

# CONNECTIONS

Community Connections Darlington Quarterly Newsletter



## Letter to Our Supporters

Welcome to the first installment of *Connections*, a quarterly newsletter provided by Community Connections Darlington.

Community Connects Darlington first began when various members of and organizations in Darlington connected in an effort to meet a need. That connection has grown over the years to include too many individuals and groups to name, and, through our combined christian service, we are showing the love of Jesus in very tangible ways.

Whether it is a hot meal on Saturday morning, a warming shelter in the bitter cold of December, or monthly youth gatherings, we are connecting to others and touching lives in the name of Jesus

As we go about this kingdom work, it is important that you know how valuable you are to this ministry, so we want to say thank you. We also want you to stay informed about what is going on within this ministry, how we are connecting within the community, and our plans for the future. It is our hope that through this intentional communication, our partnerships will become stronger, we will continue to grow, and that we will be united in Christ as we serve others.

God Bless.

## NEWSLETTER HIGHLIGHTS

A Letter to Our Supporters

About Crazy Hope Community Center

Soup Kitchen Stats

Chicken Bog Fundraiser

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Team Member Spotlight



## Soup Kitchen Spotlight

- We have six new organizations who have joined in the rotation.
- We now have 18 groups serving in the weekly rotation.
- Participating organizations will now serve three times a year or less.
- We have served approximately 2500 plates since January 1, 2023.
- Pictured below are just a few of the groups who have recently served.



Darlington Middle School



St. John's Alumni Association



Rotary Club of Darlington



Darlington First Baptist Church



## Chicken Bog! Chicken Bog! Chicken Bog!

Spring brought with it the first of what we hope to be many more fundraisers for the Crazy Hope Community Center. Partnering with Oliver Segars, Community Connections Darlington and friends came together to host its first chicken bog fundraiser and bake sale. Mr. Segars and his crew cooked up some tasty chicken bog, and friends donated tasty treats for the bake sale! With 1243 chicken bog plates sold, donations, and the bake sale, \$12,683 was raised!!! The success of our efforts means that we have reached our first goal and can now fund Phase 1 construction of the Crazy Hope Community Center.

## Out and About in the Community

Sharing the love of Jesus takes many forms. Community Connections Darlington is joining with others in the community to connect, build relationships, plant seeds of faith, and spread the love of Jesus in both word and deed.

- Weekly Saturday Soup Kitchen
- Darlington County Institute of Technology Graphic Design Class - Logo Design Contest: February - March
- Community Youth Gathering, by Risen Assembly (3rd Saturdays)
  - Carolina Pointe: March 18th & May 20th
  - Pine Village: February 18th & April 15th
- Fishers of Men, by First Baptist Church Darlington (2nd Saturdays)
  - Calvary Baptist Church in Darlington: March 11th
  - Pine Village: April 15th
- Spring Flower Festival at Pee Dee Farmer's Market: April 22nd
- Praise in the Park at Terrence Carraway Memorial Park: May 7th & June 4th
- Community Changers, hosted at Mechanicsville Baptist Church: June 11th - 15th
- Women's Paint Night with April Hicks at Carolina Point: June 25th





## Team Member Highlight

Today's highlight features Darlington First Church of God. Since the inception of the soup kitchen, First Church of God has been and continues to be instrumental in its support. At present, this church provides a base of operations for Community Connections Darlington and offers support in a variety of ways. Whether it is providing a meeting space or a space to operate a fundraiser, managing donations and correspondence through the time and talents of Debbie Anderson, or being in the original and ongoing soup kitchen rotation, Darlington First Church of God provides a vital contribution to our ministry.

## Financial Report: May 1, 2022 - June 1, 2023

Income: \$111, 919.22

Expenses: \$30, 178.09

- Checks: \$139.73
- Utilities: \$1176.65 + 161.92
- Chicken Bog Fundraiser: \$6,215.00
- Soup Kitchen Supplies: \$210.16
- Attorney Fees: \$34.17
- Roofer: \$13, 263.00 \*
- T-Shirts: \$1,068.30
- Painter: \$5,800.00
- Brochures: \$841.61
- Taxes: \$612.63
- Website: \$365.02
- Stationary: \$289.90

Balance: \$81, 741.13

\* This covered immediately needed roof repairs over the bath house and storage areas.



## About Us

Vision: Transforming lives with Jesus at the center. Leaving a lasting and giving legacy that positively impacts the community of Darlington and provides by leading a model of caring and service that others can follow as they do God's work.

Mission: Meeting others where they are, providing a lasting and Godly sanctuary and save haven for the community that we serve. We also aim to continually strive to minister to the spiritual and physical needs while walking with people to where Jesus wants them to be.

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