### In Memory of...

...Ed Bullock a donation was received by Peggy Jones.

...George Perhala a donation was received by Patti and Bob Perhala.. We received one from Dave and Lynn Weaver. Another was made by Will and Carol Evans. Also by Mike and Sharon Baucom.

THANK YOU!

# Always a need...

Paper towels Hand soap Air fresheners Floor cleaner Liquid fabric softener

## Upcoming...

September 9, 2017 Indoor Rummage Sale. If you would like to donate items for the sale please let us know.

Belk Fall Charity Event.

Kairos #33 October

Connected...Keeping Families Connected...

Neeping Families

# Matthew 25

CENTER, INC.

"...inasmuch as you have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, you have done it unto me."

www.matthew25center.org Email: matthew25@bizec.rr.com

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1196 Penderlea Highway Burgaw, North Carolina 28425

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will be taking donations for the sale (no clothing).

# Matthew 25 Happenings

March we had 12 family members to visit us this month they came from Pahoa, HI; Baltimore, MD; Chester & Alexandria, VA; Gastonia and Vale, NC. Two guests stayed multiple nights. Kairos #32 was the 15—20th. Sunset Park WMU came to tour the center and brought in paper and cleaning products for the center. Victory Christian Fellowship brought in food for the pantry.

April we had 12 family members to stay with us, they were from Pinetops, Charlotte, Hiddenite, King, NC; out of state they came in from Pahoa, HI; Sugar Grove, VA; Henderson, NV; Four of the family members stayed an additional night. We did the Belk Charity event and the Wrightsboro Baptist Church Carolina Faith Riders had a FUN RUN benefitting the center.

May 13 family members coming in from Reidsville, Statesville and Lilesville, NC; out of state from Hanover, PA and Washington DC. Jose Gonzalez brought in coffee, eggs and food for the pantry. The First Baptist Church of Wallace WMU brought in paper, cleaning and food products. The EWC (Every Woman's Church)—St. Mary's brought in pocket prayer shawls for the guests.

Love is like the five loaves and two fishes. It doesn't start to multiply until you give it away.

#### From the Presidents desk...

Hebrews 13:1-3 says "Let brotherly love continue. Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares. Remember them that are in bonds, as bound with them; and them which suffer adversity, as being yourselves also in the body.

We have families that travel in from around the globe and we have often shared the comments that express how the families feel about the center when they share with us. Recently we have received letters from the loved ones the families come to visit. We would like to share bits of the letters with you.

"Thanks for taking such good care of my family again when they came to visit. You make them feel so welcome and comfortable."

"This is just a thank you note for your gracious hospitality extended to my fiancée' and her friend. Her description of your facilities was wrapped up in one word awesome. She went on to say how clean it was there and that the staff was very courteous and kind. The services you are offering families that are visiting loved ones in prison is truly awesome. Just as the God we serve is awesome."

"Praise the Lord! I really appreciate the pure love and hospitality you extended to my family. Love was given without dissimulation and made them to feel at home."

For those of you who don't know, the center does not make the initial contact with family members, this is private information. We rely on word of mouth from within the facility to initiate the communication that takes place for accommodating our guests. Paula & Jerry participate in the orientation program and leave pamphlets for distribution. This is the only direct "connection" we have. Once we hear from the family member they are verified to have an official visitation scheduled with the facility, identification is confirmed and the arrangements are then made with the center. For keeping families together, regardless of how they've been separated and the circumstances in their lives, we know that God has each and every one in His sight and will provide the way for them to get connected. Our prayer is that His work will continue as long as it's His Mission and His Plan. We feel honored to be a part of it and thank you for your continuous support.

Sharon