



SOUTH CAROLINA WMU

# ANNUAL REPORT

SEPTEMBER 2021 - AUGUST 2022

South Carolina

**WMU**

God's mission.  
Our passion.

# RELENTLESS

The 2021-2022 WMU® emphasis was Relentless. We will be relentless in living authentic faith in Christ, seeking God in prayer, giving sacrificially, and witnessing to others. The watchword is:

“But we do not belong to those who shrink back  
and are destroyed, but to those who have faith and are saved.”  
Hebrews 10:39 (NIV)





# MISSIONS discipleship

## CAROLINA WOMEN ON MISSION & MYMISSION GATHERING

October 15-16, 2021 at Connie Maxwell Children's Ministries (CMCM) 41 participants gathered to hear a missionary, J, share about her work. We enjoyed music with Kenna, Mabry and Elena, Camp La Vida staffers, heard from Melanie Watt from Hope Remains Ranch and a testimony from a former CMCM resident. We were refreshed and blessed by the gathering.



*Kenna, Mabry and Elena, Camp La Vida staffers, led us in worship.*

## GA EVENT

Fifty children attended the GA Day event at Beaumont Baptist Church in Spartanburg on January 30, 2022. They participated in sending birthday wishes to missionaries, crafts, listening to missionary stories, learning songs, enjoying lunch, and other fun activities.



# STUDENTS

SC WMU partnered with Impact of Myrtle Beach to host 84 students (Acteens, Youth on Mission) and their leaders for a ministry event in Myrtle Beach on September 18, 2021. Students and their leaders participated in day camps, played with children and taught Bible stories. Students provided cookies to hotel staff, played Bible frisbee on the beach and provided face painting to kids. Students learned what it means to make disciples locally and globally and that every follower of Jesus is commanded to make disciples.



## CAMP THEME: STEP IT UP

Focus Verse: 1 Timothy 4:12

Attendance: 1,153

A few highlights from the summer:

- During camp, some of the cabin leaders shared their testimonies with the older girls and gave them an opportunity to share their own stories. Even though it meant missing camp activities (archery, riflery and swimming), the girls asked if they could continue sharing testimonies. They shared for at least two hours and had a sweet time of fellowship.
- After learning about Bible storying during the missions session, many of the children and youth have been putting it into practice by retelling the Bible stories to others.
- A child that came from an unchurched home accepted Christ and is planning to find a church near her house. Her mother (a non-believer) is very supportive of helping her find a church.







*Camp La Vida* SM

## DECISIONS MADE AT CAMP DURING 2022

Professions of Faith .....	40
Other (mostly baptisms) .....	34
Rededications .....	18
Commitments to Mission Service .....	11
Commitments to Christian Service .....	2
Total decisions .....	105









# COMPASSION ministries

## Christmas Backpacks

On December 12-14, 2022, 30 individuals from around 10 churches joined Spartanburg County Network on their annual trip to Jenkins, Kentucky. They gave out over 1,700 backpacks to the students of Burdine Elementary, Jenkins Middle/High School, Fleming Neon Middle School, Dorton Elementary, and Blaine Elementary Schools.

The area is predominately “coal-country” with addictions that plague the low-economic region. School retention rates are always a battle, particularly in the area of teen-pregnancy. The opportunity to have a presence is made possible by our local NAMB missions partners, Lester and Bessie McPeck. They have been a loving presence and because of their work 363 days of the year we can help support their ministry by sharing backpacks with their community.

Overall, 3,600 backpacks were collected in South Carolina which were dispersed by various ministries in Georgia, Kentucky, and South Carolina. Along with age appropriate items, each backpack contained a Bible, a copy of the Christmas story, and was collected from churches just like yours!



## PROJECT HELP: REFUGEES

This Afghan family walked 40 days across Afghanistan and Iran to get to Turkey. In Turkey they were vetted and received refugee status to come to America. They were settled in Columbia, SC where they are living and working to try and rebuild their lives. Most refugees have the same hopes and dreams we have: protection, education, and a way to support themselves and their families. As followers of Jesus, we must help them navigate their new culture and show them the love of Jesus.



## PRISONER PACKETS

In 2021 South Carolina Baptist collected 24,489 packets from churches/associations across the state. Every inmate in SC received a gift. All extra packets were divided among chaplains to use at their institutions throughout the year when there is a need.





# COMPASSION ministries

## SC Baptist Nursing Fellowship (BNF)

BNF in South Carolina works through regional chapters led by a regional director. The desire of BNF members is to use their medical skills to serve others, build relationships with people and share Christ with them.

### **This year ministries to nursing schools and their students included:**

- Blessing of the Hands ceremony at universities for graduating nursing students
- Distribution of gift bags to graduating nursing students
- Provision of gift baskets for nursing professors and instructors at Anderson University
- Encouraging and mentoring nursing students who have a heart for missions
- Partnering with a local Gideon's auxiliary to provide New Testaments for graduating student nurses and for the Sandra's bags

### **New Ministry: Sandra's Bags**

Initiated a new ministry to five chemo infusion centers in South Carolina called "Sandra's Bags." The bags are filled with handmade lap robes/quilts and other comfort items. The ministry is named for one of our member's daughters who while receiving chemo brought a bag of comfort items to give to a new chemo patient each time, she had her chemo. Sandra lost her battle with breast cancer. We have taken up the ministry with her mother in honor of Sandra. Three to four bags are being delivered each quarter to each of the five infusion centers in the Waccamaw area.



*BNF members sharing in the Blessing of the Hands*





*BNF members serving at Martha Franks*

#### **Ongoing activities by member and regions include:**

- Annual Christmas Project to benefit local needy children
- Volunteering at Greater Greenwood United Ministry
- Volunteering and assisting medical staff and sharing gift bags for workers at Martha Franks Retirement Community
- Providing nurses to cover the first aid room at South Carolina Baptist Convention events
- Promoting and recruiting new members for BNF

Regional directors include Pam Parker-Region 1, Jane Burrus-Region 2, Darlene Lovette-Region 3, Debby Akerman-Region 4, and Region 5 is vacant.



# LEADERSHIP development

## Associational WMU Directors & Specialist Update

Thirty-two associational WMU directors and state specialists gathered on February 26, 2022 to hear an update of the future plans of WMU. Pictured is Laurie Register sharing information about the recent January Board Meeting at national WMU.



## Church Leadership Development

Church Leadership Development was held in two locations on August 6 & 13 in 2022. Meetings were held at Fairview Baptist Church in Spartanburg and St. George Baptist Church in Orangeburg. 173 participated in the leadership conferences that were presented for each age level. We also offered specialized missions training.



*Women on Mission and myMISSION leadership conference.*



*Cindy Burns, SC WMU president, led the GA/CA conference.*

# Associational Leadership Retreat

Associational Leadership Retreat, April 29-30, 2022 was held at Camp La Vida. 87 registered with 76 in attendance. COVID continued to lower attendance numbers throughout the year but we were thankful to be able to meet together. Joy Bolton led us in a great time of learning followed by age level conferences.





# MOVE FORWARD. *Together.*



2022 SC WMU Missions Encounter & Annual Meeting  
March 25-26 • First Baptist Church, Goose Creek



South Carolina WMU staff and president, Goose Creek meeting chair, and musicians all gathered for a parting photograph after the meeting.

Our theme was *Move Forward. Together.* Attendees heard stories from current and former missions personnel, and learned about foster care opportunities, partnership opportunities, unique forms of ministry, ministry with refugees, planned giving to missions causes, and much more. They learned about missions work being done in South Carolina, North America, and beyond. Friday afternoon offered attendees opportunities to: participate in mission action and mission support projects for the local community; attend break-out sessions; and visit exhibits featuring missions/WMU. There was a reception held for Laurie Register and Donna Britt, who have set their retirement dates. Business conducted included: 1) Cindy Burns, Jones Avenue Church, Easley, was elected to her third term as South Carolina WMU president; 2) the 2022-2023 Executive Board was elected; 3) the site for the 2025 Annual Meeting at Sweetwater Church, North Augusta, was approved; and 4) Triple A association and church recipients were recognized. This meeting would not have been possible without the host church committees.



# COMMUNICATION

Communication is a strategic part of the work of South Carolina WMU. Through our publications, email blasts, online presence on websites, and social media, we strive to make sure everyone has the information they need to be involved in missions.

## *WMU continues*

- to encourage support of the Christian Women's Job Corp site in York, South Carolina
- to promote Duffle bags and Bibles and ministering to foster children
- to promote Heart4Schools
- to promote the Mother's Day Offering for the South Carolina Baptist Ministries of the Aging
- to offer online training for leadership development
- to share the WMU Missions Encounter & Annual Meeting online
- to develop growth in all areas, including Triple A, 46 churches and 6 associations received certificates
- to work with associational WMU directors in each region

## PRINT AND EMAIL

**Missions Link**

**Associational Missions Link**

## WEBSITES

**[www.scwmu.org](http://www.scwmu.org)**

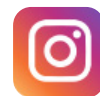
**[www.janiechapmanoffering.org](http://www.janiechapmanoffering.org)**

**[www.camplavida.org](http://www.camplavida.org)**

## SOCIAL MEDIA



**South Carolina WMU  
Camp La Vida  
SC Acteens  
SC WMU Students**



**@SCWMU**



**[Pinterest.com/camplavida](https://www.pinterest.com/camplavida)**



# MISSION support

258 gift checks were provided to South Carolina missionaries and Third Culture Kids (TCKs) through the Janie Chapman Offering. Gift checks are sent when missionaries are appointed or commissioned, to current and retired missionaries at Christmas, and twice a year to TCKs of South Carolina missionaries attending college/university and to any TCK attending a college/university in South Carolina.

## 2022 Janie Chapman Offering<sup>SM</sup> for State Missions, Missions Education and Kingdom ADVANCE in South Carolina – From January 1-December 31, 2022

\$1,990,562.02 was given to the Janie Chapman Offering. This represents a 3.4% increase or \$66,068 more than 2021 receipts. A check for \$1,259,504.42 was sent to the South Carolina Baptist Convention to support the Convention initiatives of Serve, Share, Send, Start, and Strengthen, as well as associational ministries and the Advance Strategy Premiere Learning Event. WMU received \$731,057.60 for Camp La Vida and WMU ministries/work. When the WMU Executive Board meets in March 2023, the interest earned, less account fees, will be allocated. We did fall short of our goal of \$2,100,000, however, thanks to South Carolina Baptists we received one of the largest offerings ever!

## State Missions



Transforming Lives Together was the theme for September 2021. We continued to offer Zoom calls with the missionaries featured in the prayer guide for State Missions. Resources were provided to help all age groups pray for, learn about, and support State Missions. Four videos were produced to promote the Janie Chapman Offering<sup>SM</sup>.

South Carolina WMU continues to support missions by mailing out prayer guides, posters, and envelopes for all special offerings

(Lottie Moon, Annie Armstrong, and Janie Chapman).

The totals mailed out to encourage prayer and giving to missions this past year were:

	Janie Chapman (State)	Lottie Moon (International)	Annie Armstrong (North America)
Posters	1844	2067	1963
Prayer Guides	61,336	72,345	64,826
Envelopes	64,319	83,199	71,703





# CARING FOR OUR MISSIONARIES

Missionary networks are an important way South Carolina WMU ministers to missionaries and their families. Here are several of the ways it took place in 2021-2022.

## Missionary Day at Camp La Vida

WMU staff enjoyed meeting retired and stateside missionaries at Camp La Vida on September 21, 2021. Missionary Day provides fellowship, food, and fun as the focus. It is always a day well spent.

## Missionary Parents Fellowship

This is a time of sharing, prayer and fellowship with those who understand what it means to have children on the missions field. They gather twice a year, fall and spring, for this precious time.

## South Carolina Missionary Parents Fellowship

This year we had the unique opportunity to encourage new missionary parents with dinner and a special gift bag as their children were commissioned at the South Carolina Baptist Convention Annual Meeting in November 2021.



*Missionaries enjoying fellowship during Missionary Day.*



*We are grateful for missionary parents and appreciate the opportunity to pray with them for their children.*

# OTHER items of note

## Camp La Vida Work Days

April 2 and 9, 2022 were Saturdays spent by fourteen volunteers at Camp La Vida for Work Days. They replaced one of the walkways in Unit 1, cleaned and restocked the camp store, cut small trees and removed limbs, cleared trails, and worked on other projects to help prepare the camp for a busy summer.



## STAFF CHANGE DONNA BRITT RETIRES

Donna Britt retired from the staff of South Carolina WMU on August 31, 2022. She joined the staff in April 2000 as the Acteens/Growth consultant. In 2009 Donna became the Adult associate when Laurie Register was elected to serve as the executive director-treasurer. Laurie is pictured with Donna on the day of Donna's retirement.





The Financial Report for January-December 2022  
which is part of this Annual Report is not included in the web version.  
Inquiries may be directed to South Carolina WMU office at 803-227-6205.

**WOMAN'S MISSIONARY UNION**

Auxiliary to South Carolina Baptist Convention<sup>SM</sup>  
190 Stoneridge Drive  
Columbia, SC 29210

**Jess Archer, Executive Director-Treasurer**

[www.scwmu.org](http://www.scwmu.org)  
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South Carolina WMU

*This resource is possible through the Janie Chapman Offering for State Missions,  
Missions Education, and Kingdom ADVANCE in South Carolina.*