



# HEART4SCHOOLS

KINGDOM IMPACT NEWSLETTER



## Serving this Season

**ANGELA MCNEAL**

*"I thank him who has given me strength, Christ Jesus our Lord, because he judged me faithful, appointing me to his service."  
1 Timothy 1: 12*

Have you ever been discouraged in your service? You wondered if you were doing enough, if you had the energy, knowledge and resources to get the job done, or if were you even in the right place?

Hearing that our service has been appointed (arranged, pre-arranged, determined) by God is a great encouragement! God has a very specific plan for our lives and has placed us purposely in our community, in 2020 (during Covid), and equipped us with everything we need.

Sometimes we forget that we don't have to do everything in our own strength. When Paul asked that the thorn in his flesh be removed, God answered, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Paul's response: "Therefore, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me." (2 Cor 12:9)

Grace was the theme of Paul's life. After acknowledging his past as a persecutor of Christians, he explained God's mercy in his life as "Grace mixed with faith and love poured over me and into me. **And all because of Jesus.**" (The Message, v. 14)

This is such a beautiful picture! As we are faithful in our service, those around us have an opportunity to see this same grace, faith and love in our lives. I remember the saying, "Whatever you are filled with spills when you get bumped." Our service allows His love to spill over onto those "right on the edge of trusting him forever" (The Message, v.16).

As we celebrate the birth of our Savior this year, let us remember that our service and gifts don't have to be big, splashy, all-consuming, or expensive. God can take what we give and turn it into something beautiful – especially when we give of ourselves. As we look through the list of ideas for serving schools in December, let's look for ways to connect with people and let them know we care. As we demonstrate the love of Jesus, we will spread hope, peace and joy.



## Grant Requests

Do you have a ministry project in your school that you feel God leading you to, but you don't have the money needed to complete the project? Heart4Schools has ministry grant funds made possible through the Janie Chapman Missions offering.

Email [angelamcneal@scbaptist.org](mailto:angelamcneal@scbaptist.org) for more information. Grants will be awarded based on the need, scope and intended impact of the project – as well as the amount of funds left in our budget at this time of year. The hope is that the project will meet needs and provide opportunities to continue development of relationships with the school community. Anyone receiving a grant will be asked to provide a "story" that can be used to inspire other churches as they seek to impact their community.



# Ways to Serve this Christmas

Here is a list of all the ways local churches in our state are serving schools in their communities this Christmas:

- ★ Hats/Gloves for kids
- ★ Food for at risk families over the break
- ★ Purchasing Amazon Wish Lists for Teachers
- ★ Work with guidance counselors to meet needs of families
- ★ Christmas Luncheon for School Staff
- ★ Recess Bags full of games, puzzles, etc for cold/wet winter days
- ★ Hot Chocolate/Coffee Bar for teacher workroom
- ★ Coffee truck before or after school for teachers
- ★ Purchase a Keurig for the break room with enough coffee, creamers, etc to last the rest of the school year
- ★ Food truck for a special lunch for teachers
- ★ Purchase new books for kids to take home over the break
- ★ Christmas Celebration in a local park/community space



## Looking for Ideas?

Are you looking for end of year gift ideas for your Heart 4 Schools volunteers or even ideas to add to your wish list? Here are some of the books we recommend to help you further the mission God has given you as a church to serve the local schools in your community. You can click on the book's title for more information

[The Mission Minded Guide to Church and School Partnerships](#)

by Jake McGlothlin

[Serving Local Schools: Bring Christ's Compassion to the Core of Your Community](#)

by Chuck Bomar

[Kingdom Collaborators: Eight Signature Practices of Leaders Who Turn the World Upside Down](#)

by Reggie McNeal

## Who Can You Invite?

As of November 2020, Heart 4 Schools has:

**360** known partnerships across the state  
**274** schools who have at least one partnership  
 Over **1300** schools with no church partnerships

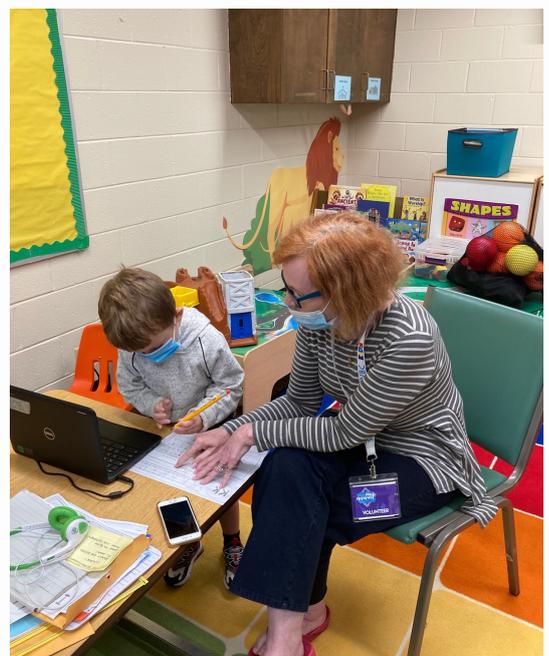
Do you know of churches in your community who might be interested in a church partnership? We are excited to provide training sessions to help local churches start partnerships across our state.

Would you be willing to share Heart 4 Schools information with them, or host a Heart 4 Schools information/ training session? Contact Angela McNeal at [angelamcneal@scbaptist.org](mailto:angelamcneal@scbaptist.org).



**SHANDON BAPTIST CHURCH OPENED THEIR DOORS AS AN E-LEARNING CENTER THIS FALL FOR STUDENTS IN THEIR COMMUNITY.**

"Partnering with local schools is a means of living out the gospel." - Jake McGlothlin



**A VOLUNTEER FROM SPRING VALLEY BAPTIST WORKS WITH A STUDENT AT THE E-LEARNING SITE AT THEIR CHURCH THIS FALL.**

# Serving Spotlight

## RIVERBLUFF BAPTIST CHURCH CHARLESTON, SC

### Love Gave: on Mission with Our School Partners to Love the Community

Several years ago, we were invited by a sister church to learn about a mission at Christmas called Love Gave. Love Gave is a yard-“give” where the community is invited to come and receive donations of items such as clothing, toys, books, household goods, and other things. The event is a 2-day effort, with the first evening being collection, sorting, and set-up of donations, and the following morning being the yard-give. The mission of Love Gave is for churches and schools to work together to love and bless the surrounding community in Jesus’ Name.

We formed a true partnership for this event with our school. The principal opened the school for the entire operation. They took leadership for the first evening, while our church coordinated the morning of the event. Volunteers from the school and the church worked together on both days. We have continued this arrangement every year. During the yard-give, families can come and get what they need, as well as do their Christmas shopping. There is a kids’ area with story time, hot chocolate, and cookie decorating to help parents “shop.” The event has grown over the last few years to include a gift wrap station and a “Just-Add-Turkey” bag with nutritious food and wrapped Bibles. Nothing is left over at the end of the event, because we are able to bless the school nurse, local clothes closets, and community crisis ministries. We have also been able to share with a local high school’s Beta Club for their holiday “clothes closet” service project.

Not only has Love Gave allowed us to work side by side with our school partners, it has given us the chance to deepen our relationships and personal connections with them. We have also been able to talk to the community members about Jesus face-to-face as they arrive, shop, receive food bags, have their gifts wrapped, and have their cars loaded. Children get a chance to hear the real story of Christmas in the kids’ area, too. Love Gave will look somewhat different this year, but we are committed to partnering with our school in this Kingdom mission, demonstrating the love of Jesus to our community in a time when it is so desperately needed.

by Michell Whitman, Director of RiverKidz Children's Ministry

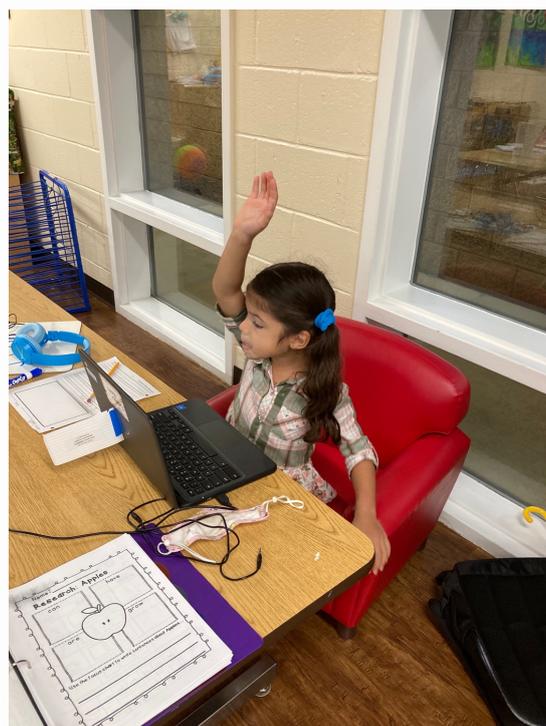
**"What are our motives for serving local schools? "Our motivation is rooted in who God is and what he as done for us. We stand out as a light in this world when we live out our identity in God."**

**Chuck Bomar**

## What's going on?

To find out the latest up to date information, news, and events visit our website at:  
[www.heart4schools.org](http://www.heart4schools.org)

Click [here](#) to join our Facebook group to see and hear stories from churches across the state, network with other churches, and find helpful information for your church and your partnership.



# Connecting During Covid

## GOD AT WORK

When Dena Riley, Pastoral Care Minister at FBC North Augusta planned a special event for the staff at Clearwater Elementary School, she did not know how God would use their partnership to inspire another church in their area to serve schools. First Baptist Church has been in partnership with Clearwater Elementary for five years and serves them in many ways. They provide school supplies for every student, hygiene bags for 4th and 5th graders, 2 books per child for summer reading, a monthly birthday table, assistance with various school events, and Christmas bags for each student. They have a prayer box in the teacher's lounge and faithfully pray for the staff. Each week they have prayer at the flagpole for the school!

Prior to Covid, they were in the school weekly and provided classroom assistance and mentorship to students. With visitor restrictions this year, Dena and the HOPE team (Helping Open People's Eyes 4 our Schools) wanted to find a way to bless teachers, interact with them, and continue the relationships that have been formed over the years. Their answer was to have Diablos bring their food truck to the school for lunch. Teachers were able to visit during planning periods, activities or their scheduled lunch time. Eight church members, including her Executive Pastor came to the school to personally encourage the teachers. They held up posters and cheered and clapped as the teachers came down the walkway. As upbeat inspirational music played, teachers danced along with the church volunteers as they walked to the truck. The event and the care demonstrated was such an encouragement to the teachers!

In God's providence, there was a substitute teacher at the school that day. She had been looking for a way for her church to be involved in the community and specifically wanted her church to help a school. She was so excited to see the ministry of FBC North Augusta and kept saying, "God meant for me to be here." Dena and the HOPE team are planning to meet with her and help her get started in a church/school partnership. God had such a great plan for multiplying the work of His kingdom as FBC North Augusta was faithful and kept their eyes on Him and the work that He was leading them to do.

Heart4Schools was happy to be able to partner with FBC and contribute some funds through the Janie Chapman Missions Offering. South Carolina Baptists are working together to advance the kingdom!



# IMPACT TOGETHER

FEBRUARY 18, 2021  
SHANDON BAPTIST  
COLUMBIA



[scbaptist.org/impact](http://scbaptist.org/impact)

## Join Us!

### IMPACT

February 18, 2021  
Shandon Baptist, Columbia SC  
Together We Advance

"In times of crisis, we need healthy leaders. This year, Impact will focus on helping leaders advance the gospel by being more healthy in their families and personal lives."

Dr. Crawford and Karen Loritts will join us and share wisdom from 50 years of marriage and ministry.

For every minister registered, their spouse attends free!

Register by November 16th for a discount  
Group of 10+: \$30/person    Individual: \$40/person

After November 16th: Group of 10+: \$50/person    Individual:  
\$60/person

Register by clicking [here!](#)

For questions, contact [allisonbardin@scbaptist.org](mailto:allisonbardin@scbaptist.org); 803-227-6046.

## Let's Celebrate!

*This month we are celebrating the churches in our state who have opened their doors as E-Learning Centers. Thank you for the ways that you have loved and served your local schools and community over the past few months!*

Camden FBC  
Lugoff FBC  
Trinity Methodist-Blythewood  
Riverland Hills  
Meadowbrook Baptist-Beaufort  
Beaufort FBC  
Lake Murray Baptist,  
Lake Murray Presbyterian  
Shandon Baptist  
North Trenholm Baptist  
Spring Valley Baptist  
Covenant Baptist  
Savannah River Baptist  
The Baptist Church of Beaufort  
Edwards Road Baptist  
North Conway Baptist Church  
Kelleytown Baptist  
Kershaw FBC  
Bible Way  
The Link  
Pine View Baptist  
Palmetto Shores Church  
Double Springs Baptist  
New Horizon Community Church  
Remount Baptist Church  
Antioch Baptist Church-Lancaster