Memorial and Honorary Giving To the Matthew 25 Center

In Memory of:

Mr. Dan Baucom By Sharon and Michael Baucom Sharon and Steven Gause

Mr. Dale Eugene Dyer By Dr. Wayne and Martha Dyer

In Kind Gifts:

Friendly Baptist Church Burgaw, NC

Sam and Judi Hamilton Saint Joseph Catholic Church Burgaw, NC

Memorial and honorary gifts are tax deductible.

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Christmas In July Wish List:

New Roof for the Center **Landscaping** Website Redesign Annex Refurbishment Garden Hose Reels Relocation of Playroom/doors Relocation of Chapel doors Window Treatments Dining Room Tablecloths Walkway to Outside Play Area



Board of Directors: Sharon Baucom, President; Jill LaCour, Vice-President; Priscill Tyree, Treasurer; Judy Siko, Secretary; Lyn Blizzard, Tammy Blizzar Pete Cowan, Bryant Crosson, James Davis, Waitus English, W. C English, Donna Grinbergs, Marian James, Lynn LaCour, Dr. Dennis Long, Patsy Perhala, George Perhal Rev. Ray Mendenhall, Katrina Midgette, Jerry Schwefel, Paula Schwefel, A, Q. Smith, Nathan Teachey Trustees: Debi Creech, Eugene Floyd, Sr., Nathan Teachey

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From the Desk of the Directors

In the midst of preparing the quarterly newsletter for The Matthew 25 Center along came Hurricane Irene and with her arrival so went the power, internet access, phone service, and television (as a side note, up to date football coverage is always critical at this time of the year). Reli-



ance upon battery powered devices and a generator, which by the way had not been used since Hurricane Isabel in 2003, for light, information, and coffee became the rule of the day and we survived. Our prayers are certainly extended to those who were less fortunate with the loss of property and in some cases sadly the loss of life. The old adage of "this too, will pass" and "it could have been a lot worse" certainly came into play and sustained our faith in Someone greater than ourselves one more time.

With Hurricane Irene, The Matthew 25 Center in keeping with our mission statement of providing assistance to those involved working with the incarcerated was provided the opportunity to offer hospitality to families of prison staff who were scheduled to work the weekend at Pender Correctional Institution (PCI). Although the request was made on short notice, we were able to respond requesting input from our Board of Directors and then coordinating the effort with the appropriate personnel at the prison. Unfortunately, timing of the hurricane and our offer prevented anyone from taking advantage although the need was there.

Hopefully you have noticed The Matthew 25 Center will be hosting its annual fundraising event on September 16 in the form of a BBQ. Initially we had hoped for a "fish fry" as advertised in our June newsletter but logistics and the unavailability of cooking equipment prevented this effort from coming to fruition. We hope your initial disappointment will wane quickly and you will come out to support us on the 16th. As we go forward into 2012, we will be announcing some innovative approaches to our fundraising efforts through our "Taste of Carolina" program and our "Sugar Bowl 365 Campaign". More information on these opportunities will be forthcoming in late October/ November and hopefully will allow our greater community to become more involved in the support of our mission.

In our last newsletter, we requested your prayers in support of the Chapel Project at PCI. Well, the good news is the State of North Carolina has approved the final construction plans for the Chapel. However, the Department of Corrections has requested recertification of our funding base and Chaplain Joseph is working feverously with our vendors to verify all proposed in-kind donations for supplies and utility requirements. So, please continue with your prayers and hopefully the end is in sight and we will soon be able to add another chapter to our efforts at prison ministry.

Just for today, keep it simple and be kind to others....Peace! Sam and Judi Hamilton

Matthew 25 Happenings

In July and August we hosted 42 guests. They were from:

North Carolina – Concord, Black Mountain, Swannanoa, Morganton, Mebane, High Point, Ramseur, Winston Salem, and Lexington

Out of State – Sugar Grove, Virginia; Union, New Jersey; Boca Raton, Florida; Lithia, Florida; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Stowe, Pennsylvania;

The Matthew 25 Center also hosted Rock of Ages Ministry Group in July and the

Families in Crisis, Kairos, and the Youth Mission Group from Friendly Community Baptist Church in August.

Upcoming Events:

September 9 - 10 Kairos Outside September 16 - BBQ Fundraiser October 19 - 23 Kairos Inside December 16 - 17 Families in Crisis





Your Donations are Welcomed!!!!

It takes approximately \$3500 to fund the Matthew 25 Center on a monthly basis. To date we have collected 67% or \$31,000 in donations as we strive to reach our annual goal of \$45,000. Your donations, both inkind and monetary, are truly appreciated and we thank each faith group, patrons, and guests who have contributed to the continued success of The

Matthew 25 Center. If you have not made a donation, please consider supporting us as we meet the needs of families who are impacted by incarceration.

We always are in need of in-kind donations such as bathroom dispensable cups, paper towels, toilet tissue, Kleenex (small box size), plastic garbage bags (all sizes), and laundry supplies. Non-perishable foods such as soups, canned meats, coffee, sugar, and creamer would help as well.

If you really want to become adventurous, see our Christmas In July wish list. Please call the Center for additional information.

And as always your prayers are needed for the continued success in meeting the needs of families who are visiting their loved ones who are incarcerated.