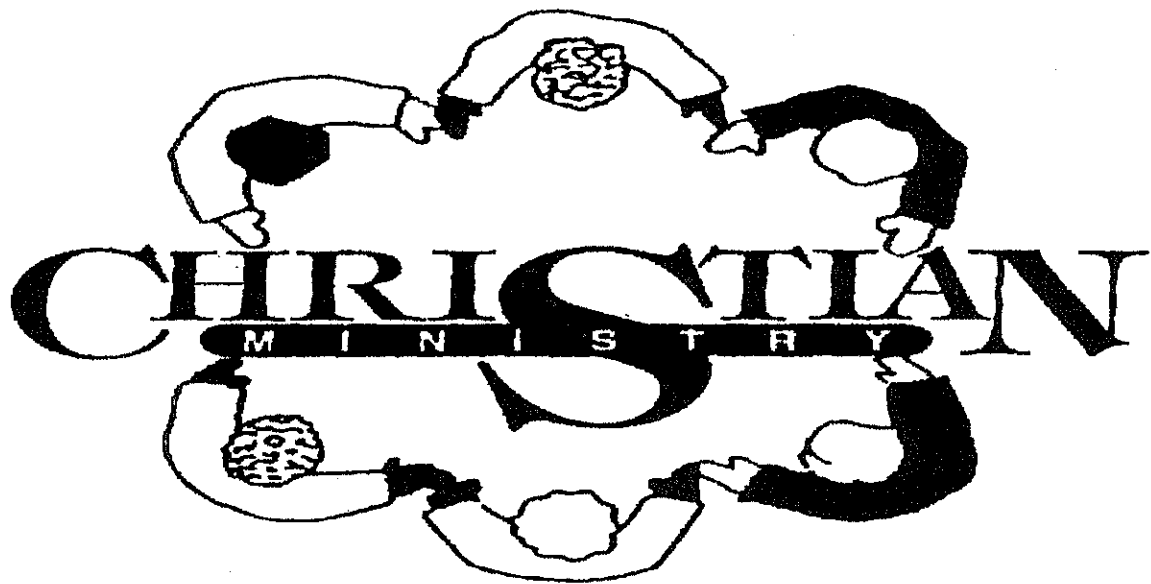


2025

ANNUAL REPORT



OF LINCOLN COUNTY, INC.

“Working Hand in Hand with the Lord”

48th Anniversary
1977-2025

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CHRISTIAN MINISTRY OF LINCOLN COUNTY, INC.
207 S. POPLAR STREET – PO BOX 423

PHONE: (704) 732-0383
(704) 732-2691

FAX: 336-419-4613

HOURS: 9:00am – 1:00pm MONDAY – FRIDAY

WEBSITE- www.christianministryoflincolncounty.org



Executive Director.....	Mitzi Williams
Administrative Assistant.....	Mimi Rhyne
Emergency Services Coordinator.....	Bobbie Grant
Emergency Services Assistant.....	Sandy McKay
LINC Home Meals Coordinator.....	Betty Leonard
Bookkeeper.....	Sandy Gantt
Soup Kitchen Coordinator.....	Regina Maier
Building & Resource Coordinator.....	Richard Ballard
Coordinator of Volunteers.....	Woody Saunders

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE:

- A. To express through fellowship, study, and service, the essential unity of the church.
- B. To provide an interdenominational agency for cooperation among the churches; which may achieve more effectively the objectives of the Christian Faith.
- C. To study the opportunities for Christian witness and service in the community and propose plans through which these opportunities can be met.
- D. In perspective of the general inclusiveness of A, B and C above, (which are the purposes stated in the Articles of Incorporation), it is the understanding of Christian Ministry, at this time, that our purpose is to seek means of serving the needs of the people in our community by cooperative efforts that an interdenominational service organization can provide. We do not wish to duplicate what others are already doing well, nor do we wish to take responsibility which another group could do as well, if not better.

CHRISTIAN MINISTRY BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR THE YEAR 2026

David Conner (4) (B) President
7303 Reeps Grove Church Road
Vale, NC 28168
(704) 276-1598 (H)

Scott Mullen (2) (N) Vice President
1503 Beal Rd.
Lincolnton, NC 28092
(704) 530-8352

Rev. Chad Walker (2) (L) Secretary
702 Addie Drive
Iron Station, NC 28080
(704) 732-0251 (W) (704) 308-1887 (C)

Shirley Alexander (1) (B) Treasurer *
590 Compass Dr.
Denver, NC 28037
(704) 562-8335

Lisa Baxter (4) (L)
2848 Sorrells-Baxter Road
Cherryville, NC 28021
(704) 692-9696 (C)

Phil Campbell (3) (B)
1483 Arden Oaks
Lincolnton, NC 28092
(704) 473-3628 (C)

Rev. Mike Devine (4) (N)
PO Box 654
Lincolnton, NC 28093
(704) 735-1559 (W)

Ann Edwards (1) (M) *
1174 River Hill Trail
Lincolnton, NC 28092
(704) 530-3594

Ronnie Engle (2) (L)
1157 Bess Chapel Rd
Cherryville, NC 28021
(704) 473-1695

Patricia Estes (3) (N)
995 Grazing Meadows Court
Lincolnton, NC 28092
(704) 678-8608

Cindy Goodhue (1) (B) *
2130 River Hill Trail
Lincolnton, NC 28092
(704) 240-0193

Tony Hallman (4) (L)
3065 Startown Road
Lincolnton, NC 28092
(704) 740-0286 (H)

Dennis Parker (3) (R)
1426 Love Memorial School Road
Lincolnton, NC 28092
(704) 735-9818 (H)

Trish Shephard (1) (B) *
2265 Mt. Zion Church Rd.
Alexis, NC 28006
(704) 263-1347

Rev. Ricky Sloop (2) (L)
P.O. Box 131
Crouse, NC 28033
(704) 732-3265

Rev. Sarah Underwood (1) (M) *
210 E. Main St.
Lincolnton, NC 28092
(704) 678-0813

Daphca Dyson (3) (N)
211 Mockingbird Lane
Lincolnton, NC 28092
(704)-770-5572

* These will be voted on and installed at Annual Meeting. Each member of the Board is elected for a two (2) year term. Each may serve two consecutive terms. The number beside each name indicates the year the person will be serving in 2026. The letter beside each name indicates religious affiliation. We would like to thank the following Board Members that are coming off for their loyal service : Rev. Justin Houser, Janet Gross, Kathy Robinson, Ben Berkowitz, Macrina Clutier

President's Message

Wow! Here we are celebrating another year at Christian Ministry of Lincoln County. What a great opportunity it is to be able to help serve here to meet the needs of those who are less fortunate. I am very blessed to have been a part of this ministry almost as long as we have been in our current location.

Having served in many ministries here, I have seen a lot of growth. Having been a part of this growth, I am happy to let each of you know that we have signed a letter of intent with the City of Lincolnton to move to a new location. They have offered a larger property that will be better suited for the ministry to grow and accomplish the ministries that have been put before us. It will take some time for the changes to take place and will take a lot of prayer and working together to achieve our task. Please keep the Board of Directors, the staff, and the volunteers in your prayers as we move forward.

Thank you for all you do for the ministry. It takes all of us working together to accomplish the task put before us.

Hebrews 13:16 says, "Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God."

Thank you for continuing to support Christian Ministry of Lincoln County.

Sincerely,

David Conner

President of the Board of Directors for Christian Ministry of Lincoln County

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

This year was full of hurdles. Hurdles that we jumped with ease because of the wonderful volunteer and donor support; and with the determination of our employees.

Even though our allotment of government food decreased, full grocery carts of food were still given to families. When SNAP (Food Stamps) was stopped, the number of families needing our assistance went up. We saw an all-time high of 480 families needing and receiving food in one month. It also drove the number of people using our soup kitchen up with a monthly high of 3683.

39,426 soup kitchen meals, 16,843 LINC meals, 4372 grocery carts, totaling 608,134 pounds of food. These numbers represent people in our community. People that needed help and you made that happen. Thank you for caring!

Our staff have a heart for ministering to the community and that is what makes the ministry the caring place that people feel comfortable coming too. Two of our employees took a medical leave of absence this year. With the help of volunteers, and our other employees, they stepped up and kept everything going.

Our homeless - Our People - continue to come to us to have a place to be. We continue to build relationships with them. We try to meet their needs but most of their needs are much bigger than what we can offer.

For several years, the City of Lincoln has been talking to the Ministry about an exchange of real estate between our property and the City's property at 410 Linden St. and E. Catawba St. This will include a rehabbed building, a new building, a bigger parking lot and bigger dining room. The ministry has signed a Letter of Intent with the City. We are still in the early stages, but we are hopeful for our future.

"I know thy works, and charity, and service, and faith, and thy patience..." - Revelations 2:19."
God sees us!

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

1 Thessalonians 5:28

Mitzi

**MINISTRY GROUPS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS
2026**

President David Conner, Ex-officio of all Committees 704-276-1598

BUDGET AND FINANCE

Bryan Beal, Chairman	828-234-0899
Shirley Alexander	704-562-8335
Dianne Painter	704-735-6803
Rev. Rick Sloop	704-732-3265
Ministry Treasurer	

POLICY AND PERSONNEL

Ralph Zello, Chairman	704-735-0063
Shirley Alexander	704-562-8335
Lisa Baxter	704-692-9696
Janet Gross	704-477-5186
Dianne Painter	704-735-6803
Rev. Ricky Sloop	704-732-3265

LINC MEALS

Melinda Houser, Chairman	704-435-3640
Kathy Robinson, Vice Chair	704-472-9457
Shirley Alexander	704-562-8335
Diane Carpenter	704-732-9890
Rev. Justin Houser	704-530-1723
Ralph Zello	704-735-0063

CHRISTMAS MINISTRY

Marion Beebe Co-Chairman	860-836-1982
Marge Stula Co-Chairman	860-208-8741
Ralph Zello, Co-Chairman	704-735-0063
Sheila Beeker	980-241-5529
Ricky Dettner	704-742-6232
Becky Engle	704-473-1696

BUSINESS BLITZ

Demery Brewer, CI 704-732-6446/4211
demery.brewer@ffsb_nc.com

MINISTRY SHOPPERS

Ralph Zello	704-735-0063
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EMERGENCY SERVICES

Shirley Alexander, Chairman	704-562-8335
Libby Baxter	704-740-5915
Donna Jolley	704-472-7481
Rev. Chad Walker	704-308-1887
Ralph Zello	704-735-0063

RESEARCH AND PLANNING

Ministry VP - Chairman	
Shirley Alexander	704-562-8335
Lisa Baxter	704-692-9696
Rev. Chad Walker	704-308-1887
Ralph Zello	704-735-0063
Building & Resource Coord	

SOUP KITCHEN

Patsy Smith, Chairman	704-732-0953
Shirley Alexander	704-562-8335
Marni Carpenter	704-732-2692
Ronnie Engle	704-473-1695
Judy Freeman	704-748-9948
Gary Poovey	704-462-2448

DAY RETREAT

Patricia Estes	704-678-8608
Ronald Johnson	828-238-0184
Greg Trantham	704-530-3363

PROPERTY

David Conner	704-276-1598
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NURSING HOME MINISTRY

Loretta Beam	704-472-5840
Becky Engle	704-473-1696

**CHRISTMAS FUND MINISTRY GROUP
STATISTICAL REPORT FOR 2025**

	2024	2025	Difference
Families Receiving Food Boxes	582	563	-19
Value at \$250 per Box (2025)	\$145,500.00	\$140,750.00	-\$4,750.00
Children Under 14 Receiving New Toys	582	603	21
Children served at used toy distribution	438	480	42

CHRISTMAS FUND 2025				
	<u>2024</u>		<u>2025</u>	<u>Variance</u>
<u>RECEIPTS</u>	\$124,759.84		\$124,412.35	-\$347.49
TRANSFER TO SPONSORED MEALS	\$6,000.00		\$6,000.00	\$0.00
TOTAL	\$118,759.84		\$118,412.35	-\$347.49
<u>EXPENSES</u>	<u>2024</u>		<u>2025</u>	<u>Variance</u>
TOYS	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
FOOD	\$16,060.11		\$14,758.26	-\$1,301.85
POSTAGE/PAPER/MISC EXPENSES	\$603.58		\$1,008.18	\$404.60
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$16,663.69		\$15,766.44	-\$897.25

Thank you to Food Lion East & West, Walmart, Aldi's and Starbucks for their donations of food to our pantry throughout the year. Thank you to Saine Ace Hardware for making wheelbarrows available each year. In addition, thank you to Domino's Pizza for providing food for our many volunteers on Give Out Day.

Finally, thank you to every business, organization, school, church and the many individuals who participated in ANY way to make December 23 a very special day for our clients and their children. We will use \$6000 of the 2025 donations to support our LINC Home Delivered Meals Program and the remaining amount will be converted to the general operating fund.

Ralph Zello, Marion Beebe and Marge Stula, Co-Chairs.

Day Retreat Ministry

In 2025, the Day Retreat ministry operated 248 days, serving a daily average of 16 people. Our daily high was 34 in the month of December. Numerous days had over 20 people using the shelter. It is a time that they can take showers, get their clothes washed, and a time they can rest without being out in the weather or being told that they cannot be there.

2025 was our second year opening the Day Retreat. We have had several groups come show compassion and care for our people. They are very appreciative for this attention. As we build relationships and learn their stories, we see that they want to give back, how they have compassion on each other, and how they are eager to help when allowed.

We are very aware of how big a part mental illness plays in the lives of our people. We are also aware of the giant holes in our Federally funded mental health system that leaves vulnerable, defenseless, helpless people living outside because it is no one's job to help them.

This year, the question came up "Do we keep the Day Retreat open at over \$20,000 a year?" I think the real question is "How do we not keep it open?"

EMERGENCY SERVICES MINISTRY GROUP REPORT – 2025

Our Emergency Services Ministry is a huge part of Christian Ministry. It encompasses emergency needs such as food, medicine, rent, electrical bills, clothing/shoes, household items/furniture, etc.

In 2025, we provided food for 4, 373 families and 11, 800 individuals, as well as the variety of services listed above. Please carefully read the EMS Statistical Report for the full impact this ministry has on individual lives. Innovative ways to continue to serve our clients have been implemented, money availability has been stretched to the limit for housing, food shortages, volunteer limitations, etc.

Thank you to all the **individuals, churches, businesses, and volunteers** for your support, dedication, and commitment in making all this possible.

There are many areas in EMS in which you can help and have helped us in the past. Your donations of food, clothing and household items are needed and used daily. We are currently in GREAT need of volunteers to help serve our clients in our Clothes Closet each day.

A special **THANK YOU** to Mitzi Williams, CMLC Executive Director for her efficiency, leadership/organizational skills, compassion and especially love for our clients.

THANK YOU to Bobbie Grant and Sandy McKay our EMS interviewers for their dedication and compassion daily as they assist and serve our clients.

Thanks to the EMS Ministry Group: Libby Baxter, Donna Jolley, Rev. Chad Walker, Ralph Zello.

May God continue to bless Christian Ministry of Lincoln County, Inc., and may we never lose focus of our purpose or love of the clients, volunteers, and supporters of this Ministry.

Shirley R. Alexander
Emergency Services Chairperson

"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me (Matthew 25: 35-36); Jesus replied "Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me," Matthew 25: 40.

EMERGENCY SERVICES - STATISTICAL REPORT 2025

Services Offered	Families Helped	Individuals Helped	Estimated Dollar Amount of Services
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE			
Utilities (power,kerosene, propane)	354	1416	\$61,177.76
Rent	104	416	\$18,594.93
Miscellaneous (birth certificates, ID's, SS card)	19	19	\$568.11
Medical		47	\$1,136.94

FOOD

Grocery Carts of Food	4373	11,800	\$1,093,250.00
Food bags - Homeless	927	2,507	\$25,070.00
Food Items Bulk	53	212	\$13,110.00
CSFP "Senior Boxes"	460	460	\$23,000.00
Community Donations Given Out	18	72	\$4,370.00

PERSONAL ITEMS

Personal Items "Specific Request"		1,819	\$30,923.00
Personal Items Bulk			\$45,134.00
Easter Baskets		154	\$1,540.00
Showers		1,354	\$16,248.00
Laundry		359	\$3,590.00
Clothes Closet		3,358	\$100,748.00
Clothing Items Bulk		342	\$10,260.00

HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

Furniture		259	\$6,475.00
Household Items "Specific Request"		3,813	\$19,065.00
Household Items Bulk			\$76,183.00

Estimated Value of Services \$1,550,443.74

Total Request for Food	15,051 Individuals
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Total Request for Other Items	13,356 Individuals
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THE LINC HOME MEALS PROGRAM

This past year, 2025, has been a good year for our LINC Home Delivered Meals Program. There has been growth within the program with more referrals coming in almost daily. Unfortunately, it is an up and down program in the numbers that we serve. On the average, we have had approximately 86 meals served weekly. The down side comes with some meal recipients that have passed away, some that have had to move to a nursing facility, and some that have moved in with relatives at a point when they cannot care for themselves alone anymore. However, on a positive up side comes with adding new recipients through the referrals.

Volunteers do a wonderful job of caring for those they deliver meals to. Not only is it a hot meal at noon for recipients but volunteers go above and beyond to having birthday parties for some that have no relatives or relatives too far away to visit. At Christmas, some volunteers take small gifts or cards to the people on their routes. Volunteers continue to check on recipients when they have gone to a nursing facility. It is also a friendly face and a concerned person coming by with a smile when otherwise they may not see anyone at all during that day. This is just a few examples of how our volunteers care for those they serve. All these things are done through the commitment, love and concern for those they serve.

This year our volunteers delivered meal a total of 249 days to an average of 86 people a day, driving approximately 105,631 miles and taking at least 6500 hours of their personal time to serve.

Below you will find a breakdown of volunteers and meals.

VOLUNTEERS

Coordinators	11
Packers	19
Drivers	211
Total Volunteers	241

MEALS

Emergency	13
Subsidized	3,952
Self-paid	6,046
Sponsored	6,832
Total Meals	16,843
Total Free Meals	10,797
Cost of all free meals	\$51,285.75

Respectfully submitted,
Betty Y. Leonard, Coordinator

LINC Ministry Group Members:

Melinda Houser, Chairperson
Shirley Alexander
Diane Carpenter
Justin Houser
Kathy Robinson
Ralph Zello

Nursing Home Birthday Party Ministry: An Outreach of the Churches/Individuals On Behalf of Christian Ministry of Lincoln County

As a part of its outreach to the community, Christian Ministry facilitates a ministry of organizing hosts for birthday parties in the nursing/rest home facilities in the area, with the objective of providing a time of interaction and enjoyment for residents, and for extending the love of Christ to those who are isolated and in need of fellowship and kindness.

The Facilities served in this ministry, and their contact persons:

- The Greens (Matt –336-553-8366)
- Cardinal Healthcare (Tracy—704 732-7055)
- Lincoln Rehab (Nicole –704-732-1138)
- Heath House (Crissy 704-732-1113)
- Boger City Rest Home (Sara, Nadia 704 732-2220) ALL SLOTS CURRENTLY ARE FILLED by LINCOLN COUNTY ECA

Host groups will need to contact the activity person indicated to set up the date and time for the party, sometime in the month preceding the assigned party, and also find out how many residents will have birthdays in that month.

The Party (What Groups will need to provide, in a quantity for the number of residents expected to attend—all are invited, in addition to those having birthdays)

- Commercially produced cakes or cupcakes
- Cheese puffs or chips
- Drink (with a diet option)
- Ice Cream (optional)
- Paper products
- Ice provided by facility
- Small gift bag (lotion, personal care items, word search book, etc.) provided for those having a birthday that month

Thank you for your partnership in this ministry outreach as Christian Ministry seeks to bless those who are confined in short and long term care in our community. If you know of a group interested in participating, please contact one of the coordinators, or Christian Ministry.

Coordinators: Becky Engle (704-473-1696) Loretta Beam (704-472-5840)

Soup Kitchen Ministry Report

I am pleased to say thanks for all the hard work and efficiency of our volunteers. Because of them, we successfully served a total of 35,962 meals in 2025. That is an average of 3,269 meals a month. These figures reflect our continual commitment to serve our community.

Thank you to each and every volunteer and thank you for all the donations given that made this possible!

I am looking forward to continuing our work and services in 2026!

"Let all you do be done in love" 1 Corinthians 16:14

Regina Maier

Soup Kitchen Coordinator

JANUARY - DECEMBER 2025
SOUP KITCHEN STATISTICAL REPORT

Month	Days Served	Persons Served	Meals Served	Average Persons	Average Meals	Average Cost per. Person	Average Cost per. Meal	Monthly Expenditures	Sunday Ave. Attend.	Devotion Ave. Attend.	Holiday Ave. Meals
January	30	2350	2830	78	96	0.49	\$0.40	\$1,130.47	79	3	81
February	28	2299	2821	82	101	0.48	\$0.39	\$1,094.22	81	5	0
March	31	2483	2941	80	95	0.39	\$0.33	\$946.10	75	6	0
April	30	2581	3120	86	104	1.48	\$1.22	\$3,805.77	63	7	68
May	31	2626	3182	85	103	0.36	\$0.30	\$844.06	89	6	87
June	30	2840	3274	95	109	0.36	\$0.31	\$997.88	85	2	0
July	31	2961	3630	96	117	0.97	\$0.79	\$2,850.82	90	6	60
August	31	2831	3584	91	115	0.25	\$0.20	\$700.00	89	6	0
September	30	2836	3456	95	115	0.48	\$0.40	\$1,352.07	91	5	65
October	31	2966	3683	96	119	0.32	\$0.25	\$923.69	78	4	0
November	30	2717	3461	91	115	0.26	\$0.21	\$703.15	92	10	90
December	31	2779	3464	90	112	0.26	\$0.21	\$715.31	112	4	73
TOTALS	364	32269	39426	1065	1301	6.1	5.01	\$16,163.54	1024	64	522
YR. AVE.	30	2689	3286	89	108	\$0.51	\$0.42	\$1,346.96	85	5	44

Building and Resource Report

- Fixed garage door
- Had soup kitchen exhaust fan and grill for the stove cleaned
- Fixed flagpole
- Helped with golf tournament
- Worked with a group of men from a local church to replace roof over grocery area
- Worked all canned food drives for the year
- Staged area for Christmas give out by moving pallets of food and then put back together after Christmas
- Had forklift serviced
- Drove trucks for pick ups when needed (we need truck drivers for pickups)
- Replaced damaged ceiling tiles
- Replaced toilet in office break area

Richard Ballard – Building and Resource Coordinator

COORDINATOR OF VOLUNTEERS REPORT

Christian Ministry is truly fortunate to have such compassionate, devoted, and hardworking volunteers. Our volunteers' dedication and enthusiasm are a testament to the power of our community. The time, energy, and passion of all our volunteers make a significant difference in the success of our organization.

It is with heartfelt gratitude for your invaluable contributions that we recognize the impact you have had in helping us reach those in need. The Christian Ministry family, staff, and the community we serve, thank you for your invaluable support.

Below is a list of some volunteer opportunities:

- Soup Kitchen
- Food Pantry
- Grocery Pick Up
- Can Drives
- LINC Meals
- Christmas Give Out
- Sorting
- Clothes Closet
- Nursing Home Birthday Parties

Volunteer Milestones*

- 56 churches represented
- 24 non-church groups represented
- 29,944 Total volunteer hours
- 127 volunteers for Christmas Ministry

*Based on available data

Coordinator of Volunteers

**CHRISTIAN MINISTRY OF LINCOLN COUNTY, INC.
BUDGET**

<u>ACCOUNT #</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>BUDGET 2025</u>	<u>BUDGET 2026</u>
7200	Wages	\$267,004.24	\$267,004.24
6620	Payroll Taxes	20,425.00	20,425.00
6560	Utilities	35,000.00	41,000.00
6640	Building Maintenance	7,000.00	7,000.00
6645	Vehicle Maintenance	7,000.00	7,000.00
6650	Equipment	3,000.00	3,000.00
6660	Office Supplies/Postage/Annual Dues	7,000.00	7,000.00
6670	Insurance/Bond	31,400.00	33,000.00
6680	Mileage	1,200.00	1,200.00
6690	Miscellaneous	200.00	200.00
6700	Miscellaneous Employee Exp.	200.00	200.00
6710	Audit	5,000.00	5,000.00
6800	Contract Labor	0.00	0.00
6550	Volunteers Com	800.00	800.00
6900	LINC Ministry Group (Coolers, Equipment, etc.)	1,600.00	1,600.00
6960	LINC Subsidized meals	26,000.00	26,000.00
6000	Emergency Services	104,000.00	104,000.00
7300	Nursing Home Ministry	0.00	0.00
	Sub Total	516,829.24	524,429.24
7960	Amazing Race **	300	500.00
7700	Business Blitz **	500	300.00
7800	Christmas Fund **	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00
7900	Soup Kitchen **	\$12,000.00	\$5,000.00
** RAISES OWN MONEY		<u>\$544,629.24</u>	<u>\$545,229.24</u>

TOTAL BUDGET 2026: \$545,229.24

Committee Members

Bryan Beal, Chairman
Shirley Alexander
Scott Mullen
Dianne Painter
Rev. Ricky Sloop
Ministry Treasurer

IN-KIND REPORT - 2025

ACCT. NUMBER	ACCOUNT	ESTIMATED DOLLAR AMOUNT DONATED
VOLUNTEER HOURS DONATED (valued at \$10 per hour)		
6000	Emergency Services (clothes closet, pantry, storage bldg, etc.)	90,930.00
6550	Board of Directors & Committees	5,430.00
	Receptionist Volunteers	3,720.00
6640	Building Maintenance - Volunteers	200.00
6900	LINC Ministry (Meetings/Drivers/Coordinators/Packers)	63,460.00
7300	Nursing Home Birthday Parties (5 facilities)	7,400.00
7700	Business Blitz	70.00
7800	Christmas Ministry	18,800.00
7900	Soup Kitchen	109,500.00
7960	Amazing Race Against Hunger	90.00
TOTAL DOLLAR FIGURE FOR DONATED HOURS		\$299,600.00
6000 Emergency Services Items Donated:		
	Household Items (linens,furniture,fans,blankets.etc)	101,723.00
	Personal Items (Hygiene, Cosmetics, Diapers, etc.)	208,443.00
	Food Total for Emergency Services	1,158,800.00
	(bread & meat from 5 stores daily, USDA, individual & church foods)	
TOTAL DOLLAR FIGURE DONATED ITEMS - EMS		\$1,468,966.00
6680 Mileage Donated (.70 per mile):		
	LINC Meals	73,941.70
	Morning Pick ups	2,370.00
	Pick up furniture	70.00
	Nursing Home	3,360.00
TOTAL DOLLAR FIGURE DONATED - MILEAGE		\$79,741.70
6950 LINC Meals Donated Meals @ \$4.75 each		
6960		\$51,285.75
6980		
7800 Christmas Fund; Donated Items:		
	Food ~ 590 boxes	131,733.56
	(Subtracted actual cost of purchased food at \$250 per box)	
	New Toys ~ 603 children (\$100 per child) (5 bikes @ \$60 each)	60,600.00
	Used Toys ~ 24 Toy Bins @ \$60 each (20 bikes @ \$25 each)	1,940.00
TOTAL DOLLAR FIGURE DONATED - CHRISTMAS		\$194,273.56
7900 Soup Kitchen		
	39,426 Meals (Value of each meal \$9 minus actual cost .42)	\$316,773.60
GRAND TOTAL		\$2,410,640.61

POLICY AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT

The Policy & Personnel Committee met on two occasions in 2025.

During our meeting of January 15, we discussed our income vs. expenses in 2024. It was noted that the increase in costs was the result of the increase in food prices in addition to the increase in costs of everything else we purchase to support the need of the Ministry.

In addition, we discussed the costs associated with the operation of the Day Retreat. We spent approximately \$20,000 in labor costs, increased water bills, etc. (The actual cost of labor in 2025 was \$20,913). It was decided that the Day Retreat provides a considerable amount of help to the homeless and we have an obligation to keep it open.

In August, a "Code of Ethics and Conduct" was established and applies to everyone associated with the Ministry, board members, employees and volunteers. The second paragraph of the Code states "Christian Ministry is a non profit charity created by community churches. To uphold its reputation, it is crucial to consistently demonstrate the values and mission it promotes. This involves transparency, accountability, and a commitment to deliver on promises. A good reputation is built on trust."

In my opinion, that paragraph alone encompasses everything required to serve the Ministry. The remainder of the Code lists the do's and don'ts required on a daily basis.

Thank you to the P&P members for their input and a special thank you to our staff for the help and compassion shown to our clients on a daily basis.

Ralph Zello
Policy and Personnel Chair 2025

Committee:
Ralph Zello, Chrm
Shirley Alexander
Dianne Painter
Rev. Rick Sloop

THE AMAZING RACE – 2025

A WINNING NIGHT FOR LINC MEALS

Although it is called **The Amazing Race**, this event isn't about speed or crossing a finish line first. Instead, it is about teams competing to raise the funds needed to provide LINC meals for the coming year – meals that support homebound individuals who cannot afford to pay for their own.

This year's Amazing Race once again proved just how powerful our community can be when we come together for a common cause. It's

Friendly Competition With A Purpose!

Teams participated by raising money to help ensure the LINC meals continue to reach those who depend on them. While the spirit of competition was alive and well, the real victory was the impact made through generosity, teamwork and community support.

This year's event featured a lively Bingo Night, complete with prizes for the Bingo winners. The games added excitement and kept the energy high throughout the evening. Guests enjoyed a casual and fun meal along with snacks available during the night. To make the evening even more enjoyable, live music provided entertainment during the night. Tickets were sold in advance for \$20 each, which included the meal, 5 regular Bingo cards and a song Bingo. It was an affordable and enjoyable way for participants to support a meaningful cause while having fun.

At the end of the evening, a trophy was awarded to the team that raised the most money, recognizing their outstanding effort and commitment to the mission. From the teams who worked hard to raise funds, to the volunteers, musicians, donors, staff and everyone who purchased a ticket to play Bingo—**thank you**. The Amazing Race 2025 was a reminder that when a community comes together, amazing things truly happen. Together, we didn't just host an event—we helped sustain a vital service and made a real difference in the lives of others.

Amazing Race Committee:

Betty Leonard- LINC Coordinator
Shirley Alexander
Diane Carpenter
Linda Drum
Justin Houser
Kathy Robinson
Ralph Zello

2025 BUSINESS BLITZ CONTRIBUTIONS

Glory be to God. We are deeply grateful for the generous contributions and unwavering support we have received from the people and businesses of Lincoln County. Your giving and commitment to our mission have made a tremendous impact, and we are truly blessed to have such a devoted community. We were able to raise \$28,451.00 this year.

To all the Christian Ministry staff and volunteers, thank you for all that you do. Your hard work does not go unnoticed. I pray for continued success of Christian Ministry as we strive to serve those in need.

Happy New Year and God Bless!!!
Demery Brewer

BAR-B-QUE KING INC
BOB'S PALLETS
BOSCH TOOLS
CAROLINA METAL BUILDINGS INC
CATALER
CHARLES EUREY
CHARLES LITTLE, JR.
CHRIS RHYNE FINANCIAL
COURT STREET GRILLE
DAVIS BROTHERS AUTOMOTIVE
DEAL CONSTRUCTION
DEAN'S APPRAISAL & REAL ESTATE
DON PENDLETON
EBONY & WHITE FUNERAL SERVICES INC
ESTATE JEWELERS
FIRST FEDERAL SAVINGS
GOOD WOOD PIZZERIA LLC
GOODSON REALTY & ASSOCIATES INC
HARRISON & ASSOCIATES CPA PA
HARRY BROGDEN
HOUSE OF PIZZA & RESTAURANT
INGLE BUILDERS
JAI AMBE HOSPITALITY LLC
JERRY COCHRANE
JIN'S BUFFET
KATHY ROBINSON
KEEVER PHARMACY
LAIL ELECTRIC SERVICE INC
LAKE ELECTRIC CO
MCGEE CABINET SHOP INC
PRINTABLES UNLIMITED
PROPER PROVISIONS LLC
SAIN & HEAVNER TRUCKING CO. INC
SAIN HARDWARE & GARDEN CENTER
SCATES & SELLERS CPA
THE JONAS LAW FIRM PLLC
THE MEATING PLACE

THE PENDLETON LAW FIRM
TIMES OIL CORP
WARLICK FUNERAL HOME INC
WATSON INSURANCE

**BUSINESS CONTRIBUTIONS OTHER THAN BUSINESS BLITZ
2025**

AMY'S CLOSET
ANTUAN HERRIOTT DMD PA
ATRIUM HEALTH
BAR-B-Q KING
BIG LOTS
BLUE CROSS
CRAIG P. GATES INC.
FOOD LION
HAMILTON & WHITECOTTON ORTHODONTICS
HANDY CORNER LTD
HARRIS TEETER
HARVEY V HOUSER ENTERPRISES INC
HOGA EXPRESS LLC
INNOVATIVE EMPLOYEE BENEFITS INC
KARSON PROPERTIES LLC
LINCOLN COUNTRY CLUB
MCCURRY SERVICES INC
MOM'S SUB SHOP
ROCK BRANCH TRANSPORTATION LLC
STARBUCKS
THE TIMKEN COMPANY
UNITED BANK
VITTLES
WALMART
WEST END SALES INC
WORLD WIDE IMPORTS

2025 Christian Ministry Golf Tournament

Our 29th Annual Christian Ministry Golf Tournament was held at Lincoln Country Club on Saturday, August 16. We had a field of 23 teams participating. A total of \$13,854.00 was collected.

Thank you to all the volunteers that helped us before and during the tournament. We had a great response to Hole Sponsorships this year. Thank you to all the churches, individuals and various businesses who sponsored golf holes.

Thank you to all those who participated this year in our tournament and congratulations to the winning team of Logan Carpenter, Pate Craig, Jack Willis, Adam Fortenberry.

A very *special thank you* to Jody Saunders and the Lincoln Country Club for allowing us to hold our tournament and for all the assistance given to us before, during and after the event.



NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT - 2026

Below are the Officers and Board Members nominated by the Nominating Committee.

New Board members to be elected:

Laypersons

Shirley Alexander (1) Treasurer
Trish Shephard (1)
Cindy Goodhue (1)
Ann Edwards (1)

Ministers

Rev. Sarah Underwood (1)

Current board members re-elected:

Youth

Lisa Baxter (4)
Phil Campbell (3)
David Conner (4) President
Rev. Mike Devine (4)
Ronnie Engle (2)
Patricia Estes (3)
Tony Hallman (4)
Scott Mullen (2) Vice President
Dennis Parker (3)
Rev. Ricky Sloop (2)
Rev. Chad Walker (2) Secretary

Daphca Dyson (3)

The Board of Directors will consist of a total of seventeen (17) people. Twelve of these people are to be laypersons, four are to be clergypersons, and one is to be a youth (ages 14 - 22). The number beside each Board Member's name indicates the year the person will be serving in 2026.

Nominating Committee:

Janet Gross, Kathy Robinson

SCHEDULE FOR VOLUNTEER FOOD PACKERS 2026

Member churches are asked to help pack food once a year for the Emergency Services Food Pantry.

JANUARY

2 OPEN (CLOSED 1ST NEWS YEARS)

5, 6 Holy Cross Lutheran

7, 8, 9 Calvary Baptist

12, 13 Roseland Baptist

14, 15, 16 Marvin UMC

20, 21, 22, 23 First UMC (CLOSED 19 MLK)

26, 27, 28, 29, 30 Pisgah UMC

FEBRUARY

2, 3, 4, 5, 6, Hull's Grove

9, 10 Bess Chapel UMC

11, 12, 13 Day Star Family Worship

16, 17 Maiden Wesleyan

18, 19, 20 OPEN

23, 24, 25, 26, 27 Salem Baptist

MARCH

2, 3, 4, St. Dorothy's Catholic

5, 6 Pearl Baptist

9, 10, 11, 12, 13 Bethpage Lutheran

16, 17, 18 St. Luke's Lutheran

19, 20 OPEN

23, 24, 25, 26, 27, Covenant Bible

30, 31 OPEN

APRIL

1, 2, OPEN (CLOSED 3rd)

6, 7, 8 Emanuel Reformed

9, 10 Boger City Baptist

13, 14, Messiah UMC

15, 16, 17 Asbury Methodist

20, 21, 22 Pleasant Grove UMC

23, 24 New Vision

27, 28, 29 Salem Lutheran/Salem UCC

30 OPEN

MAY

1, OPEN

4, 5, 6, 7, 8, Boger City UMC

11, 12, 13, 14 Friendly Chapel

15 OPEN

18, 19, 20, 21, 22 Fairview Baptist

26, 27, 28, 29 OPEN (CLOSED 25th)

JUNE

1, 2, 3, 4, 5 Cedar Grove Lutheran

8, 9 River View Baptist

10, 11, 12 Southside Baptist

15, 16 Antioch Baptist

17, 18, 19 Venture Church

22, 23, 24, 25, 26 Amity Baptist

29, 30 OPEN

JULY

1, 2, Long Shoals Baptist (CLOSED 3rd)

6, 7, 8 Reepsville Baptist

9, 10 First Christian

13, 14, 15, 16, 17 St. Paul's Lutheran

20, 21, 22, 23, 24 Crowell Memorial Methodist

27, 28, 29 St. Matthew's

30, 31 OPEN

AUGUST

3, 4, 5, 6, Mt. Zion Baptist

7 Lincoln Avenue Baptist

10, 11, 12 Daniel's Lutheran

13, 14, 17, 18 Faith Baptist

19, 20, 21 Iron Station & High Shoals UMC

24, 25 Boger City Wesleyan

26, 27, 28, 31 OPEN

SEPTEMBER

1, 2, 3, 4, First Baptist Lincolnton

8, 9, 10 Crouse UMC (CLOSED 7th Labor Day)

11 Temple Baptist

14, 15, 16 Laboratory UMC

17, 18 Ivey Global Methodist

21, 22, 23, 24, 25 McKendree Methodist

28, 29, 30 Rhyne Heights UMC

OCTOBER

1, 2 OPEN

5, 6 David Memorial Baptist

7, 8, 9 Trinity Lutheran

12 Greater Moores Chapel

13, 14 Reeps Grove UMC

15, 16 Mt. Vernon Baptist Iron Station

19, 20, 21 Sharon Baptist

22, 23, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30 OPEN

NOVEMBER

2, 3, 4, 5, 6 Howard's Creek Baptist

9, 10 Leonard's Fork Baptist

12, 13 Ironton Presbyterian (CLOSED 11th Veteran's Day)

16, 17, 18, 19, 20 Zion Hill Baptist

23, 24, 25 Macedonia Baptist (CLOSED 26, 27 Thanksgiving)

DECEMBER

1, 2, 3, 4 Freedom Church

7, 8, 9 Unity Baptist

10, 11 Harvest Presbyterian

14, 15, 16 Victory Grove Baptist

17, 18, 21 Preparing for Give out day

(CLOSED 23, 24, 25)

28, 29, 30 Community Full Gospel

31 OPEN (CLOSED New Year's Jan 1)

CHURCH FOOD COLLECTION SCHEDULE - 2026

Member churches are asked to collect and bring food twice a year for the Emergency Services Food Pantry. Food may be brought at any time during the month or at the end of the month. If desired, financial contributions may be made in lieu of food. If you would like a change in your schedule, please call 704-732-0383. Please call for items needed before collecting.

JANUARY & JULY

Antioch Baptist
Bess Chapel UMC
Cedar Grove Lutheran
Emanuel Reformed
Exodus Baptist
Freedom Church
Holy Cross Lutheran
Leonard's Fork Baptist
Marvin Methodist
Pisgah UMC
Salem Baptist
Trinity Lutheran

FEBRUARY & AUGUST

Calvary Baptist
David Memorial Baptist (Feb. Only)
Gainsville Baptist
Greater Moore's Chapel AME Zion
Highland Drive Freewill Baptist
Hinton Memorial UMC
Lincolnton Seventh Day Adventist
Long Shoals Baptist
Messiah UMC
Mt. Vernon Baptist Church- Vale
Mt. Zion Baptist
Oak Grove
Reepsville Baptist
Sharon Baptist
Southside Baptist
St. Paul's Lutheran
Victory Grove

MARCH & SEPTEMBER

Asbury Methodist
Boger City Wesleyan
Church of Our Saviour
Cornerstone
Crouse UMC
Faith Baptist
Harvest Presbyterian
Ironton Presbyterian
McKendree Methodist
Pleasant Grove UMC
Revival Tabernacle (March only)
Roseland Baptist
St. Dorothy's Catholic
Temple Baptist

APRIL & OCTOBER

Boger City Baptist
Covenant Bible Church
Daniel's Lutheran
Emmanuel Lutheran
High Shoals UMC
Howard's Creek Baptist
Hull's Grove Baptist
Iron Station UMC
Ivey Global Methodist
Laboratory UMC
Macedonia UMC
Pearl Baptist
Providence Baptist
Reeps Grove UMC
Rhyne Heights
St. Matthew's Reformed
Unity Baptist

MAY & NOVEMBER

Amity Baptist
Boger City UMC
Crowell Memorial
Faith Worship Center
Friendly Chapel Baptist
Foursquare Gospel
Lincolnton Church of God
Link's Chapel AME Zion
Macedonia Baptist
Maiden Wesleyan
St. Luke's Lutheran (May only)
Zion Hill Baptist

JUNE & DECEMBER

Bethphage Lutheran
First Baptist Lincolnton (June only)
First Christian
First UMC
First Wesleyan Lincolnton
Impact Community Church
Lincoln Avenue Baptist
Long Shoals Wesleyan
Mt. Vernon Baptist - Iron Station
Palm Tree UMC
River View Baptist
Salem Lutheran

We ask each church to adopt a food item in the month of November for our Christmas Ministry Give Out.