was a wonderful experience." This we will do again as soon as possible." "This was, for me, the most rewarding."

Recipe:

1. Set date
2. Choose committees for:
  - Invitations and name tags
  - Menu
  - Program
  - Decorating committee
  - Searching out members who are shut-ins
  - Transportation
  - Cooking
  - Serve meals
  - Clean up
3. Evaluation

## SENIOR MINISTRY

First Baptist Church, Kearns, Utah, is located in a residential neighborhood of a suburb of Salt Lake City. The church has a Sunday morning worship attendance of 55 to 60 and has 30 to 35 active adult members.

This ministry provides a hot lunch, devotional, entertainment and keeps senior adults aware of community needs, political news concerning seniors, and shares Christian fellowship. Volunteers meet one day a week to work on craft projects to raise funds to help with extra needs.

### Recipe:

1. Build awareness of senior adults as a group needing ministry
2. Pray for a leader who will make arrangements for devotionals, entertainment, etc., at meetings
3. Set meeting times
4. Determine who will provide the meal
5. Ask for volunteers to clean up

MINISTRIES FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN

## WEEKDAY WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Heber Valley Baptist Church in Heber City, Utah, is about five miles from Park City, Utah, a large ski resort. It is also in the middle of a large predominantly strong Mormon area. The church has an active membership of 25 to 30 adults. The pastor is bivocational and lives 45 miles away.

There are lots of women in this area who are not active Mormons but would not feel comfortable coming to a worship service. The women began a weekday Bible study with a co-teaching team. They have a one hour study on Wednesday morning, a prayer time and an occasional luncheon. Their goal was to increase their knowledge of the Bible, to mature as Christians, to have a support base for women, as well as to reach out to women in the community who don't normally attend church.

Recipe for beginning weekday Bible study:

1. Pray for God's help and guidance.
2. Determine who will teach.
3. Set day and time.
4. Ask volunteer to type up flyer to send out.
5. Church agrees to pay for mailout.
6. Teacher opens church and prepares room.

## TEMPLE MENDERS

Purpose of Event/Project: Women's Weight Loss Outreach

Persons targeted by the ministry (Identify): Women desiring to lose weight

### FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, CARTER LAKE, IOWA

#### Temple Members

Temple Menders is a woman's outreach of First Baptist Church that began in February of 1993. After several months of discussion, planning, and ordering materials for the "First Place" weight loss program, we realized the cost was prohibitive for our church members and our community. Two of our ladies were very disappointed, so I volunteered to start a woman's program, not just for weight loss but personal growth, if they would each take a job I already had. It has been an exciting year for Temple Menders. Our core group is 6 or 7 ladies from our church with the other women being Pentecostal, Catholic, Presbyterian, and several unchurched. We have four scriptures we use: Phil. 4:13, Eph. 1:4, Jer. 1:5, and Prov. 31. We are not "churchy" in our meetings but approach all that we do from a Christian perspective. We meet very other Wednesday evening from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. The first meeting of the month we usually deal with some particular subject and the second meeting we have a speaker or project related to the subject matter of the month. In November we had an outing the women really enjoyed. A previous month's speaker invited us to the yearly Mary Kay Glamour Portrait event. For \$12.00 each we were shown how to cleanse our face and put on makeup. A beautician did our hair. They had jewelry, furs, and bows(??) for us to wear. And they did before and after pictures. We also received a \$10.00 coupon for Mary Kay products. Seven of us had "make-overs" and another dear lady went along to video tape our experience. The best part of this project was that after almost 20 years of avoiding each other in stores and not speaking, the Mary Kay dealer and myself are at long last on friendly terms.

At the beginning of each meeting we "weigh in" and share in the excitement of the lost pounds and inches and encourage those who have not lost. The word "diet" is never used and we stress gradual lifestyle changes that will bring about gradual but permanent weight loss. "I'll never lose" has changed to "I did" and "I can."

Our meetings are also a time of sharing joys and frustrations. Even though our time is short, the women appreciate having time away from husbands and kids, and being able to talk about things the others can relate to. On our registration forms, we stress the fact that anyone gossiping to others about something said will be disciplined. Actually, our program is threefold: lose, gain, and support. Although none of the women have become church attenders, they have become involved in and supportive of our church. They and their husbands have been a part of our Halloween Fair, Harvest Supper, Hay Ride, Christmas Caroling and Chili Supper, and Christmas Eve Candlelight Services. They donated food, toys, and clothing for the three "Caring and Sharing God's Gifts" boxes we gave to the needy families at Christmas. One of the ladies and her husband helped with their pick-up and tractor during one of our mission projects last October. These couples have ben on our prayer list for church attendance and we are looking forward to the time that happens.

We are eager to help any church that is interested in starting a woman's outreach. For more information about invitations, logos, schedules, speakers, et cetera, please write to: Marlene Hayes, 4315 N. 9th, Carter Lake, Iowa 51510 or call 712/347-6429.

## ROAST PIGLET

A good cook I am not. So I try to just have fun with my food. Try this, and you can play with your food and your mother will think it is okay.

For a large group, make a 4-6 lb. or more meatloaf mixture:

- 1 lb. soda crackers, crushed
- 2 small cans tomato sauce
- 4 eggs, beaten
- 5 lb. lean hamburger meat
- 1 T. salt
- 1 t. pepper
- 1 large onion chopped finely
- 1 green sweet pepper grated

Cover a large loaf cake pan with foil. On it shape a meatloaf into a round ball for head, oval for body; add on neck and snout. (Optional: Insert wieners in the body and cheese in the head). This makes for conversation when the piglet is cut open to serve. Shape hips (feel of your own first). Shape front and back legs, snout (upturned). Slice a mouth and insert a whole egg for baking.

Bake at 350 for 20 minutes per pound = 2 hours.

Drain off grease and cover piglet with crust:

- 2 c. flour
- 1 t. baking powder
- 1 t. salt
- 1 c. shortening
- 1 c. milk

Roll dough 1/8" thin and cover meat.

Cut triangles for ears, raisins for eyes; curl a narrow strip for tail. Imprint ridges and nostrils in snout. Bake 10 minutes at 400.

Remove egg and insert a small red apple for serving. Garnish with some parsley and listen to the oohs and ah-hs.

Fayma Humphreys

## WITNESSING TO WOMEN

The Mission Action Project I am writing about is being implemented at Community Baptist Church, Waterloo, Iowa. This is a predominantly black congregation started as a Southern Baptist mission 17 years ago in the home of the pastor. Since that time, they have completed two building programs and presently average over 100 in attendance.

The ministry project actually started as a WMU ministry. It has developed in the following way. This ministry started with a funeral. A newly bereaved widow came back to church. Pastor Ted Keys has made a practice of giving the WMU the responsibility of ministering to single women who come to the church. The ladies of WMU visited with her in her home. She became excited about the Lord, the Bible, and the church. She then led her daughters and mother-in-law to the Lord along with another family member. As she shared with her extended family, visitors from the WMU followed up with a visit to the homes and shared what the lady did not know to share. This lady and those who were won into the church through her witness were the beginning of WMU support groups. The WMU support groups practice home visitation, hospital visitation, and they help each other in tangible ways. For instance, if one of the women has a financial need the other ladies in the group take up a collection to help her with her need. When Laura Bell's father was ill with a long-term terminal illness, ladies in the group took up money so she could take a leave of absence from her job and travel to be with her father. They pray together and teach the Bible in the support group meetings. Ten to fifteen women have been saved in the last three months through the ministry of the WMU under the direction of the pastor's wife, Sarah Keys, who is the church WMU director and who, incidentally, also serves as WMU director for Northeast Iowa Southern Baptist Association. The WMU support groups minister to the women and children. They also witness to men who may be present in the homes, but the responsibility of witnessing to the men is given primarily to other men in the church.

## LAYETTES FOR NEWBORNS IN HOSPITAL

### Church Information:

Name First Baptist Church  
City, State Dickinson, North Dakota  
Size 67

### Purpose of Event/Project:

To provide layettes for mothers who come to the hospital with no clothing for their newborns.

### Persons targeted by the ministry (Identify):

Needy, unwed and Indian mothers.

### Resources Needed:

1. Leadership This was planned and begun at regular Baptist Women's meetings.
2. Workers WMU director Irene Sherrill purchased flannel on sale.  
All Baptist women cut and sew layettes.  
Mission action leader delivers layettes to hospital.

### Members and Tasks

3. Materials Flannel, patterns, thread (scripture portions, witnessing tracts, New Testaments or whatever is on hand at the church, plus pamphlets with church information.)
4. Cost Estimate Approximately \$2-3 per layette.

### Other Steps to take in doing the event (Indicate a tentative calendar)

- 1) First of all, the hospital had to be contacted to see if there was a need and if they would accept the layettes.

### Describe the Event/Project:

- 2) After the materials were purchased, the women stayed at a regular BW meeting and cut many layettes.
- 3) Women sewed the layettes at home and brought them to the Mission Action leader.

### Evaluate the Event/Project:

Although the women do not meet any of the mothers, they pray that information regarding the church and other scripture and/or tracts will be a witness for them.

## SEWING THE SEED MINISTRY

### Church Information:

Name Gilbert Creek Baptist Church  
City, State Baisden, West Virginia  
Size Small - 100 members

Purpose of Event/Project: Have Bible study during the week for ladies not involved in Sunday School. (No S.S. on this 10-mile creek 3,000 live up this holler!) To have fellowship and to sew quilts for the needy.

Persons targeted by the ministry (Identify): All churched and unchurched who live on Gilbert Creek ladies with sewing ability and any lady interested in quilt project (e.g., cutting material), those who have not had personal Bible study.

### Resources Needed:

1. Leadership - Pastor or church member (lady) to lead Bible study and promote sewing and get it started one day a week.
2. Workers - Any and all ladies of the particular church field area, even other denominations involved.

Members and Tasks - To sew quilts, fellowship, promote sewing ministry, enlist volunteers, etc.

3. Materials Donated sewing material, donated machines, donated supplies.
4. Cost Estimate All materials were donated by out-of-state churches to help church promote this ministry. Sunday School classes, mission teams see the need and send supplies.

Recruitment of workers and participants: Once the word is out, women from this area, who are very talented in sewing, also want to hear the Word of God and come out to our local CSM building and get involved. No other activity on the creek.

Other Steps to take in doing the event (Indicate a tentative calendar)

### Describe the Event/Project:

Other projects cut up old cotton material from unusable donated clothes, sell cleaning cotton cloth to coal mines in area and use monies to buy cotton battings for quilts.

Evaluate the Event/Project: Great fun and fellowship. Gets ladies more informed about Southern Baptists, gets them involved in the Word of God, educates them as to what the church is all about reaching out. Quilts are donated to children's homes all over the country where needed, overseas, to the homeless. Quilts are patched with the name of church and numbered.

You may kee patch!!

SEWING THE SEED MINISTRY  
GILBERT CREEK BAPTIST  
MISSION

BAISDEN, W.V.  
PHILIPPIANS 4:3

## BIBLE STUDY FOR LOW INCOME HOUSING WOMEN AND CHILDREN

### Church Information:

Name        Carrollton Baptist Church  
City, State    Carrollton, Alabama  
Size         350 resident and nonresident

Purpose of Event/Project: To provide Bible study to unchurched residents of Sandpiper apartments (low-income housing).

Persons targeted by the ministry (Identify): Adult women were targeted; children were reached.

### Resources Needed:

1. Leadership - Bible study leader WMU member, youth minister or leader.
2. Workers - WMU members to work with the Bible study leader; youth to assist the youth minister.

### Members and tasks

3. Materials - Extra Bibles, BYBC materials, table games, refreshments.
4. Cost Estimate - BYBC material available from associational office, table games brought by workers, approximately \$10 for refreshments.

### Recruitment of workers and participants

WMU ladies recruit each other, and youth director and Acteen Director recruit youth.

### Other Steps to take in doing the event (Indicate a tentative calendar)

Contacted apartment resident manager about using her apartment for women's Bible study and distributed flyers in complex.

Talked with apartment director about availability of recreation room.

Prepared Bible study; prepared BYBC, recreation games, devotional, and refreshments.

### Description of Event

After studying "Experiencing God" in our interdenominational women's prayer group, one of the WMU ladies in our group expressed a burden for the Sandpiper a low-income racially mixed apartment complex. The summer was upon us and several WMU ladies from our prayer group from Carrollton wanted to provide Bible study opportunities for women who might not feel comfortable coming to our town church. The apartment director had informed us that the complex housed approximately 70 children and youth. We also knew if we were to reach women for Bible study, we must also provide for their children.

A young mother who occasionally came to our church agreed to let us conduct the study in her home. We developed a flyer and prepared to pass it out in the complex. We realized we needed help so we recruited the Acteens to go door to door. Several of our ladies work, so we agreed to conduct the first study during our lunch hour. The Acteens conducted a BYBC at the apartments so the women could attend. We had a good number of children for the Bible Club but few of their mothers attended.

We decided to conduct the second study at night so working mothers could attend. Our Youth Director brought several youth from our church and they played table games, had refreshments and a devotional in the complex recreation room. Still more children attended the recreation program than women did the Bible study.

God has revealed that the children in the Sandpaper apartments have a desire for spiritual things. Through a mission action project intended to reach adult women, 10-15 children have been touched by the gospel. The door is open for our church to begin a ministry with children in the Sandpaper.

## MISCELLANEOUS MINISTRIES

## MISCELLANEOUS MINISTRIES

Beaver Creek is a rural church in Lancaster County between Charlotte, North Carolina, and Columbia, South Carolina. The church has a membership of 79 and is one of the oldest churches in our county, founded in 1811. The pastor is bivocational.

Since the church is located in a rural community most of the mission action projects involve either meeting local needs or special offerings. The pastor and his wife involve the entire church in all projects. People who are not members of missions organizations will take part in the ministries.

### Prisoner Bags

1. One item needed for the bags is advertised each month in the church bulletin.
2. Items are collected by the month and assembled into bags at the time of delivery.
3. No limit is set on how many bags will be made. Occasionally a few items have to be added if bag requirements haven't been met.
4. The pastor or other designated person takes the bags to the associational office to be delivered to the state prison.
5. The association invites anyone from the church to participate in delivery of the bags in Columbia.

### Special Offerings

#### Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

On the Sunday before Christmas, the offertory table is decorated with 12 candles, greenery, and a birthday cake for Jesus. Candles represent months of the year. As each candle is lit, everyone with a birthday in the month named brings an offering to the front of the church and places it in a basket. After all candles are used, we stand and sing "Happy Birthday to Jesus" as our benediction.

#### Annie Armstrong Easter Offering

We use plastic Easter eggs for this offering. They are given out as our people enter the church. Offering is given by the color of eggs in a way similar to the way we do the candles at Christmas.

#### Janie Chapman State Mission Offering (South Carolina)

Pictures of South Carolina symbols (flag, bird, flower, et cetera) are glued to special offering envelopes. This offering is taken in a similar way as the other two offerings (above). Each item is called and persons with that symbol brings their offering to the front of the church.

Indian Lane is located just 17 miles south of Charlotte, North Carolina, in the panhandle section of Lancaster County, South Carolina. The church has a membership of 133. The pastor has been there for three years.

The pastor and his wife are mission-minded and try to involve all church members. Since the church is located in a rural community, it provides ministries for the local people. The WMU provide a food closet and help with electrical bills when needed.

### Tutoring

1. Call church together to talk about concern of improving children's grades. Pray for the children and leaders to tutor.
2. have a literacy workshop for adults interested in tutoring.

3. Get the church approval to provide space for tutoring as often as needed. Indian Land has two nights a week for classes.
4. Decide who will be responsible for tutoring materials. Lancaster County Literacy Council provides all supplies to Indian Land.
5. Evaluate as often as needed. The tutoring has been going on for three years. It began with school children, but now includes adults.

#### Senior Adult Ministry

1. Pastor realized need for 911 emergency numbers put in visible location near houses of senior adults or unemployed not able to afford. He called a meeting with men and boys of the church. Pray for the project.
2. Present the idea of visible house numbers on poles for "911." Share names of people needing help. Provide cost of poles and numbers. Cost of the project would be provided by donations. After a question-and-answer period, the church would need to vote their affirmation.
3. Set up a work day to install the poles and numbers.
4. Decide who is in charge. The pastor provides the names of the people with suggestions from the church and community.

Rev. Benny and Jean Green Sr. (Wife - Jean)

7583 Charlotte Highway, Fort Sill, SC 29715 (Church) 803-547-5881 (Church)

9539 Possum Hollow Road, Fort Sill, SC 29715 (Home) 803-548-5934 (Home)

Pastor Benny is a full-time minister at the church.

Jones Crossroads is a rural church in Lancaster County between Charlotte, North Carolina, and Columbia, South Carolina. There are four other Baptist churches within a four-mile radius. This church is the youngest of the group and has a membership of 104 with 49 enrolled in Sunday School.

Seven years ago Jones Crossroads started a ministry with a family not attending church. The father and mother are disabled and have four young boys who range in age from 8 to 14. The church began helping the family after the boys attended some church services. The pastor and one of the ladies of the church now transport the boys to church. Members of the church bring clothes their children have outgrown and give to the boys. Other members take the boys camping, boating, to car races and football games. One family encourages the boys to make good grades in school by giving them quarters for making A's. This ministry has done much to show the community how Christians love and care for each other.

#### Clothing for Children

1. Call church together to talk about clothing needs of children. Share names of children. Pray for children.
2. Have a question and answer period to discuss cost, who would talk with family about needs. Church would need to affirm the project.
3. Set up guidelines.
  - a. Who would talk with father and mother to see if they wanted the church to help with clothes.
  - b. How much money would be needed to clothe four children.
  - c. Who would take the children shopping.
  - d. When to go shopping. (Jones Crossroads decided to shop before school started.)
4. Take the children shopping.

5. Evaluate each year. Jones Crossroads wanted the children to experience the joy of picking out their own clothes.

Rev. Buford and Vivian Hayes

803-285-6831

3107 Oakland Drive, Lancaster, SC 29720 (church)

2504 Kendelwood Drive, Lancaster, SC 29720 (home)

Pastor, Rev. Mike Hammond (Wife - Gail)

6170 John Haile Road

Heath Springs, SC 29058

Phone (Home) 803/273-4380; (Church) 803-273-9213

## MISCELLANEOUS PROJECT

Our little church has so many Mission Action Projects I don't know which one to share with you. The church is located off of Route 51 in Oldtown, Maryland. The membership has a total of 72. Until about a year ago, we had a bivocational pastor. Then through the help of a sister church in our association, he was able to be a full-time pastor.

Our church is located in a very small town, our community is a poverty-stricken area. Therefore, we have many opportunities to share the gospel with our community.

Thanksgiving is very special time in our church we always make dinner for the shut-ins in our community. This year we delivered 30 dinners to the elderly. What a blessing!

At Christmas time we have a free toy giveaway. This past Christmas we collected toys and gave them to 28 children, with tracts and Bibles.

We have a boys camp in the Oldtown area and we minister to these boys a lot. We gave 82 health kits and a box of candy to each boy this year. In May, we always have a dinner for them at our church with a fellowship time with them after the dinner. Two groups of the boys are coming to our worship service each week.

Our main project is our free clothes giveaway, which we do two times a year. We collect the used clothing from season to season and if there is a family who needs clothing during this time, we also minister to them.

Recipe for ministry:

1. The WMU ladies are in charge of the project, but we ask the whole church to get involved.
2. Let people know you are collecting used clothing to be given away.
3. Set a day for clothing to be given away. You will need a week before to get the clothes organized.
4. Advertise to the community the clothes are free.
5. Contact the Rescue Mission or the Salvation Army to give the clothes to if you have any left.
6. We do keep winter coats and a few clothes in case of emergency.
7. Provide large bags for the people to collect their items in.
8. Ask the Pastor to spend the day at the giveaway, there are many opportunities to share with the Lord with your visitors.
9. Have plenty of tracts and we have also given away paperback Bibles.

This is a very exciting project when you see the faces of the people as you share just a little piece of heaven with them.

Serving In His Love,  
Dottie DiNicola

## BIBLE STUDY FOR MULTI-HOUSING CHILDREN

The following Mission Action project was implemented by the Marlborough Baptist Church in Kansas City, Mo. The church has about 50 to 60 active members and is located in a declining older neighborhood of the city. A low income, older apartment complex is located in the community and has been virtually untouched by churches. Apartment managers were open to the church's involvement and welcomed structured activities. The church already had a good reputation within the apartment complex because of the church food pantry that had been utilized by several residents.

Recipe for ministry:

1. Make the church family aware of ministry needs in multihousing.
2. Pray for church members to become burdened for multi-housing residents. Pray for the openness of apartment managers and owners. Pray for the apartment residents.
3. Secure church support.
4. Contact apartment managers for approval. Request a meeting place (apartment basement, unused apartment, clubhouse, or a shade tree in the summer).
5. Enlist and train workers and substitutes. (Some volunteers may be willing to assist only during special events. Use them to give them a taste of the excitement in ministry.)
6. Decide on the best meeting time. (This may vary with the season.)
7. Place notices of activities in each apartment building if advertising is allowed. (Be sure to check with the apartment manager regarding advertising.) If advertising is not allowed, many complexes have newsletters. Ask to write an article explaining your activities. Word of mouth is still a great way to spread good news.
8. Collect outdated material. (Sunday School, VBS, Big A Club, or Backyard Bible Club are all good resources.) Collect art and craft supplies.
9. Be prepared to expand to an adult Bible study time. (You'll have requests once God opens that first door.)
10. Plan special events with the children (and parents too). A summer cookout with games of volleyball, yard darts, water balloon fight, et cetera. Marlborough's deacons cooked hot dogs on a grill.
11. Involve other Baptist groups for variety. (The local BSU sponsored a music program, a summer missions team did clowning and a puppet program.)
12. Check with your associational office for additional resources.

Kathy Goode, DOM wife  
Little Bonne Femme Baptist Association  
Columbia, MO  
(The above was implemented when my husband was pastor.)

## WON BY ONE PUPPET TEAM

### Church Information:

Name Calvary Baptist Church

City, State Follansbee, WV

Size 155 members; 40 in attendance

Purpose of Event/Project: Evangelistic outreach through puppets

Persons targeted by the ministry (Identify): Children of workers at Mountaineer Park Racetrack

### Resources Needed:

1. Leadership Jeanne Haught, Director

2. Workers Older children and youth

Members and Tasks Puppeteers, stage hands

3. Materials Stage, PVC pipe, bolts and nuts, cloth., puppets, cassette tapes and player, scripts, lights.

4. Cost Estimate \$100.00-\$500.00. This ministry can be very inexpensively started if volunteers will make stage, puppets, and pre-record the scripts.

Recruitment of workers and participants: A volunteer mission team gave a seminar: instructions for building stage and puppet construction and performance. Mrs. Haught caught the dream, bought the equipment and began with her grandchildren as puppeteers.

Other Steps to take in doing the event (Indicate a tentative calendar)

Determine theme of performance. Choose and record scripts. Prepare props. Practice. Plan to arrive early.

Describe the Event/Project: An October 31 party for the children was scheduled after the final race. The racetrack provided space, tables and chairs. The Horsemen's Association provided refreshments and treats. The chaplain was in charge of the program of which the puppet performance was part (the main event).

Evaluate the Event/Project: The performance was well received and appreciated by the children, parents, and track management. Invitation to return has been extended.

Project Evaluation: Puppetry provides older children and youth a fun and effective method to share their faith. It can open doors of opportunity in many public settings: housing projects, fairs, flea markets, and shopping centers.

## MISCELLANEOUS MINISTRIES

In response to your request for mission action input at the Director of Missions Wives Conference at Glorieta the summer of 1992, I gave the request information to our smaller church in F.I.R.M. Area.

One of our smaller member churches, Buckholts Baptist Church in Milam Association, responded. Enclosed you will find the report of their mission action ministries. Reading these really blessed my heart.

I hope this report will be a help to you in compiling your book to help smaller churches.

In His Service,  
Pat Cook  
Area Office Secretary

## MISSION ACTION PROJECTS FOR THE BUCKHOLTS BAPTIST CHURCH

Milam Baptist Association; F.I.R.M. Baptist Area

The Buckholts Baptist Church is a very small church in a very small community. The average weekly attendance in Sunday School is 19. We have a very active WMU circle, with 6 ladies enrolled, that sponsor several Mission Action projects. There are four which will be discussed in this paper.

### NURSING HOME MINISTRY:

In every nursing home there are people who have no family close, or they have been ignored by their families. Some do not have visitors, even on holidays. We became convinced that we wanted to befriend some of these people.

First of all, we talked with the nursing home personnel and asked for a list of names of several individuals who fit this description. Next we assigned about four individuals to each lady who would participate. We try to visit them at least thirty minutes a week a piece; of course, this varies as circumstances arise. The more people we have to volunteer, the more we can serve.

During these visits we try to listen to them, let them know we care, see if we could run errands or other small tasks for them. Sometimes we bring them fresh fruit; of course, you have to check on this with the dietitian. Sometimes we take them riding, to a special service at church, or something special. We give them small gifts for their birthdays. We do just things that their own family might do if they were in this situation. Each visit is concluded with a prayer especially remembering this person and their needs.

This project can be done whenever the WMU lady has time since it is usually done on an individual basis. Also, you have to check the calendar at the home for conflicts.

### INTERCESSORY PRAYER:

Since we are a very small church it is easy to keep up with the special needs of our congregation. This project is an ongoing activity. The ladies share prayer requests with one another and pray for these requests. Whoever hears of a special need calls others and different people contact their group until we are all praying for these requests. These

requests go far beyond our community to needs around the world.

#### TELEPHONE REASSURANCE PROJECTS:

Several ladies in our WMU have various people that they call on a regular basis to check on them, to see how they are doing, to see if they need help. This has evolved just as a natural caring activity.

The people who are called are not necessarily members of our church, but people who are lonely, or people with special problems, or people who just need a friend who cares. Again, because we are a small community, it is fairly easy to hear about these needs, therefore, whoever feels led to adopt a certain person chooses them for their group. These calls may last for only a short period of time, or they may be made over a period of time that lasts for years according to the need.

#### TUTORING:

We have three retired teachers in our membership. These teachers have volunteered to do tutoring in the local school in order to have contacts with some of the students and their families. First the school has furnished names of students with specific problems that need some help. Some of the parents will contact us when they feel that their child needs some help. This year, particularly, we worked with the students who had not passed their state TAAS Test, which is required in the state of Texas for graduation. There were four students this year in the local high school who needed help to pass this test in the reading and writing portion. We were able to set up a time during school when we were allowed to work with these students. We work closely with the school.

The school and the parents were very glad to have this assistance. This proved to be a very valuable opportunity for contacts in the community and the school.

## BRIDGE DAY PLANS

Early in the year our Associational Missions Development Council had planned to wait unto next year to do anything at Bridge Day because our financial resources were stretched to the limit by our World Missions Conference this year. But God had different plans. The 1st Southern Baptist Church at Sutton sponsors a clothing ministry that has given clothes to over 500 families in the past 6 months. At that ministry someone asked Fred Jarvis, Missions Development Council Director, what to do with two dimes that were in the pocket of some of the free clothes. He suggested that they be placed in a can for Bridge Day. The can was labeled with a picture of a bridge and money was accumulated to rent the two spaces on the Bridge for \$150 dollars. As Fred has talked about Bridge Day other resources have come together. A lady who sings Gospel Music was willing to bring her motor home and music equipment to use.

We have rented the two spaces on the New River Gorge Bridge to use on Bridge Day. We plan to have a motor home there to use as a source of music system, electricity, rest room facility, etc., for the ones who are working BRIDGE DAY.

We plan to give out TRACTS, some NEW TESTAMENTS, ICE WATER, BALLOONS, etc. Singing of Gospel Music is also planned. Highest Call plans to sing that day.

People from our churches will be participating in the activities of singing and witnessing on the bridge.

It has been 4 years since the association tried to participate in BRIDGE DAY activities, so this will be a learning experience for us. We really need several thousand NEW TESTAMENTS and good TRACTS such as "An Important Question for An Important Person" that we do not have. Our resources to finance this event are extremely small and any free resources would be helpful.

One of the Literature pieces that we will use extensively is a Foreign Mission Board piece that uses the theme of "Bridge" to present the work that Southern Baptists are doing in Mission work around the world. In an area like West Virginia where Southern Baptist Work is relatively new, it will help people to have some awareness of the evangelistic and ministry concern that Southern Baptist have for everyone.

Bridge Day is October 16th and we have some anxiety about really being ready for it when the day arrives. Our annual Associational Meeting is the following Sunday.

Jon F. Caudle, Associational Missionary (DOM)  
Allegheny Association of Southern Baptists

## PARTNERSHIP MISSIONS

Does it work. . . . . You bet!!

Perhaps you have been wondering how effective, beneficial, the Florida/Dakota partnership has been. South Florida Association and West River Association in western South Dakota entered into a partnership a little over a year ago to meet needs and minister to each other. Is it worth it? You bet!

Here's how it all started and what's been done. South Florida Association active in mission activities, and projects wanted to be involved in a South Dakota partnership and they chose West River. Dr. Robert Roberts, the director of missions for South Florida, talked with us about what could be done, and together we listed 15 or 20 needs. Out of this six pastors came to see what the area was like. These pastors visited each of the church fields in the day time and taught the January Bible study in the evening in selected churches. The Associational Brotherhood Council under the leadership of Robert Raulerson sent several men to help in our State RA Camp and Backpacking in July. The boys and the men camped out in the mountains for a week. At the end of the week three tired men headed back to Florida with memories and assurance that they had helped boys to become men and to know Christ. An idea that was greatly received was our Ministers Wives Retreat. Dr. Danny and Claudia Hood came as our facilitators and were outstanding as our couples listened intently, sometimes laughing and sometimes crying together. We hope this will be an annual event. Next came our project for buying coats, boots, and winter accessories for our pastors' kids. This has been heart warming to see the response in the money that has come, but also to see the children's eyes light up as they would try on coat after coat, until just the right one was picked. Every child that needed a coat this year received one, also many of our pastors and their wives were able to get new coats. Several of our pastors who had been in the Dakotas for as many as 10 years said they had not had a new coat in that time. Several of our children went to school the first day in five degree weather and no coat. The generous giving of the churches in South Florida far exceeded our expectations and we cannot thank them enough for their sensitivity.

As for the future, we are looking for training with WMU, and mission projects throughout the year. As far as West River, we are looking to take a group of construction workers in May, to assist in building a new mission in South Florida. Also, our ASSISTeam is looking to receive training at Ridgecrest and then going on to South Florida and doing a Vacation Bible School. We are looking forward to the 1995 Simultaneous Revivals where Ministers and Directors of Music will be coming to help us with our revivals.

It is very gratifying to make relationships and meeting people that you will be friends with for eternity. We are very grateful to the people of Florida and, in particular, to South Florida Baptist Association for their unselfish attitude and their willingness to be involved in partnership missions. DOES IT WORK....YOU BET!!

## MINISTRY FOR MEN

This leads me to the other Ministry Action Project which is important to this congregation. As I was preaching there one Sunday morning for a pastor appreciation service, during the invitation two men came forward to publicly commit their lives to Christ and the church. Pastor Ted Keys asked two other men, members of the church, to come and stand beside those who had come forward. He explained that he has been training these men, starting with the deacons, to witness to those around them and to bring them to church and to the Lord. These particular church members had been witnessing to those men for several months.

Pastor Ted Keys has been training the men of his church intensively in ministry for the last several months. It is his purpose to reach men and boys for the Lord and for his church. His method is to get men motivated to communicate with one another. He explains that in the church environment, the men may not communicate well with one another unless they feel ownership of the ministry being done.

His first goal was to get the men to come to a Saturday morning breakfast. His second goal was to get the men to own the fellowship breakfast themselves and promote it and communicate among themselves. His third goal was to get them to look beyond themselves and beyond their own church walls to ministry to others. This process took a year. His fourth goal was to help them implement their ministry outside their church by reaching out to others through witness and personal invitations to fellowship breakfasts and other activities of the church.

Women often tend to be quite active in communication with one another, but Pastor Keys recognizes that his men often need nurture and encouragement in this area. He explains that self-esteem is often an issue among black men. During the breakfast times each month, they have open conversation, occasionally lessons from the Bible helping men understand their roles and responsibilities, and biblical discussion of the problems black men face in society. Pastor Keys says that many black men feel that most of society's remarks about them are negative. He helps them develop confidence within themselves, encourages them to express their own opinions, and allows them time and freedom to do so. The deacons of the church have been motivated to see Pastor Key's vision, to think and pray for themselves, and to develop their own ministries. This year the deacons came to the pastor and said, "This year it is our vision to start a mission of our own in a housing project in the Waterloo area." Two of the deacons serve on the church missions committee. Their interest in missions came about when Pastor Keys led his church to sponsor an Anglo new church start in Calmar, a town in an unentered county in Iowa. (There are no black populations who live in the small town of Calmar.) Pastor Keys took one of the deacons, Floyd Cain, who also serves on the missions committee, to visit the Calmar area. They drove around the community and on the way back Floyd said, "I see the vision." He is now the chief promoter for the new Bible study in Logandale.

Pastor Keys assigns a deacon to be a mentor to any other many who needs a discipleship mentor. He teaches on Wednesday evenings that each one is responsible before God to be a leader to others who need the Lord. He teaches them their responsibility for forming friendships with those around them and leading them to the Lord.

The key to the success of both of these ministries in 1993 was their prayer group on Tuesday nights. They would lay their needs before the Lord and the deacons would come and pray. Pastor Keys says, "A church that will not pray is a church that will not succeed. You may get members, but the Lord is not in it."

Pastor Keys is also very involved in the association's work and God is blessing their

ministry greatly. I would encourage other churches to follow these same recipes for ministry action involvement.

Sincerely,  
Larry L. Wartsbaugh

## CONCLUSION

As I read these reports, I was deeply moved by the fact that smaller membership churches are doing some very innovative and effective ministries in spite of limited resources. And it put me in mind of similar ministries that I know other smaller membership churches are doing. Certainly lots of good is being done. Further I was reminded of how much more needs to be done and can be done if our churches can become ministry-oriented.

## SAMPLE LETTER

Dear Missionary:

I fear that this may be an exercise in futility. I know how bad I am about taking something sent to me for my wife home to her. But I am desperate!

The WMU has agreed to publish a book of "recipies" for mission action projects that can be done by very small churches. It is intended as a follow-up to We're Family and to the Hope for Hurting Humanity emphasis. To assure that these will work, I want to collect examples that have worked in small churches: urban, rural, village, inter-city, black, ethnic, and anglo.

Surely, you have a smaller church or two that is (are) doing some good ministry that could be duplicated elsewhere. I have prepared a standardized form that can be followed to tell very simply how to do this ministry. It is attached. Please share it with your spouse. Select one or two good examples of small church ministries from your association. Ask your wife to write the "recipe" following the form enclosed. Then send it to me.

This letter is being sent to about 175 appointed missionaries both Town and Country and Metropolitan. I need 100 responses. So, 75 of you can be as sorry as I am about carrying things home to your spouse, or admit that nothing much is happening with your smaller churches (I will make a list).

Your spouse and your church(es) will be recognized in the book, and I will provivde a free copy for both.

Please see this as a worthy and useful project. My observationis that healthy small churches are doing something significant in ministry. So, this little book of sure-fire mission action recipes can be a useful tool for you to use in moving sick congregations to health. But if this book is to be a reality, I truly need the help of you and your spouse. (Incidently, I will serve as compiler and editor for the book without any remuneration. This is a mission project for me.)

SUGGESTED FORMAT FOR EVENT OR PROJECT

Name of Event/Project:

Church Information:

Name:

City, State:

Size:

Purpose of Event/Project:

Persons targeted by the ministry:

Resources Needed:

Leadership

Workers (Members/Tasks)

Materials

Cost Estimate

Recruitment of workers and participants:

Other Steps to take in doing the event (indicate a tentative calendar):

Describe the event/project:

Evaluate the event/project:

Like any standard format, this one will have flaws adjust as needed.