

## Pregnancy Care Center Fund Raiser



Grace Community Church supports the work of our local Pregnancy Care Center. One method of raising funds is an annual baby bottle campaign. There are baby bottles in the vestibule of the church. Take one home with you and start dropping your change (and dollar bills) in it. In a few weeks the bottles will be collected and donated to the pregnancy center.

Alleghany Pregnancy Care Center opened its doors on September 18, 2006. The purpose of the center is founded on giving unconditional love, truthful information, practical help, and encouragement to pregnant women of all ages, in both crisis and non-crisis situations in Alleghany County. Their mission is to provide a life line to unborn children by educating their parents in making responsible life-giving choices and nurturing successful futures.

The Pregnancy Center boldly states it is an out-reach ministry of Jesus Christ through His church. Therefore, the Pregnancy Center is committed to presenting the Gospel of our Lord to women with crisis pregnancies - both in word and in deed.

The Pregnancy Center provides clients with accurate and complete information about both prenatal development and abortion.

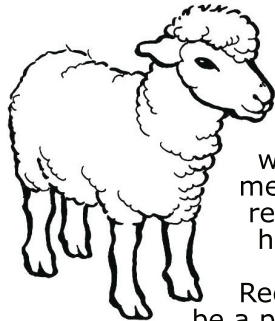


## No Regrets Men's Conference

February 5th from 9 am - 3 pm,

Cornerstone Christian Fellowship will be hosting a community-wide men's conference. This is a simulcast event with special guest speakers. Lunch will be provided. Join you brothers in Christ in an event intended to help you grow in your walk with the Lord. If you would like to attend, please contact David Whedbee @ 406-437-3908

## Feed The Sheep



As the body at Grace Community Church grew, it became evident that we needed an organized way to serve each other in times of need. Most of us had prior membership in churches where a "hospitality committee" was appointed to prepare meals following a death or illness, etc. Feed the Sheep was our response to Romans 12:13 which instructs us to "be ready to help God's people in need".

Recently we realized we need to update the list of those willing to be a part of this ministry. Wanda Miles has agreed to lead and Winkie Clifton will assist. Anyone who becomes aware of one of our families who might need a meal should contact Wanda and she will coordinate preparation and delivery of the food. If you are willing to use your gifts to serve in this way, please let Wanda or Winkie know.

## This is My Story: Bob Alexander

At 14 Bob was pushing wheel barrels of concrete on a construction site. It grew from there. He got a degree in Construction Engineering at Central Piedmont Community College and got a Business Degree at Bob Jones University.

He started building houses, a housing development, a church, and many other residential projects. During all this building, he was afforded the opportunity of some commercial jobs as well. It started with vertical office blinds in the high rise buildings of downtown Charlotte, NC. From there it grew into installing windows in commercial projects. In 1982 he was issued his first commercial contractor license. He has had construction projects throughout North and South Carolina and LA (lower Alabama).

When Bob's daughter was in kindergarten, the teacher asked each child what their father did for a living. Bobbie Jo's answer was, "He is in prison." The teacher quickly moved on but asked the parents why their daughter would say such a thing. Well, the truth of the matter was the fact that her dad was installing windows in a prison. If the Democrats were in, new prisons were built. If the Republicans were in office, new schools were built. In hindsight, it seems like there were more prison jobs than schools.

One of his most challenging jobs was for Duke University. They were building a new chapel next door to the older chapel. The windows were ornate and huge. The bottom of the windows were 12 feet off the floor and 24 feet tall. It was a real challenge to install and keep everyone safe. The finished project was breath-taking.

It wasn't unusual for him to take out old windows in a church or court house and re-install windows that gave the same appearance of the old ones. Being on these types of jobs, Bob was able to salvage many materials and collect many tools. A new job would often require a new tool(s). So it's easy to see how he had such a collection.

Then came the fire on the evening of December 26. No one knows what started the fire and Bob did not have insurance on the building or contents.

Here's how the Alexanders made Sparta their home. Bob's maternal grandfather was assigned to pastor all the Methodist churches here in Alleghany. The Sparta Methodist Church has his name (Rev. Allison) on a quilt along with many other past ministers. He loved the mountains and bought a plot of land where he built a "summer" home. His wife's family was from Concord, NC, and that is where family members were living. Each summer was spent in Alleghany County. Bob remembers the trips back and forth and the exciting mountain times he enjoyed in his youth.

When Bob and his wife (Janice) decided to "retire" and live full time in the mountains, he knew he wanted a nice shop. One that would hold all the acquisitions he had gathered over the years. It was a 32' x 52' building with a 30' closed-in extension in the back for building materials. It had a second level with electrical and plumbing supplies plus storage of family memorabilia.

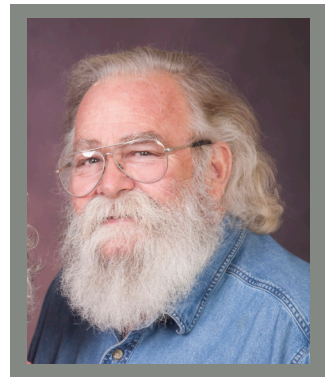
So when the fire totally destroyed all, it was quite a blow. The fellow who came to help clean up the debris, said he had salvaged 12,000 pounds of metal. That didn't include the 24 foot trailer and car hoist that were melted beyond repair.

Here is the good news !

- God is good ! A rental house that Bob had been working on was almost finished. Moving to the rental property afforded the chance to down-size and make the home they lived in (the barn) his shop.
- God always provides ! The church has offered support in so many ways. Folks have offered tools they no longer need and money / gift cards to help replace some of the basic tools. With all the work of cleaning up and moving, meals were such a blessing. It has been unbelievable how the church has rallied around.
- God has a plan ! A good start on a new shop is almost complete. . . not near as many tools, but enough to be used as God directs.

Yes, it is sad that so much was lost. But it was just stuff. No one was hurt and God had a backup plan all along. It's so sweet to trust in Jesus. Bob and Janice want to offer a huge . . .

**"thank you, church and community, for obeying God as He directed your paths in providing undeserved assistance."**



## We Need Your Information for Our Church Directory

We are still seeking information (and pictures) to complete our on-line church directory. You don't have to be a "formal" member to be included. If you attend our church and call it home, we want to include you.

- Please submit your family member information form electronically. The link for the form can be found at <https://bit.ly/GraceContactForm>
- Please email a high-quality family picture to [sbhall121@gmail.com](mailto:sbhall121@gmail.com). Include your family name in the subject line.
- Contact BriAnne Hall for needed assistance. (336) 486-3797

The faithful  
love of the  
Lord never  
ends! His  
mercies  
never cease.

Lamentations 3:22 (NLT)

Great is  
His  
faithfulness;  
his mercies  
begin  
afresh  
each  
morning.

Lamentations 3:23 (NLT)