

MORE MINISTRIES

GRIEFSHARE

2017 - present

GriefShare is a support group for those who are grieving the death of a family member or friend. Under the leadership of Julie LoRusso and Rhonda Myers, PBC began offering the program in June 2017. A session consists of fourteen seminars, using video, workbooks, and small group discussions in a warm and caring environment with the goal of healing and hope for the future. A stand alone session, *Surviving the Holidays*, is offered prior to the Thanksgiving and Christmas season. Two sessions are offered each year. In 2019, another local church began to offer GriefShare, so each church hosts one session per year.

PRAYER MINISTRY

The *Intercessory Prayer Ministry* began in 1994, utilizing a special Prayer Room, furnished by the family of Katherine Griffin in her memory. In the beginning the room was manned 2 hours each day and on Sunday during Sunday School and worship services with 13 prayer warriors committed to pray for the needs of others. Records in the room indicate that the room served this purpose from July, 1994 through May, 2010.

For several years, 2012 and after, prayer warriors prayed during the Sunday morning sermon.

The current format of the Prayer Ministry began in March 2017. Prayer requests may be emailed to pbcpays4u@gmail.com, submitting your requests through a list in the Sunday School class or completing a yellow prayer request card located in the pew pockets in the sanctuary then putting it in the offering plate or the white prayer request box in the vestibule. Updated prayer request lists are sent to the church body by email each Wednesday. In addition, the Prayer Ministry has sponsored church-wide prayer walks for special events such as Vacation Bible School and Judgment House.

PRAYER QUILT MINISTRY

2010 to present

The Pittsboro Baptist Church Prayer Quilt Ministry provides quilts to those who are experiencing a crisis or trauma in their lives. During the many hours it takes to create each quilt, the quilters pray for the recipient, known or unknown. In addition to providing quilts to individuals, on an on-going basis the group makes quilts for the women served by the Reach Out Pregnancy Crisis Center and the patients at the SECU Jim & Betsy Bryan Hospice House. Led by Donna Harmon and Patsy Johnson, the first meeting was held August 18, 2010, and continues to meet most Wednesdays in the PBC Fellowship Hall. The ministry is supported entirely through donations and fund-raising efforts.

PUPPET MINISTRY

2000-2009

The *No Strings Attached Puppet Team*, directed by Kathy Shaffer, performed primarily during the morning worship services for the entire congregation and occasionally at other church events. Though children were the target audience, the skits' messages resonated with everyone. On a few occasions, the team performed at the Pittsboro Elementary carnival fundraisers and some other locations. The team members were primarily youth, who would rotate off as they aged, with a few adults participating as well. The team size varied from four to six puppeteers.

AUDIO – VIDEO MINISTRY

1969– 2017

Begun as an arm of the Sunday School's homebound ministry, video and taped cassettes of the worship services and special events were carried each week to home-bound members by a group of volunteers. Documentation indicates the ministry first began in 1969 as the "Tape Recorder Ministry", when Belk Vaughn gifted an audio tape recorder for the purpose. In 1980, videos of the services were delivered on VHS tapes as well, becoming simply the "Tape Ministry." With advances in technology, the VHS and tape cassettes gave way to DVDs and CDs. In 2015, the name was updated to Audio – Video Ministry. The ministry ended in 2017. Worship service CDs and DVDs, however, are available for check-out from the church library for those who missed a Sunday service. In addition, podcasts of the sermons are available on the church website and beginning in 2020 in response to the COVID-19 crisis, PBC has a YouTube channel with videos of the Sunday morning services for those with internet access.

DEACON FAMILY MINISTRY

1979 to present

Under Reverend Robinson's leadership a Deacon Family Ministry was started in which the deacons of the church were "under shepherds" to several church families in their group. The practice continues. The church membership role is divided alphabetically, with the membership divided equally among the deacon board.

DEAF MINISTRY

1999

For a brief period the church sponsored a deaf ministry in the fellowship hall on Sundays to meet at the same time as the morning worship service. In addition around that time-frame, a church member interpreted the Sunday worship services using sign language.

UNDER-SHEPHERD MINISTRY

1975 -1978

Reverend Greenwood initiated the Under-shepherd Ministry during his pastorate, an outreach visitation program among church families. Church families were divided geographically into groups or "flocks" with an Under-shepherd team of two laypeople caring for each flock, ministering to them in times of sickness, sadness, joy, and trouble. The teams also held Cottage Prayer Meetings in the homes prior to revivals and special events

PRISON MINISTRY

1990 – Mid1990s

The Prison Ministry began under the leadership of Brenda Cooper at the NC Correctional Institute for Women in Raleigh. The ministry served girls in the Institute ages 16 to 20. Some were pregnant. A meeting was held once a month with a devotion followed by one-on-one time with the girls. Devotions were led by church members {ladies} as well as some guest speakers from other churches. Prison Ministry Bibles, magazines, refreshments and other items were given during each visit. Our church family was so helpful in providing these gifts. Prayer request forms that were received from inmates during our visit were forwarded to our Intercessory Prayer Team for us to pray. The girls were so thankful they were being prayed for. In December 1991 the Pittsboro Baptist Church Choir went to the N. C. Institute and performed our Christmas Musical. The inmates were so moved. The Prison Ministry was ended in the mid 1990s due to some changes at the institute.