

COMMUNITY OUTREACH/CONNECTIONS

1957

Seven large boxes of warm clothing were sent to CROP along with a monetary gift.

1958

Easter Community Sunrise Service 5:45a.m. at the ballfield. Ministers of this area conducted the service.

Community Worship service held at PBC 5/4/58.

Church members conducted a town wide census covering 95% of the entire town. Following are the results of the census: 49-unchurched; 62 - church members in other towns and give our church as their local preference. Prospect total -111!! 34 children below nine years of age who are prospects for our Sunday School. Grand total prospect list of 145. Using the contact information, church members were asked to visit the prospects and invite them to church.

1959

September---The church began a systemic visitation program. Sixty people were personally contacted and requested to visit. Only 31 responded.

Nov—The morning service was broadcast over WNCA, Siler City.

Boy Scouts

1959

Scout Sunday was held at PBC. Men's Sunday School classes sponsored Troop 915 for the first time this year.

Troop 915, sponsored by our church, walked away with a bright and shiny blue ribbon and first place in the District Camporee held September 25, 26, and 27th.

Harold Boone, a PBC church member served as Scoutmaster of Troop 93 from 1956 until his death in January of 1985. Troop 93 also met for a short period in the fellowship hall. The Harold Boone Scout Park was built on Hwy 64 West, just outside of town.

1961

Feb 19—A town wide religious census was conducted.

A joint Thanksgiving Day service held at Pittsboro Methodist Church at 10a.m..

Church-wide caroling with hot chocolate served in the Fellowship Hall afterwards.

1963

Nov 10---Baptist members working jointly with Methodist, Episcopal, and Presbyterian church members made a religious census of the citizenship of Pittsboro.

1964

Jan. 2—It was reported that the Beginner Children's Sunday School class gave a tube of toothpaste to each child at the Christian Home as a Christmas project. The Willing Workers Sunday School class bought turkeys for the Christian Home.

July 16—The Pearle Johnson Class project was making surgical bandages to be used by cancer patients in our county. They sent Christmas cards to missionaries in Formosa, Taiwan.

1965

A joint Thanksgiving Day service held at 9:30a.m. Rev. B. J. Willett, Hanks Chapel minister gave the message and Hanks Chapel Choir led the music worship. The offering went to the Christian Rural Overseas Program (CROP).

Pittsboro Jaycees welcomed to the worship service on 11/12

1968

Operation Santa Claus--all classes helped in this community project to provide clothing for patients at Umstead Hospital

1969

The church participated in the "Crusade of Americas" revival for all churches throughout North, Central and South America.

Joint Thanksgiving Service held Wed., 11/26, 7:30p.m. at St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church. Offering received went to feed the hungry in foreign lands through CROP (Christian Rural Overseas Program) - \$47.36

County jail services began 11/16 at 4p.m. with services conducted by ministers in and around Pittsboro.

1971

Feb 18---PBC hosted a Red Cross Blood drive in Fellowship Hall.

April 20--- A spring visitation program was started, but response of church members was poor.

Aug 8---A special service was held to view a film released by NC Highway Patrol on the dangers of drunk driving. This was a community-wide service.

A Christmas Box was given to an Umstead patient.

1973

Once a month the pastor and members held a worship service at Keller's Rest Home on Sunday afternoons.

1974

PBC hosted three blood drives during the year in the Fellowship Hall.

1981

The church voted to open the fellowship hall as an area crisis center if the need arose, providing Christian services to the community.

Evangelism Training**1986**

Pastor Ron Farrar announced plans for a program that would include opportunities for training, teaching, and witnessing. Experts would be brought in to prepare us to go out and evangelize the community.

Meals on Wheels**1986**

Motion passed to give \$100 to JOCCA to assist with the county's Meals on Wheels program. In the late 1990's and continuing for several years, PBC was committed to a one day a week meal delivery schedule.

St. Andrew's Mission**1986**

PBC sent a gift of \$720 to St. Andrew's Mission in Lee County, which would cover the cost of one year's rent on the building being used for the mission.

Bowling Trust 1986-present

In her will, Lora Ellen Bowling bequeathed to the Trustees of the Pittsboro Baptist Church one tenth of the adjusted gross income of her estate; "to be held as a perpetual endowment in" her "name with the income generated there from to be used from time to time and distributed by said Trustees for church purposes among persons in need of assistance." After her death, the "Lora Ellen Bowling, wife of Isaac Waddell Bowling Estate Trust" was set up November 28, 1986 in the amount of \$84,953. 54, held in a certificate of deposit.

Since then, her generous gift has helped hundreds of people by giving them money to pay for necessities such as rent, utility bills, gas for the car, food and medicine. In the 1980's, interest rates were substantial, making it possible to assist quite a few people. The interest was deposited into a passbook account where it could earn interest as well. For example, in October 1998, the passbook account had \$10,893 and the checking account balance was \$1306. In the previous quarter, over \$2200 in checks had been written to provide assistance.

By 2004, the interest rate was below 0.2%, so the passbook account was closed and the interest from the CD was deposited directly into the checking account. With limited funds in the checking account, only a few requests for assistance can be honored. In 2014, the trustees voted to limit approvals for assistance to \$50 per request. Requests continue to come in and the Trustees assist whenever money is available. Requests are limited to Chatham County residents but it is not used for church members, as PBC has an account to assist members in financial need.

On more than one occasion trustees were challenged to explore options of accessing the principal account so that more people could be helped. To do so, would require legal action to break the will, which would require hiring estate attorneys. At the last request in 2015, the trustees voted to not to pursue the action. Instead, the account was moved to another bank with higher interest rates.

Note: Ellen Bowling Estate gift was added to be part of the church constitution on January 4, 1987

Long Range Planning Committee 1987

Diaconate recommendation passed to appoint a five-member Long Range Planning Committee, appointed by the pastor to study population increase in the area and our involvement in the spiritual life of the community.

Cassidy Cox 1987

Motion passed to establish the Cassidy Cox Fund to pay expenses not covered by insurance for cancer treatment and bone marrow transplant. The fund would be overseen by PBC Trustees and would continue until Cassidy Cox no longer needed the benefits of the fund. The fund was supported by donations. If there was a balance at the time the fund was no longer needed, money would go to an Area Emergency-Medical Family Aid Fund.

The Bowling Trust gave \$2000 to the Cassidy Cox Fund

1988

The Cassidy Cox Fund had disbursed \$1250 for use of the family in medical expenses and travel; Cassidy's recent bone marrow test was clear, chemotherapy continued.

Day Care

1988

January 10---The Board of Deacons proposed that the Trustees be requested to look into the feasibility of purchasing land on which to construct a day care center for children, infants to age 5 and to provide enough land to provide for a church-sponsored mission as the need becomes evident. The motion was tabled due to low attendance due to inclement weather. After several called conferences and much debate, a vote was taken by secret ballot. The motion failed.

Home for Mary

1988

A motion was passed by the church to sponsor a project to purchase a mobile home and install a septic system for a destitute family in the area. This was a project of the PBC Baptist Men. The father had passed away and the mother had four children, age 14-22. One child was bed-ridden requiring 24-hour care and the only income was from the son who was working part time and attending school. Financing the project: \$12,900 needed to purchase mobile home, move it, install plumbing, etc. \$1900 on hand; \$3k from Bowling trust; A motion passed to borrow remaining \$8k using the Bowling Trust CD as collateral for a 12 month note.

By July, *A Home for Mary* had been completed and dedicated. The church's help was needed to complete the pay-off note of \$1659 due July 27th. A motion passed to take another special offering on July 31 if the current balance had not been raised.

Glenda Galloway, Medical Social Worker for Chatham County Home Health Agency, sent a letter to the church commending PBC for the miracle of Mary McKenzie's new home.

Laws against drunk drivers

1989

A motion was made by Noah Wilson that the church moderator write a letter to the Governor and head of the NC Baptist State Convention urging their support of the laws which protect those on the highway against drunk drivers. Addresses of state legislators, the Governor and Lt. Governor were provided to the church membership so they could write individual letters. A letter was received from Gov. James Martin, written June 15, 1989, expressing appreciation for the letter and support of his "efforts to make streets and highways safer."

Protest the Sale of Intoxicating Beverages

1953

Mrs. W. B. Chapin, representing Mrs. Fred Nooe Sr.'s Sunday School Class, presented a letter written to the President of the United States in protest of the sale of intoxicating beverages on the military post at Fort Bragg. The letter of protest was approved by a majority vote at the church conference and was sent to President Dwight D. Eisenhower Nov 29, 1953.

Adopt a Highway

1989

Under the leadership of Jim Meetze, RA leader, PBC adopted a highway 2.1 miles south of the courthouse on Hwy 15-501. The highway was to be cleaned four times a year.

Salvation Army

1990's to present

Over the years, PBC has supported the mission of the Salvation Army in a variety of ways. Several Christmas seasons, PBC members served as bell ringers at local shopping centers. There is documentation that PBC gave a monetary gift to the Salvation Army in 1990. Off and on from the mid-1990's to the present, ladies' mission groups, Sunday School classes,

and even children's ministry groups have sponsored an Angel Tree for needy children at Christmas.

Habitat for Humanity

1991-2006

In 1991, Pittsboro Baptist Men took the lead in building one of the first Habitat houses in Pittsboro, organizing volunteers from other churches to help as well. From then up until 2002, PBC's Baptist Men would assist others in Habitat projects five to six times per year. PBC took the lead for a house build again in 2001-2002, coordinating assistance from other churches. From 2002-2006, our men helped once or twice a year with a house. The last house PBC's Baptist Men helped build in 2006, belonged to Javier Benitez, the pastor of our Spanish Mission church.

1991

Jan.- A new bus ministry was started. Each second Thursday, Kathy Meetze would pick up people from Walnut Grove Apartments to take them to the grocery or drug store. Seventeen people went the first day.

Mission VBS was held for residents of Walnut Grove Apartments in their recreation room. The average attendance was 10 each day. Activities included Bible study, prayer, games, crafts, music, refreshments.

1992

April---Jane Nooe began an Outreach Bible Study at Walnut Grove Apartments. A similar outreach was begun at the New Chatham Nursing and Rehab Center (now called The Laurels).

Share Days

1992 & 1993

Coordinated by Sunday School Outreach Director Cindy Haynes, church members went out into the Pittsboro area, knocking on doors, sharing their faith, and inviting people to church. It began in September 1992, as a five Saturday effort to find people in our community and "bid them come in." It was a "shared" effort with other churches with volunteers from the neighboring churches helping each other. Pastor Farrar described it as the "most important undertaking our church has been involved with" since he became pastor seven years before. One SHARE Day was in October 1992, the other May 1993, 9:30a.m. – 3:00p.m. A brief training session was given each morning and lunch was provided.

Bibletime Marketplace

1992 & 1993

Described as an innovative Bible adventure involving the entire community, PBC partnered with area churches (in 1992, 14 churches participated) to create Bibletime Marketplace, so children and adults could experience a sample of what life was like when Jesus lived.

1993

PBC gave a monetary gift to The Home for Hospice Campaign

1995

April 20—A community wide census was conducted by PBC.

Dental Van

1997

The Baptist Men and the WMU sponsored the North Carolina Dental Van, giving needy members of the community an opportunity for better healthcare.

MOPS – Mothers of Preschoolers

1998-2005

Jennifer Sipe directed MOPS, a program to minister to young mothers, especially unchurched mothers. It was held twice a month. As a result of the program, a family joined PBC. Ann Thomas' Sunday School class helped with the children and Patrice Crutchfield-Collins provided crafts for the children.

Girl Scouts Carolina Coastal Pines Troop 941

1997-2009

Serving as the troop sponsor for twelve years, PBC allowed the girls to meet and hold functions in the church as well as use the church bus when needed. Almost every year, the church observed Girl Scout Sunday during March. At a 2003 morning worship service, Army Captain Christina Bickel presented a framed flag flown in western Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom in gratitude for sending goody bags to her battalion. The framed flag now hangs in the PBC Library.

Lunch Break Missions

1999-present

A new mission group was formed called "Lunch Break Missions Group" which continues to meet monthly for lunch and bible study. To date, we have been able to assist the North Carolina Women's Prison Ministry, the North Carolina Baptist Children's Home, the Pregnancy Crisis Center, Salvation Army Christmas Child, and other projects in our church and community that give us an outreach opportunity to share God's love.

Operation Breadbasket

1999

Volunteers filled gift bags with home baked loaves of bread and information about our church. These gifts were delivered to new people in our community, to inactive members and to worship service visitors during visitations. Mary Margaret Griffin coordinated this outreach.

Lighting the World

1999-2002

From 1999 to 2002, the Jane Nooe Mission Group lined the streets of Pittsboro with 1000 luminaries on the second Saturday evening of December. For \$2, people could have the name of a loved one inscribed on a bag. Proceeds would go towards PBC mission projects. The first year, the event included an invitation to the PBC fellowship Hall for refreshments and to the sanctuary for prayer and meditation. PBC carolers sang along the streets. With PBC stores not open (though a letter was sent asking them to be open) on Saturday evening, few came to the church, so after the second year, the public was not invited to church for refreshments. The group saw the event as a way to promote PBC and its ministries, but also to emphasize that Jesus is the true light.

**G.R.O.W.
2005- 2008**

GROW, (God Rewards Our Work), an outreach ministry, was led by Danny Braswell with the goal of following the Great Commission by reaching people for Jesus and growing the church. After completing three training sessions focusing on evangelism, sharing personal testimonies, and witnessing, different teams would either visit PBC visitors, go cold-calling to new residents in neighborhoods, call telephone prospects, or write personal letters to PBC worship service visitors. One team prayed for the other teams and the prospects. The group would meet twice a month. According to Danny, the letters generated the strongest reaction. G.R.O.W. is an outreach model developed by Jerry Tidwell and has been used by churches across the country.

**Operation Christmas Child
2007-present**

Since 2007, Pittsboro Baptist Church has served as an official drop-off location for Operation Christmas Child, a Samaritan's Purse ministry that distributes gift-filled shoeboxes to demonstrate God's love to children in need in 100+ countries. PBC's Children's and Youth ministries have given shoe boxes to the organization consistently for the past couple of decades.

**Christmas Breakfast for Law Enforcement and First Responders
2007-present**

Started by a retired Cary police officer, Don Dodson and his wife Sherry, this outreach provides an opportunity for those working Christmas Eve night and Christmas morning to get a hot homecooked meal and a hot cup of coffee on a night when very few food establishments are open. The meal is served in the fellowship hall between midnight and 3am. Those working at the Communication and Detention centers are also offered to have meals delivered. Attendance varies from 12-15 some years with other years having well over 30 meals served.

**Guiding Eyes for the Blind
2008-Present**

Pittsboro Baptist Church hosts the North Carolina Puppy Raising Program of Guiding Eyes for the Blind's quarterly evaluation of puppies on program. Guiding Eyes for the Blind provides guide dogs to people with vision loss and are passionate about connecting exceptional dogs with individuals for greater independence. The Fellowship Hall is used as the "home base" for the 3- day events as each puppy is observed not only walking around town but also in some training scenarios in the Fellowship Hall. All Puppy Raisers and the Leadership Team in North Carolina are dedicated volunteers. Guiding Eyes is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization with all services provided completely free of charge.

**Operation-In As Much
2008 & 2009**

Each year, several groups worked at different homes in the community, doing yard and other chores. A ramp for someone was built each year as well. The teams were coordinated through Baptist Men.

**Children's Spring Fling on Salisbury Street
2012**

May 5---The Fling, as an Operation-In-As Much program, included carnival games, a prayer room for children, free food, a puppet show, a magic show and bouncy houses. Church members, both adults and youth, helped with the activities. The goal was to reach out to families

in the community and provide them with information about PBC ministries, especially children's ministries. It was a beautiful day and well attended.

Judgement House

2009-2017

Judgement House is a realistic walk-through drama depicting the lives of several individuals, the choices they make and the eternal consequences they face from those choices. PBC and Emmanuel Baptist sponsored Judgement House from 2009-2017. This was a huge undertaking with as many as 90 volunteers fulfilling many jobs: hall monitors, registration, sound and lighting, counselors, follow-up teams, construction and props, parking attendants, hospitality, nursery workers, meal preparation, actors and directors, tour guides, administrative workers, bus drivers, set up and tear down crews. Some of the titles were: "Unexpected", "Words", "Invasion", "Overdose", "Shaken", "Treasured". The production required 12 weeks of practice and preparation. Cumulative statistics from the last 3 years (2015-2017): Attendance 3786, 1st time commitments 300, rededications 259, special prayer 149.

The Pittsboro Passion Play

2009-2016

Beginning in 2009, Minister of Music Debra Magee and Drama Team Director Donna Rezen decided to add a dramatic presentation to the annual Easter Cantata music. Rezen wrote a script adapted from the Bible about the last week of Jesus' life. The music and songs, along with a narrator told the story while actors dressed in period costume depicted the scenes. After the 2010 performances were standing room only, it was decided to move the production to Northwood High School's auditorium in 2011. With the expanded stage, the production grew with 80+ actors, around 30 people in the choir and around 15 people in the orchestra, as well as stagehands, technical crew, and expert seamstresses. Over 100 people from 20+ area churches were involved. After a 2015 hiatus due to scheduling issues with the high school, 2016 was the seventh and final year of the production. The total attendance was 1,015 for the three 2016 performances with an estimate that more than half in attendance were first timers.

Panda Packs

2010

PBC Children's Ministry, under the leadership of Jennifer Davis, partnered with Pittsboro Elementary School to provide Panda Packs, backpacks filled with shelf stable foods and drinks for eligible students to take home over the weekends and extended holidays. Panda Packs is a supplemental food program designed to meet the nutritional needs of students whose families are suffering from economic hardship. This outreach supported 14 families, feeding 36 children. The average cost was \$215 per week to feed all the families.

2012

For Christmas, the PBC Children's Ministry gave twenty-seven \$100 Piggly-Wiggly gift cards to Pittsboro Elementary Panda Pack families.

2016

Jennifer Cashion made a motion that the Panda Packs funds, account 1-8315 in the amount of \$1511.08 be transferred to a new account called Community Outreach. In discussion, Jennifer explained that the school had taken over the Panda Packs program, where it was operating successfully, serving ten to twenty families, with a lot of support from local businesses. Religious affiliation has been removed from the program.

The new account can be used to purchase food for PBC's community outreach whose goal is to build relationships, to witness and pray openly for individuals in need in local neighborhoods.

American Heritage Girls 2011-2013

American Heritage Girls is a Christ-centered character and leadership development program for girls 5 to 18 years of age, dedicated to the mission of building women of integrity through service to God, family, community, and country. The group, sponsored by PBC with Brenna Fassinger Dietrich as leader, had around 20 girls involved during the two years it met.

Cinderella's Closet April 2011

Cinderella's Closet was held in PBC fellowship hall. The fellowship hall was set up like a dress shop, complete with alterations available if needed. This outreach provided formalwear to girls who could not otherwise afford to attend their high school prom. Participants came from all the high schools in the county. Approximately 100 girls were provided new and gently used formal dresses and accessories through generous donations.

Feed the Stampede 2012 to present

The PBC Youth ministry began Feed the Stampede which is an outreach to the Northwood High School Football varsity and junior varsity teams whose mascot is the Charger. Volunteers prepare meals on various Thursday and Friday afternoons and serve the players prior to that evening's game. This outreach is an effort to provide an opportunity for Christian fellowship and service to young men who may not otherwise have that opportunity. Area law enforcement officers are among the volunteers who interact with the players.

Relay for Life May 2014, May 2015

To support our cancer survivors and raise money for cancer research, PBC sponsored Relay for Life teams and organized a variety of fund-raising events. In addition to raising money for an excellent cause, it was a fun time of fellowship for PBC members.

Team Captains: Kelly Kivette, Katherine Parker, Kristin Case, Jennifer Cashion

May 2014: The event was held at Northwood High School Track.

Fundraising Events: Portrait Cafe, Luminary Sales, Basket Raffles, Donation Cups, SIS Event (31 Party and guest speaker), Baked Goods Sale. Goal: \$3000

May 2015: The event was held at CCCC Campus Track.

Fundraising Events: Luminary Sales, PBC Street Fair, Basket Raffles, Donation Cups, Baked Goods Sale, Haircuts at the event.

Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas Outreach 2015 to present

Children's Minister Jennifer Cashion has a heart and calling to reach out to the needy in Pittsboro. Since 2015, she has organized outreach events at Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter. The PBC congregation, provides turkeys, dressing mix, canned goods, etc. for recipients to have the ingredients to prepare a holiday meal. PBC members take the items to Pittsboro Village, a residential community for low income people, where they knock on doors, provide the food and offer to pray. At Christmas, Food Lion gift cards are distributed while PBC carolers serenaded the neighborhood. One year, hams and canned goods were distributed for an Easter meal. As many as 10-15 meals have been provided each year. Prayer and the love of Christ is shared with each of the recipients and their families.

In 2019 Christmas season, the youth and children, as well as adults, strolled through the Powell Place community and sang carols.

SIS - Christmas Tea 2019

Dec 7---The *Sisters-in-Service Christmas Tea* was organized as an opportunity for the ladies of PBC to invite friends and neighbors for a time of fellowship and fun. The church fellowship hall was transformed into a tearoom with elegantly decorated tables set with fine china and crystal. The hosts at each table served tea, scones, and other fine pastries as the guests enjoyed a presentation entitled, *Cultivating the Heart of Mary* by guest speaker, Ellen Stevens. Attended by over 60 women, the plan is to make the tea an annual event.

North Carolina Baptist Aging Ministry 2019

Under the leadership of Danny Braswell, PBC began a partnership with NCBAM (North Carolina Baptist Aging Ministry). The mission of NCBAM is to provide "help for the journey" to individuals 65+ in ways that help them maintain their independence and enjoy quality of life. The outreach is in its infancy, however, they have just completed their first ramp. Care teams will receive training on how to assist senior adults to be safe and maintain their independence.

Take CF Away Cycle & 5K & Family Fun Day 2019

Nathan and Kimberly Houston, PBC members, have two lovely daughters who happen to have cystic fibrosis. They organized the Take CF Away Cycle & 5K & Family Fun Day held in Pittsboro May 4, 2019 to raise money for research to find a cure for cystic fibrosis. They used the church facilities as a place to store donations and for a volunteer meeting. Church members volunteered in various capacities throughout the day. The event was a tremendous success generating thousands of dollars. Since then, the Houstons have formed a non-profit to continue to raise money to find a cure, but in 2020, plans have been stalled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.