



Positive words of encouragement from the members of Pelham Road Baptist Church



December 2010

POSITIVELY

PELHAM ROAD



Allendale Ministries

Connie Maxwell
Children's Home

Cooperative Baptist
Student Fellowship
at Furman

Triune Mercy Center

Our Christmas offering this year will support these four mission efforts. You can use any envelope and mark it **WE ARE ONE.**

A river of a pond

For God so loved the world he gave his Son.¹

Remember the words of Lord Jesus, that He Himself said, *It is more blessed to give than to receive.²*

God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.³

Do I need to go on ... I can ... Let each one give as he purposes in his heart ... for God loves a cheerful giver.⁴

Give, gave, and giver are as common words in scripture as sand on a beach. Of course God is the great giver. All good and perfect gifts come from above. Yet it was never God's purpose for us to become ponds and lakes holding these precious gifts.

It appears to be God's intention from the beginning to allow us to shape the world. God asked our forefathers to name the animals. God asked Noah to use his gift to build an ark. God gives the gift but in the end the hope is for the gift to flow through us to shape the world.

At this time of the year, there is much conversation about gifts and giving. It is easy to narrow giving down to the transfer of money. Yet gift giving is so much more. We can give a child our complete attention. We can give a friend a lengthy conversation. We can give an old friend a call. We can give our grandparent a memory. Yes, we can also give money to a worthy cause.

My experience is if we cannot give a smile to a friend, we will not give a gift to a stranger. If we cannot give family time, we will not give others money. During this time of the year may we become the rivers of grace and gifts God has sent us to be. May we flow through loved ones and strangers giving time, talent, money, or whatever is needed. After all it is more blessed to give than receive. —John

¹John 3:16 | ²Acts 20:35 | ³John 5:11 | ⁴2 Corinthians 9:7

2010 OFFERING FOR MISSIONS

Birthdays in December

Joe Farry	12/01
Pat Girardeau	12/03
Jackson Taylor	12/03
Mike Twitchell	12/03
Wynell Long	12/04
Tim Tucker	12/04
Jane Farry	12/05
Jeremy Hull	12/05
Eddie Bopp	12/06
Carol Ogburn	12/06
Larry Spittle	12/06
Thomas Briggs	12/07
Brittany Hauser	12/09
Frank DeVita	12/09
Carson Pelley	12/09
Brooke Craft	12/10
Johnny Pegg	12/13
Beth Ferrell	12/14
Robert Woerner	12/14
Jan Stiles	12/15
Mike Parks	12/16
Gant Taylor	12/16
Susan Schwab	12/18
Randy Hull	12/19
Jim Leach	12/21
Sharon Adams	12/20
Barbara Rich	12/24
Nolen Brunson	12/25
Ellis Elmore	12/26
Kevin Ashmore	12/27
Bessie Bridges	12/27
Janna Lee	12/28
Kevin Freeman	12/29
Charles Ashmore	12/31
Tommy Crain	12/31
Summey Ferrell	12/31



We are one ...

...with Connie Maxwell Children's Home

When I was asked to write an article about Connie Maxwell Children's Home, my immediate response was "Sure, I will Google it!!" Upon my research, I have found that it is so much more than just something to Google.

The Maxwells founded this ministry in memory of their seven-year-old daughter, whom they lost to scarlet fever. Connie Maxwell will celebrate its 119th anniversary on May 22, 2011.

In this time of economic crisis, their primary goal remains that their children not suffer in any way. They pledge that their shelter, food, clothing, medical, educational and spiritual needs will be met in a proper way.

Connie Maxwell usually gets no, or very little, revenue when a child comes into its program. It receives no federal funds, nor any money from the Southern Baptist Convention. It does receive a percentage of its income each year from the South Carolina Baptist Convention, as well as churches that put the children's home in their budgets or take up offerings for them.

This Christmas season, as we look into the happy faces of our children in our Child Development Center, please consider giving a small gift to help brighten the faces of the children in the Connie Maxwell Children's Home.

—Michelle Morris, CDC and Church Office Assistant



Murray Scripture was one of our Pelham Road volunteers who went to Allendale in September as part of CBFSC's third annual Fall Work Day.

About five years ago, the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship nationally embarked on a project to work with the 20 poorest counties in the United States.

No county in South Carolina was in that group but Allendale was just on the borderline. So the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of South

...with Furman's CBSF

George Barna says that most denominations report that 64-94 percent of youth STOP attending church after they graduate from high school. Only 25 percent of students join a para-church organization on their college campus. What a troubling statistic!

Joe Farry and our church plan on reversing that trend. This Christmas we have the opportunity to help fund the Cooperative Baptist Student Fellowship (CBSF) at Furman University. Joe became the campus minister for this fellowship in the Fall of 2005. Joe's salary and funds for this ministry come from individual and church contributions. Pelham Road is the "flagship contributor."

CBSF meets every Thursday evening for dinner followed by a weekly meeting that often features a guest speaker or musician. CBSF has led several cultural life programs that benefit the Furman community and beyond. These include "Children of Abraham: Christians, Jews, and Muslims in Dialogue," and "God and Caesar: Church-State Relations."

What CBSF is best known for is its passion

for missions. CBSF students have framed and repaired a home in Allendale (our poorest county). They have served our missionaries at Metanoia in Charleston and the Frazee Center doing inner city ministry with kids in downtown Greenville. They also participate in "Now Serving Atlanta" a unique opportunity to serve alongside Baptist students from across the Southeast. CBSF also offers an annual Spring Retreat at Sunset Beach, NC, for fellowship and spiritual development. Just for fun, Joe has the students over to his home for a "movie night." He also tailgates before games for CBSF students and the occasional Pelham Road folk that stop by.

Joe Farry is one of our own. He IS our missionary to students. Consider giving a Christmas gift toward this ministry and let's try to reverse these troubling statistics. Our Baptist students DO have a place to continue their faith journey at Furman. — Sam



James Rust has been active in the Cooperative Baptist Student Fellowship since he was a freshman at Furman University. He is pictured here working on a building project in Allendale, a demonstration of how various ministries work together to improve South Carolina.

...with CBFSC's Allendale ministry

Carolina decided to put much of its missions effort into helping our state's poorest county.

The work started slowly as CBFSC volunteers met with local leaders to determine the best way to proceed. Initial efforts focused on renovating an old house into a home that could be used as temporary housing for those down on their luck.

Three years ago, CBFSC held its first work day in Allendale and more than 100 volunteers from around the state showed up to renovate delapidated houses in Fairfax, work with children and youth, hold a

mini-health clinic, spruce up some areas in Allendale, and help with a few other projects in the county. In September, Pelham Road sent its first crew to help with this year's work day.

In addition to the work days, CBFSC also has ongoing ministries in the county, including a clothes closet and a second home for the temporarily homeless.

A major development in CBFSC's work has been the creation of a Cooperative Student Fellowship group at USC-Salkehatchie called Abba's Kitchen. This group of

students meets every week at First Baptist Church Allendale where they enjoy a homecooked meal, fellowship and Bible study. Two of the students spoke here at the General Assembly in April.

Most of the CBFSC's work in our state's poorest county — including the work for the homeless and the students — happens because of voluntary gifts to the state missions offering and we have the opportunity to help this year through our **WE ARE ONE** offering.

— Sue

PELHAM ROAD

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December 2010

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Jeff Hayes, center, is coordinating our ministry with Triune Mercy Center.

We are onewith Triune Mercy Center

One of the hallmarks of Jesus' ministry is compassion. Almost every encounter he has in the gospel involves dealing with someone who is hurt, in need, or without. And Jesus always shared with them his compassion. Service, outreach, evangelism—all of these actions that we strive for in the church begin with showing our love and compassion.

Compassion will open doors that have been slammed shut by criticism, condemnation, and hatred. It is medicine for a heart that has been broken or a spirit that has turned cynical.

A couple of months ago a number of us had an opportunity to show compassion toward many of our city's marginalized by serving lunch at Triune Mercy Center, a nondenominational mission church in downtown Greenville that ministers with and alongside the homeless. Every week hundreds of persons go through the doors of Triune seeking a hot meal, warm

clothing, groceries, and even employment. The staff of Triune prays that each of these persons, while there, will encounter Jesus. And in order for that to happen, Triune relies on the generous help of their Compassionate Partners ([learn more at www.triunemercy.org](http://www.triunemercy.org)). These partners serve lunch, provide resources, and, most importantly, pray for the mission of Triune.

In the coming year several of our church members will be serving lunch on a monthly basis at Triune. Your generous gifts toward our Christmas offering during this holiday season will make it possible for these meals to be served. This fits perfectly into our recent "tikkun" focus. Remember Paul's words, "Christ gives the strength, the courage, and the ability to do anything and everything God asks of us." Amazing things can happen when we see, touch, and hear with compassion.

—Jeff Hayes

Merry
Christmas

We wish for
all of our
members
and friends
a happy and
safe holiday
season. May
the joy of
Christmas
follow you
all through
the year.

Sue | Sam
Susan | John
Duane